

First Sunday of Lent—February 26, 2023

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:25 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Web Site: http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7 -Q



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SERVING TODAY

Minister	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector	Jim Titmas
Organist	Jeff Gentry
Ushers	Betsy Galliher & Patty Rimel
Acolyte	Camden Plog

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Trish Valcarcel Vice-President—Patty Rimel Treasurer—Amy Mildenstein Secretary—Jackie Waas



*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**
- P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Fountain of living water,
- C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
- C: Amen.
- P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.
- C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P: The Peace of Christ be with you.
- C: And also with you.

*GATHERING HYMN......ELW 320

- 1 The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.
- 2 Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.

- 3 So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might; and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.
- Then grant, O God, that we may, too, return in fast and prayer to you.
 Our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal* © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

*GR	EET	ING	(ELW,	n.	147
"GK	EEI	IIVG !	LLVV.	p.	14/

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW, p. 147) (Sung)

- L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.

**LENTEN CANTICLE (Sung)

C: Print thine image, pure and holy, On my heart, O Lord of Grace. So that nothing, high or lowly,
Thy blest likeness can efface. Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me, And the Lord of all
creation, Be my refuge and salvation.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- P: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Anthem......(Theron Kirk).......Choir

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble:

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;

I will guide you with my eye.

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked;

but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

"Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; Shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW 151) (Sung)

C: Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

- 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.
- You strove with Satan, and you won; your faithfulness endured; lend us your nerve, your skill, and trust in God's eternal word.
- 3 Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind above; so teach us to deny ourselves that we may know God's love.
- 4 Be with us through this season, Lord, and all our earthly days, that when the final Easter dawns, we join in heaven's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

*THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: ... Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

*OFFERTORY HYMN: SUNG — Create in Me a Clean Heart ELW 186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER:

- P: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW, p.152)

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*THE PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SUNG: (ELW, p.153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached the good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER:

- P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The feast is prepared, the table is set, come and eat.

C: (ELW, p.194)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: (ELW, 545) (SUNG)

C: Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.

*COMMUNION PRAYER:

- **P:** Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.
- C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION:

P: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMNGuide Me Ever	. Great Redeemer	ELW 618
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- 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.
- Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated until Postlude has concluded)

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.



Joe Collins, Cousin of Joann Valainis Mark Holloway, Husband of Kate Stottlemyer Bruce Wertz, Son in law of Betsy Galliher Candy Foucart, Member Bob Schmidt, Brother of Dottie Titmas Gary Wachter, Member Michael Wachter, Son of Gary and Kay Wachter The Wynne Family, Friends of Lin Snider and Sue Snyder Lin Snider, Member Sue Snyder, Member The Valcarcel Family, Members Kim Currier, Daughter of Sam Purswell Family of Tommy Sorge, Nephew of the Purswells and Cousin to the Valcarcels Barb Callow, friend of Marie Purswell Pat Poole, Brother of Joann Valainis Jonathan Eshelman, Nephew of Kay Wachter Susan and Paul Holloway, Family of Kate Stottlemyer Charlie Knapp, Friend of Pastor Phil

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

+Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy, niece to Linwood Snider
+Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce, grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
+U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik, grandson of Sam Purswell
+Dan Beck, Captain,, U.S. Army, son of Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
+Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of Marcia & Raj Gupta
+Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of Mary Ann Ferguson
+Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in

law

Do you have need for prayer?

Do you know someone else who has need for prayer?

If so, please know that we have a prayer team at

St. Paul's that is ready to help.

Simply contact the Church Office.

All requests are confidential.

Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold.

They have a specific current need for Christian love and support.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

The Lord formed these words in my soul: "Therewith is the fiend overcome." When he said these words, our Lord was referring to his blessed passion. On account of this, I laughed loud and long, which made those who were around me laugh too, and their laughter was a pleasure to me. I understood that we may laugh, comforting ourselves and rejoicing in God that the devil has been overcome.

—Julian of Norwich

[Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love, ed. M.L. de Mastro (Garden City, NY: Image, 1977), 105-106.]



*****IMPORTANT REMINDER*****

Please remember, it is imperative that you completely fill out the PINK sign in sheets located on the bulletin board in the Church and on the table inside the door in the Parish Hall if you are entering either building at a time other than a scheduled meeting or service. *Please* remember to check in with the Office *before* entering the Church building or the Parish Hall.

OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times.

It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community.

Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website,

there is an online giving option as well. https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/

Please Note: We are not currently making a deposit each week due to the limited number of checks being sent into the office on a weekly basis.

Typically we have been making a deposit mid-month and prior to the end of the month.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,390.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:\$360.00

Electronic/Mail ins Income February 26, 2023:

Weekly Contributions: \$**
Property Loan Fund: \$**
Total: \$**

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions: \$**
Property Loan Fund: \$**
Total: \$**

ATTENDANCE: February 19, 2023

In person: 58 Virtual: 7

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, February 26th

Worship (Livestream) 9:25am First Sunday of Lent

Monday, February 27th

FEC 8am-4pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm

Tuesday, February 28th

FHS 10am-3pm

Wednesday, March 1st

FEC 8am-4pm Soup and Sandwich 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm

Thursday, March 2nd

FEC 10am-3pm

Sunday March 5th

Worship (Livestream) 9:25am Second Sunday of Lent

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Join us this Lent for daily devotions on Facebook every morning from Luther Seminary.

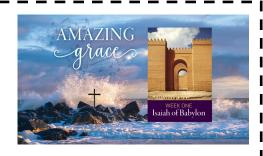
Download the full devotion here:

https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenten-devotional/

All are invited to join our Lenten Journey, Amazing Grace

This Wednesday "Isaiah of Babylon" March 1, 2023 at 7pm.

In person in the church and livestreaming on Facebook





Every Wednesday during Lent, beginning
This Wednesday, March 1, 2023, before our Lenten
Journey of the week begins, come join us in the
overflow area from 6:00pm-7:00pm
for soup, sandwiches and fellowship.

We will gather this Lent to share fellowship and discussion of a variety of moral dilemmas in a different setting than the church.

On February 24, 2023 we will gather at Cactus Flats at 5pm to share conversation, libations, and fellowship. Please join us and should you have any questions, feel free to contact of Pastor Phil.





Camperships Available!

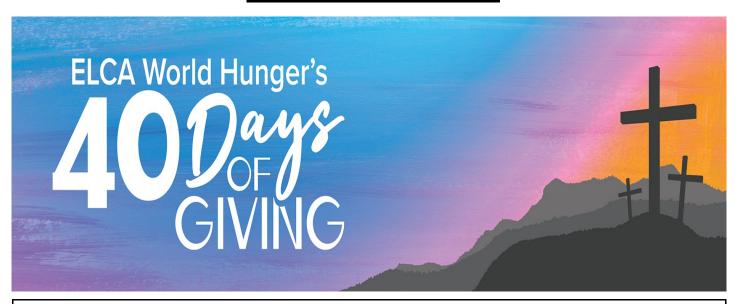
It's still chilly but summer camp registration is open NOW! Did you know that St. Paul's offers camperships for children and youth who would like to attend a Christian-based summer camp, weeklong or day camp? If you are interested in applying please visit our website: www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/youth-ministry/ to print an application. Applications can be returned in person to Belinda or the Christian Education mailbox by March 5th for early consideration. You can also email completed forms back to: youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org.

Would you like to sew quilts at home? No cutting or designing involved. See Kate Stottlemyer for details.

Would you like to knot quilts? Kate will be knotting on random Saturdays (TBA) from 9am-3pm. Drop by the Parish Hall for any amount of time to lend a hand. Hope to see you there!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lent 2023 - ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving

We invite you to **study, pray, reflect** and **give** with us during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving — for our families, our neighbors and communities around the world.

These 40 days are a season to reflect and remember, to look forward and ahead. These are not easy times for many of us. We know the challenges our world faces. Yet the season of Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. Amid our own dependence on God, we know by faith that God is even now at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world. ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving invites us to be part of that work and to bear witness to it with partners, companions, friends and neighbors. Will you join us?

Resources:

1. **40 Days of Giving Lent Calendar -** Find inspirational ideas for daily reflection and action, as well as prayers, relevant Bible passages, hymn ideas and more.

To download:

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA-40Days-Lent-Calendar -2023.pdf? ga=2.82205014.13943570.1676249355-967939826.1676249355

 Lenten Study Guide - Deepen your engagement throughout this season of Lent with the weekly study guide, where you can find impactful, motivational stories and information about how your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work in the world.

To download:

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA-WH-LentStudy-2023.pdf? ga=2.5117555.13943570.1676249355-967939826.1676249355

Hard copies of these 2 resources have been ordered are available. If you would like a hard copy, please contact officeadminstrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

*****IMPORTANT*****

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. https://youtu.be/cfp2JDt9uKk

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7 -Q

Thanks to the work of Mike Waas and Keith Horton, we have been able to compile an updated photo directory for St. Paul's. Should you like to get a copy, please email the church office:

officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org
and one will be emailed to you.



Should you prefer a hard copy, please email the office and one will be printed for you and given to you the following Sunday at worship.

Reminder:

There will be no altar flowers during lent, but please feel free to sign up for Easter!

After a recent inspection of our sanctuary's stained-glass windows, the report has shown that many are in need of repair. 19 of the 30 total windows are in need of some kind of repair/protection. The estimate for this work is \$60,470. (About 10 yrs ago we did have some of the windows along the alley repaired/protected.) Please see diagram on church bulletin boards.



In order to complete this, we would like to hold a special offering in order to add to our Stained-glass window fund. If you feel called, please consider donating to this special cause. We will hold this special collection until May 14th.

GVCS Food Bank

Donations for Glade Valley Food Bank are always accepted!

Items of need are:

soup, cereal, canned fruit, crackers, shampoo/conditioner and toilet paper.





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