



Holy Week Lenten Service—March 27, 2024

BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—7:00 p.m.

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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.....Ed Chaney
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Sheila Kahler and Roxanne Smith
Acolyte.....Camden Plog, Annabelle Bush

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Patty Rimel
Vice-President—Sheila Kahler
Treasurer—Bill Cartwright
Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

Prelude

Greeting and Prayer

The God of healing, hope, and wholeness be with you all.

And also with you.

The Son of righteousness fill you with hope and peace.

May it be the same for our neighbors and friends.

The Spirit of holiness and resurrection stir within you.

May the wind that brought forth creation from chaos continue to do so.

Holy God of all creation, every breeze, tide, and tectonic shift is known to you. All times and places are held within your infinite expanse of grace. Guide us in your mercy to perceive our place of rest in your faithfulness, which you have revealed to all through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. To him, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please share Christ's peace with those around you.)

Opening Hymn

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612

Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and
gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

Refrain

2 In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love.

Refrain

3 Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

Refrain

4 You who know each thought and
feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

Refrain

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, Text © 1987
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The First Reading – Exodus 16:13-21

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.'" ¹⁷The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less. ¹⁸But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed. ¹⁹And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over until morning." ²⁰But they did not listen to Moses; some left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul. And Moses was angry with them. ²¹Morning by morning they gathered it, as much as each needed; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm – Psalm 103

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

¹⁴For you know well how we are formed;
you remember that we are but dust.

¹⁵As for mortals, their days are like the grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;

¹⁶when the wind passes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more.

¹⁷But your steadfast love, O LORD, is forever with those who fear you,
and your righteousness is for the children's children;

¹⁸for those who keep your covenant
and remember to do your commandments.

¹⁹The LORD's throne is established in heaven;
God's dominion rules over all.

²⁰Bless the LORD, you angels, you mighty ones who do God's bidding,
who obey the voice of God's word.

²¹Bless the LORD, all you hosts of God,
you servants who do God's will.

²²Bless the LORD, all you works of God, in all places where God rules;
bles the LORD, O my soul.

The Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel – John 5:1b-9

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{1b}Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³In these lay many invalids — blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

ELW 786

- 1 O Holy Spirit, enter in,
and in our hearts your work begin,
and make our hearts your dwelling.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
around and in us brightly shine,
your strength in us upwelling.
In your radiance
life from heaven
now is given
overflowing,
gift of gifts beyond all knowing.
- 2 Left to ourselves, we surely stray;
oh, lead us on the narrow way,
with wisest counsel guide us;
and give us steadfastness, that we
may follow you forever free,
no matter who derides us.
Gently heal those
hearts now broken;
give some token
you are near us,
whom we trust to light and cheer us.
- 3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life,
let your good Word in doubt and strife
be in us strongly burning,
that we be faithful unto death
and live in love and holy faith,
from you true wisdom learning.
Lord, your mercy
on us shower;
by your power
Christ confessing,
we will cherish all your blessing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606-1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.

Offering

Offertory

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.

Healing

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and especially for all who are suffering or are in any affliction.

Merciful God, you sent your Son to be our peace.

Help all those who suffer any pain or grief, hopelessness or anxiety.

In your great mercy...

hear our prayer.

Mighty God,

mercifully grant strength to the weak and comfort to those who suffer, that their sickness and pain may be turned into health.

In your great mercy...

hear our prayer.

God of peace and reconciliation,

bring an end to the sickness of the world,

especially violence, terrorism, war, and their causes.

In your great mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, Holy One,

your Son prayed that your people may be one.

May the gift of baptism be a power for healing the church's brokenness, and bless all efforts for renewal and Christian unity.

In your great mercy...

hear our prayer.

Loving God,

mend broken relationships and bring peace

to our families, our congregation, this community, and the world.

In your great mercy...

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we thank you for all of the faithful departed,
especially those we name before you now.
Heal the pain of all who grieve.
In your great mercy...
hear our prayer.

O God, we bring these intercessions before you,
Knowing that you will hear us as you have promised,
and will answer according to the mercy
shown in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Laying On of Hands

Siblings in Christ, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing
and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

***THOSE WHO WISH TO RECEIVE LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING,
APPROACH AND KNEEL. THE MINISTER LAYS A HAND ON EACH PERSON'S HEAD.
THE MINISTER AND INDIVIDUAL OFFER SILENT PRAYERS FOR CONCERNS
BEING BROUGHT FORWARD.***

***THE MINISTER ANOINTS THE PERSON'S FOREHEAD WITH OIL,
MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.***

Receive this oil as a sign of forgiveness and healing in Jesus Christ.
Amen.

In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, be strengthened and filled with God's
grace, that you and those you love may know the healing power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Closing Prayer

Let us pray.

Living God, through the laying on of hands and anointing, grant comfort in
suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid give them
courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and
when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Abide with Me

ELW 629

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| 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me
abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me. | 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no
bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me! |
| 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass
away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me. | 5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing
eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to
the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. |

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

The Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

Steven King

(Depart in silence)