Wednesday Lenten SERVICES

February 25, 2026

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service—7:00 p.m.

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

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Sheila Kahler
Vice-President—Lauren McCloskey
Treasurer—Patty Rimel
Secretary—Gary Wachter

Savior, Servant, Friend

Week 1: Healer

Order of Service

I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15

Invocation and Call to Worship

P We gather together as friends in the healing presence of the Triune God. We gather together in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Be gracious to me, O Lord,

C For I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. (Psalm 6:2)

P O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,

C And you have healed me. (Psalm 30:2)

P He sent out his word and healed them,

C And delivered them from their destruction. (Psalm 107:20)

P Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;

C For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. (Psalm 147:1)

P He heals the brokenhearted

C And binds up their wounds. (Psalm 147:3)

Opening Hymn ***Our Father, We have Wandered***

1 Our Father, we have wandered
and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered
your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling,
we rise with fear and shame,
as, distant but compelling,
we hear you call our name.

2 And now at length discerning
the evil that we do,
behold us, Lord, returning
with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us
and home rejoicing bring,
in gladness there to greet us
with calf and robe and ring.

3 O Lord of all the living,
both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving,
and ever-caring Lord,
grant now that our transgressing,
our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
in pardon, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006 Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy* © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All

Confession and Forgiveness

P Be gracious to us, O Lord, hear our confession and heal our iniquity.

C My thoughts have veered away from your paths of righteousness.

P My ways have departed from your ways.

C My seeking to gain control has made me a slave to sin.

P My desires have brought disease into my heart and life.

C My sin makes me waste away from within.

P My heart cries out for forgiveness and healing.

C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

(Please silently reflect on the fact that Jesus heals us from the rot and disease of sin.)

P Your healer, Christ Jesus, has good news for you! The healing mercy of Jesus is stronger than the disease of sin. Your Savior, Servant, Friend brings healing to you through the cross and the empty tomb. Jesus forgives you of all your sins, and he applies a healing balm to your heart, soul and all of your life. Because of your friend Jesus, you are forgiven. Amen.

C What a friend we have in Jesus.

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty and everlasting God, you created us for life and flourishing, not for death and disease. Turn our hearts from all that is contrary to you, and bring us back to your healing ways. Let us seek you and the eternal healing that you alone provide. Let us desire friendship with you so that we are healed by love. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading … Malachi 4:1-3

Epistle Reading … 1 Peter 2:23-25

Gospel Reading … Matthew 8:14-17

Sermon Pastor Peter Roy

Hymn of the Day ***When Peace Like a River***

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul. It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control: That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul. It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Offering

Prayers

P There are hurts everywhere. This world hurts. And we hurt. And so we pray that the healing hands of Jesus would be placed upon us and all our hurts. Jesus, in your great love, place your healing hands on us. You know where it hurts—come and bring healing, Jesus.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal the hurts festering in our hearts and souls so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal the hurts of this world as you bring peace to war-torn places, protection to innocent lives and integrity to leaders and rulers.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal the hurts of failing bodies and aching bones, work through the hands and feet of medical practitioners and draw near to all in their times of illness and physical hurt.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal the pain of loneliness and despair, anxiety and fear.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal any strife that threatens to break apart your church, and replace it with friendship and unity.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heal us from all ungodly apathy or indifference so that we can be passionate for your kingdom work.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Jesus, heal us by means of your body and blood.

C Jesus, place your healing hands on all our hurts. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

P Go now into this world of hurts knowing what a healer you have in Jesus! May the healing power of Jesus bless you and keep you; may the healings hands of Jesus be placed upon you in faith and give you peace. **Amen.**

What a friend we have in Jesus!

Closing Hymn ***There is a Balm in Gilead*** ELW 614

Refrain
There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2 If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

3 Don't ever be discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

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SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2026
DIRECTLY AFTER WORSHIP

A For the sole purpose of voting on
PJ's Roofing Proposal ($16,700)

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Peter Roy
Lector.....Kate Stottlemyer
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Marcia Gupta and Nancy Cochran
Acolyte.....Camden Plog & Kay Wachter

Staff

Minister:.....Pastor Peter Roy
Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)....Joann Valainis
Music Coordinator .....Jeff Gentry
Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
Administration/Purchasing .....Ed Chaney
Sexton .....Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator.....
Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney

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. From sundaysandseasons.com | Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved | License # SAS103410, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #736745-A. All rights reserved
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