



Third Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service—9:00 a.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

****Stand as you are***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BELL RUNG

CANDLES LIT

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of
your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your
forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what
we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not
loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors
as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on
us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in
your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained
minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore
declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of
the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty.....ELW 533

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt..*

GREETING

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 (p. 147)**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Anthem: Choir - "Behold, the Cross of Christ" by Gideon Whitehead and Ryan Kelly

Text: Copyright 2025 by Gideon Whitehead and Ryan Kelly, Used with permission, Tune: BEHOLD, Copyright 2023 by Gideon Whitehead, Used with permission; with PASSION CHORALE, Hans Leo Hasler, 1564 - 1612 and written in 1601 (PD) Music: Ryan Kelly, newly arranged, and Copyright 2025 Birnamwood Publications

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

P: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95

¹ Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

² Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.

³ For you, Lord, are a great God,

and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴ In your hand are the caverns of the earth;

the heights of the hills are also yours.

⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it,

and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

⁷ For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

⁸ “Harden not your hearts,

as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.

⁹ There your ancestors tested me,

they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,

‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’

¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger,

‘They shall never come to my rest.’”

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1 to 11

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 151) Return to the Lord**

GOSPEL: John 4:5 to 42

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon.....Pastor Peter Roy

Silence for Reflection

***HYMN OF THE DAY.....Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me.....ELW 623**

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

****THE APOSTLES' CREED***

P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

****PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH***

P: ... God of grace, **C: Hear our prayer.**

****The Peace***

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

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

****OFFERTORY HYMN***

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.....ELW 884

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING, MEAL (sung, 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (p. 153)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

P: With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

C: **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:*

P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught...

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:

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMN (p.154)

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

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray,
Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION (ELW p. 155)

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of all grace † bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN.....Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer.....ELW 618*

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

***DISMISSAL**

GO IN PEACE, CHRIST IS WITH YOU.
THANKS BE TO GOD.



PRAYER LIST

Betsy Galliher, *Member*

Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*

Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Sue Snyder, *Member*

Bert Fiske, *Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider*

Jack Lotwick, *Friend of Robb and Dianne Port*

Parker Bazarewski, *Extended family of Ed Chaney*

Dudley Cate, *Family friends of Ed Chaney*

Patty Plitt, *Cousin of Ed Chaney*

Leanne Colwell, *Friend of Sue Snyder*

Kira Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*

Pastor Phyllis Haynes, *A colleague of Pastor Phil Beck.*

Nancy Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*

Linda Koelsch, *Friend of Ed Chaney*

Family of Joseph Evans, *Father of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima*

Marion Lawrence, *Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Emily Kilmon, *Daughter of Betsy Galliher*

Richard Pratt, *Brother of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima*

Dawn Lee Knoebel, *Daughter of Robb and Dianne Port*

Regina Baker, *Member*

Jaqueline, *Friend of Kay Wachter and Charlotte Jones*

Mary Zeiman, *Mother of Amy Mildenstein*

Linda Brown, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*

Steve Jones, *very close personal friend of Joann Valainis*

Laura Wertz, *Daughter of Betsy Galliher*

Michael and Serena Anderson, *Friends of Linda Yopp*

Bob Schmidt, *Brother of Dottie Titmas*

Emily Hess, *Friend of Sue Snyder*

Adrian Smith, *Grandson of Sam and Marie Purswell*

Mary Wachter, *Sister-in-law of Gary Wachter*

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing!

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, March 8th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>	
Faith Formation	10:00am
<i>SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</i>	10:00am

Monday, March 9th

FEC	8am-5pm
Worship and Arts	10:00am
Girl Scouts	6:00pm

Tuesday, March 10th

FHS	9am-3pm
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Wednesday, March 11th

FEC	8am-5pm
Soup and Sandwich in the Parish Hall	6:00pm
Worship	7:00pm

Thursday, March 12th

FHS	9am-3pm
Cub Scouts	6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm

Sunday, March 15th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	
Bell Court Worship	2:00pm

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need:
\$3,110.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:
\$350.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income

March 1, 2026

Weekly Contributions: \$ 942.15
Property Loan Fund: \$ 425.00
Total: \$1,367.15

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions: \$3,314.00
Property Loan Fund: \$3,435.00
Total: \$6,749.00

ATTENDANCE:

March 1, 2026

In person: 56

Virtual: 11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*****IMPORTANT*****

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. Video link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsM2yWtZbg0&t=43s> February 15, 2026. 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



WE NEED YOUR VOTE TODAY

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2026
DIRECTLY AFTER WORSHIP**

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



Donations for *Glade Valley Food Bank* are always accepted!

****UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:****

***Cereal, Hamburger Helper,
Macaroni and Cheese,
Canned Fruit and Peanut butter***

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you!

**ALL ARE WELCOME!
Bring Family and Friends!
Saturday, March 21, 2026 5pm-7pm**

**Woodsboro Evangelical Church,
101 S. Main St., Woodsboro, MD**
Please see Roxanne Smith with any questions



COMMUNITY DINNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our past members have generously donated funds specifically designated for camperships at Mar-Lu-Ridge. If you are interested in having your children participate in a campership at Mar-Lu-Ridge, please contact Lauren McCloskey for more information.

There will be NO altar flowers during Lent, however you may plan ahead and reserve a date for Easter or after. Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to offer flowers.



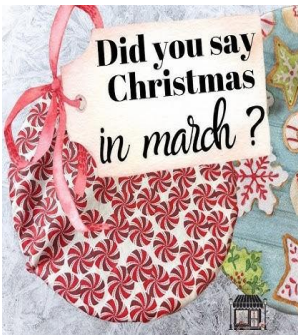
Year-Round Stocking Stuffer Project!

MARCH

**Bath Scrubbies, Toothpaste,
Regular Coloring Books** (*not color & activity*)

You may bring donations to worship and place them in the designated Christmas box or you may drop them off at the Parish Hall Monday through Friday between 9am and 1pm.

Please see Kay Wachter with any questions.



Help us decorate for Easter by purchasing an Easter Lily. They are available for \$14.00 each.

Sign up using the sign-up sheet on the side bulletin board or call the Parish Office to purchase with a check or cash.

Remember, you don't have to throw these beautiful lilies away; they can be planted in your garden for next year's blooming!

****Please don't forget to designate your dedication.***

March 22nd is the final date to order!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Come one, come all!
Saint Paul's MOVIE DAY!
Saturday, March 28th
2:00p-4:00pm
In the overflow
section of the Church

RISEN

Risen is the story of a Roman centurion's involvement in Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.
Call Kay Wachter 301-693-5256 or Gary Wachter 301-693-3453 with any questions.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



EASTER CANDY DONATIONS

We are looking for individually wrapped candies to use for our Easter Egg hunt this year.

Please make sure they will be small enough to put inside of a plastic egg.

We will be collecting until Sunday, March 22nd.

All donations can be brought in to the church in the donation box inside the Nave.

Thank you all so much!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE!



FREE!

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF

WALKERSVILLE
EASTER EGG HUNT

The Story of
Easter!

Games!

When: Saturday, April 4th 2026

Time: 3:00PM- 5:00 PM

Where: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
14 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Walkersville

Goats!

Crafts!

Egg Hunt Times

- 3:30- Ages 0-2
- 3:45- Ages 3-5
- 4:00- Ages 6-9
- 4:15- Ages 10+



Strawberry Festival

Meeting

When: Sunday, March 15th
Right after service

LENTEN *Schedule*

Lenten Wednesday Worship—

Soup and Sandwich @ 6pm, and Worship @ 7:00pm,
both in the Parish Hall.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – 6:00pm Meal and Worship at 7:00pm @ Bethel

Good Friday – 7:00pm @ Saint Paul’s and Noon at Bethel

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Peter Roy
Lector.....Phil Smith
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima
Acolyte.....Camden Plog & Kay Wachter

Staff

Minister:.....Pastor Peter Roy
Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)....Joann Valainis
Music CoordinatorJeff Gentry
Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
SextonLarry 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 CCLI Copyright © 2026 License 21412874, Streaming 21412867 All rights reserved