



**March 16, 2025**

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

*Walk With Us As Disciples of Christ!*

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Child Development Center and Pre-School**  
**LCMC**

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**Website: [www.stpaultaylor.com](http://www.stpaultaylor.com)**

**Online Giving Portal:**



Follow us at [Facebook.com/stpaultaylor](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultaylor)

**SUNDAY RADIO BROADCAST**

**KRXT 98.5 FM at 12:00pm**

St. Paul Church does take pictures and videos which will be posted on their  
Social Media and Web Page.

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

*WALK WITH US AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST!*

*Welcome!!*

We welcome all who worship this Lord's Day! We are glad you are worshiping with us today. As we can be helpful to you, we look forward to doing so. If you would like the pastor to contact you, please mark that on the Record of Fellowship or call the church office. We ask that the Record of Fellowship be filled out (members and visitors) so that we will have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

We Remember in Prayer  
(Please call the church office to remove anyone from the prayer lists.)

Please remember the family of Brunner Grau,  
funeral service will be held in the sanctuary on March 17th at 2pm  
with visitation in the Narthex from 1-2pm

## **Our Members:**

Jane Vorwerk, Inez Sladek, Elaine Oser, John Harper, Kent Safarik.

## **Our Shut Ins:**

Terri Abert, Grace Bulgerin, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Carol Lantzsch, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson.

## **Our family, friends, and loved ones:**

Richard Jansky, Jackie Matthys Thomas, Felicia Garcia, Penny Dittman, Ben McCuk, Chad Cox, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Mackenzie Brewer, Loretta Simank, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Edward Morgan, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Alma Russell, Tori Harris and baby, Andrea Carrizales, Mary Perez, Iris Rangel and family, Melissa Balderas, Kelly Clines Thompson, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

Easter Lilies!!

Monday, April 14 is the deadline for ordering Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday.

Order forms are available in the bulletin and on our website under the Announcements section.

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## **Schedule of Lenten Wednesday's**

March 19, 26 & April 2, 9

1:00 pm - Lent Service - St. Paul House Conference Room

6:00 pm - Soup & Sandwiches - Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm - Lent Service - Fellowship Hall

Sign up sheet for Soup & Sandwiches is in the Narthex.

Please indicate when and what you would like to bring

## **WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*  
Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In + Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG**

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

P. 597

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.

Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. <sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 27**

*In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**<sup>2</sup>When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**<sup>4</sup>One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

**<sup>6</sup>Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

**<sup>8</sup>My heart speaks your message "Seek my face."  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper;

forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

**<sup>10</sup>Though my father and my mother forsake me,  
the LORD will take me in.**

- <sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
- <sup>12</sup>**Subject me not to the will of my foes,  
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**
- <sup>13</sup>This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!
- <sup>14</sup>**Wait for the LORD and be strong.  
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1**

*Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.*

<sup>17</sup>Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Lenten Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

S 142b

## **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to **Luke 13:31-35**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35**

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup>He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Congregation**

### **Children's message**

#### **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Thy Holy Wings"

P. 613

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

## **CREED**

### ***Apostles' Creed***

**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 INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, for people living in fear or need and we remember our friends and family members before you. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries; for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Deb in the Home Office serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Faith Lutheran Church in Moline, Illinois. Today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of Zion Lutheran Church in Sandoval, Texas. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

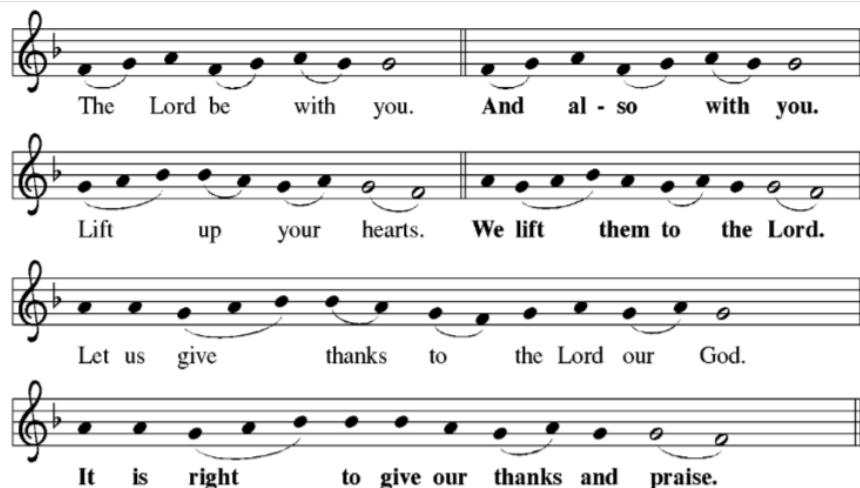
## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

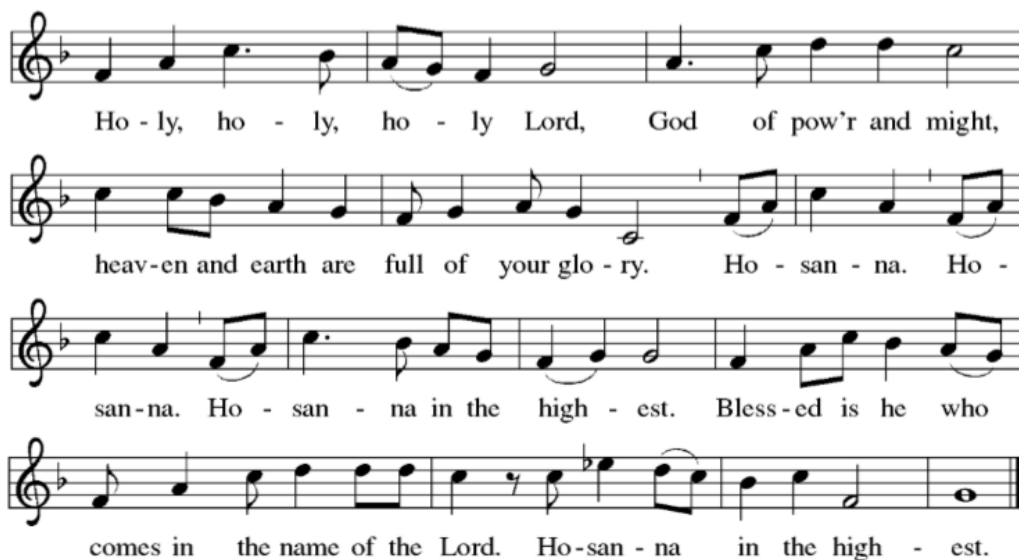


## GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . .  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

### The 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.**

## COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.*

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **Prayer After Communion**

### **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

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.

Amen.

#### **SENDING SONG**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

P. 705

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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### OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>TODAY</b>			<b>Mar 16</b>
10:00	-	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
<b>MONDAY</b>			<b>Mar 17</b>
<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>			<b>Mar 18</b>
9:30	-	LCMC Pr Cluster Meeting	
6:30	-	Council Meeting - St Paul House	
6:30	-	Scouts - Fellowship Hall	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			<b>Mar 19</b>
9:30	-	Folding Bulletins	
1:00	-	Midweek Lent Service - St. Paul House Conference Room	
1:30	-	Prayer Time	
6:00	-	Soup/Sandwiches followed by Lenten Service at 6:30 - Fellowship Hall	
<b>THURSDAY</b>			<b>Mar 20</b>
		<i>Newsletters Due</i>	
11:30	-	Women of the Word - Sirloin Stockade	
<b>FRIDAY</b>			<b>Mar 21</b>
<i>No Activities Scheduled / Office Closed on Fridays</i>			
<b>SATURDAY</b>			<b>Mar 22</b>
<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>			
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>			<b>Mar 23</b>
9:00	-	Handbell Practice - Sanctuary	
10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	

### **Announcement**

On Sunday, March 23, join a discussion group led by Darren Stout.  
The discussion will center on church attendance trends and brainstorming  
ways to improve.  
The discussion group will meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the service.

### **Serving Today**

**Council Ushers:** Rhonda Ochoa, Loren Dittmeyer  
**Reader:** Terry Richter  
**Acolytes:** Open - Spring Break  
**Altar Flowers:** Open

### **Serving March 23**

**Council Ushers:** Steve Morgan, Carmen McCleery  
**Reader:** Chris Rohlack  
**Acolytes:** Conley Paulsen  
**Altar Flowers:** Richter Family