

Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:00 a.m.

#### Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

It is a joy to gather together for worship!

## St. Paul Purpose Statement

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

## **Sunday Worship Schedule**

9:00 a.m. In-person worship with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. In-person Sunday School – September – May

#### Communion

We celebrate Jesus' presence each week in Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Supper and Jesus invites us: whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, or just considering Christianity; if you are an infant or elderly; if your family has been in the United States for generations, or has only recently arrived; if you are LGBTQIA+ or straight; if you live with disabilities, chronic illness, or are able-bodied and currently healthy; if you are home-blessed or homeless; ... YOU are welcome at God's meal of grace at St. Paul.

## **Accessibility**

Handicap parking, entrance, wheelchair, and restrooms are available. Sound amplifiers and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

## Children's Offering

In March and April the children's offering will support our synod partners in Tanzania and India. The offerings will be sent directly to non-profit organizations that work with the North Central Diocese of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and the Arcot Lutheran Church (ALC) in India. The Friends of Mwangaza supports education programs that tackle issues related to teaching, learning, public health, empowering women, and building community in Tanzania. Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry supports education through financially supporting students at the ALC boarding homes in India. Check out both organizations here: <a href="https://lutheranpartners.org/what-we-do">https://lutheranpartners.org/what-we-do</a> or <a href="https://www.mwangazapartnership.org/">https://www.mwangazapartnership.org/</a>

1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081 815-625-3069 Pastor Makayla Dahleen

Pastor Email: <u>pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com</u> Pastor Phone: 815-780-9401

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www.stpaulsterling.com

#### **Prelude**

"Lord, Be Glorified" Mark Hayes

When the prelude music begins, we invite you into a time of silent reflection to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

#### Welcome/Announcements

# Gathering Hymn "Lift High the Cross"

ELW #660



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947

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## **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

All: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

## **Kyrie**



Text: John Tirro, b. 1966; based on an 11th cent. collect, tr. Book of Common Prayer Music: ALL HEARTS ARE OPEN, John Tirro

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#### **GREETING**

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

All: And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray:

All: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers and forgive us our sins. Strengthen us to serve you that through life and death we may live 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.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

R: A reading from Jeremiah

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 51:1-12

Please join me in reading the Psalm Responsively:

R: <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

All: <sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

R: <sup>3</sup>For I know | my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

All: <sup>4</sup>Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

R: <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

All: <sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

R: <sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

All: 8Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

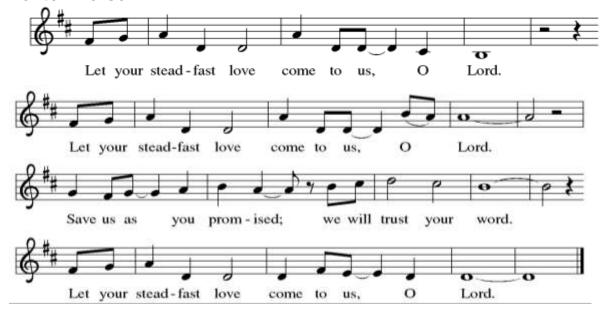
R: <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

All: <sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

R: <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

All: <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

#### **Lenten Verse**



**Gospel: John 12:20-33** 

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the twelfth chapter All: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The Gospel of our Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's message

Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

"As the Winter Days Grow Longer"



## **Prayers of Intercession**

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

Each petition ends with these words:

P: Hear us, O God,

All: Your mercy is great.

#### **Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you!

P: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace in whatever way you are comfortable.

#### **MEAL**

## Offering

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
Robert Buckley Farlee

## **Offering Response**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"



## The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

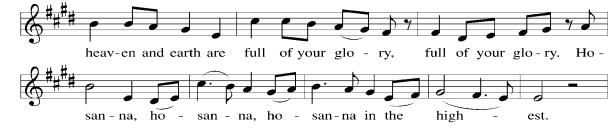
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **Preface**

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

"Holy, Holy, Holy"







### **Words of Institution**

## **Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

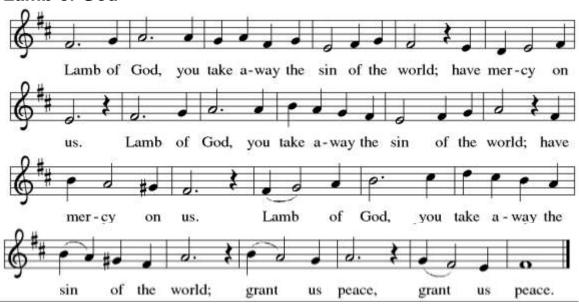
#### **Invitation to Communion**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

#### Communion

#### **Communion Music**

#### "Lamb of God"



#### "Beautiful Things"



"Lamb of God"
Anne Krentz Organ

Text and music © 2009 worshiptogether.com Songs, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com

## **Prayer after Communion**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

P: Let us pray

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen

## Irish Blessing

P: May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

The rains fall soft upon your fields.

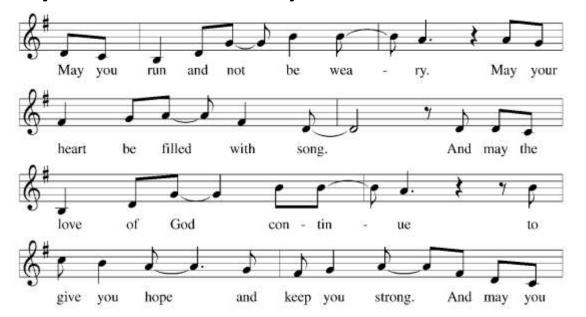
And until we meet again, +

May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.

All: Amen.

## **Sending Song**

"May You Run and Not Be Weary"





Text and music @ 1991 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

#### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

"Worthy Is the Lamb" John Purifoy

Coffee Fellowship will be served this morning following worship the Fellowship Hall hosted by Lee & Nancy Eilers. All are welcome!

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Eric Brown, Dawn Grell, Michelle Klinger, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Bob Cornelsen, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Harold & Sandy Julifs, Lila Edeus, and Berta Beyer.

**Placing our confidence** in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of our loved ones, we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Daehle Reitzel. Daehle passed away on March 13. He is the grandpa to Jacob Reitzel, great-grandpa to Paige Reitzel.

May God's presence bring you comfort and peace.

## **Worship Assistants:**

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Chad Arians

Acolytes – Arians family

Greeters – Janie Billings, Karen Wright

Ushers - Nancy Beck, Diane Yoeckel

Reader – Karen Wright

Sound – Greg Zeigler

#### Musicians:

Julie Woessner Dawn Zeigler

#### Next week - March 24

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Greg Zeigler

Acolytes – Volunteer Needed

Greeters - Nancy Frank. Donna Kendall

Ushers - JoAnn & Ruben Garcia

Reader – JoAnn Garcia

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Coffee Fellowship - Volunteer Needed

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