

Fifth Sunday of Lent



March 29, 2020

Welcome to St. Paul's, Parkside, and Zion Lutheran Churches

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Future Services will be recorded and aired on You Tube, Face Book, and MeTV. MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 am. Depending on your television service, following are the channels for MeTV:

For DirecTV—Ch. 67

For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5

For “Rabbit Ears”: Ch. 67-1

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who is present, who gives life, who gives us this gift of Lent.
- C Amen.
- P If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet you promised forgiveness, and so we confess.
- P Gracious God,
- C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.
- P Receive good news: God turns to you in love. “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.
- C Amen.

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle - vail! sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Children's Time: Pastor Steve Biegner

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 11th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone

who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Jeremiah Smith

Hymn of the Day

When Peace, like a River
It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

Youth Group Time: Chris LiPuma

Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith in the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

A Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its renewal. Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, pain, and all of those struggling through these difficult times surrounding this virus. We especially pray for the people on our Prayer List, and those we name either silently or aloud. Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great**

- A God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for his congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services to expand what the church can do in our communities during these challenging times. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C **Amen.**

Dismissal

- A Let us go in peace to serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God!**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 29-April 5, 2020

TODAY: 10:00 am: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

Wednesday: 12:15 pm: Staff Meeting

Thursday: 3:00 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

Sunday: 10:00 am: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

Attendance last week: Via YouTube, Facebook, or MeTV: 194

Offering: \$3,715.00

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Marion Alexander: Tennyson Court, #127 in Memory Care Unit (check in at desk to enter Unit), Williamsville, NY 14221

Betty Arbogast: Weinberg Dosberg Campus, #200, Getzville, NY 14068

Louise Duethorn: Elderwood, 5775 Maelou Drive, #329, Hamburg, NY 14075

Marilyn Emerson: 364 Burroughs Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

John Schunak: 193 E. Pinelake Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

Mary Elizabeth Stewart: 69 Washington Highway, Amherst, NY 14226

Lora Vahue: 351 Delaware Road, Kenmore, NY 14217

Prayer List: In our and extended family: The Family of Franklin Helfrich; Bill Bauman (husband of Roslyn Bauman); Dorothy Stiles O'Brien (long-time St. Paul's member who moved to North Carolina); Judy Wagner; The Family of Timothy Love; The Family of Bruce Phillips; Thomas Maier; Cheryl Pritchard

St. Paul's Announcements

As of March 19, 2020: All meetings at St. Paul's have been canceled until further notice. The Daily Bread Food Truck and the Tiger's Den Food Pantry will continue to operate, and if you are able to volunteer for either, please call the office: 716-835-0407.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The April Pantry hours are: Thursday 4/2, 4/16, and 4/30 from 3:00 pm-7:00 pm, and Saturday 4/11 and 4/25 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Pantry items for April are:

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Change For a Change in Haiti

One half of the population of Haiti lives on less than \$2.00 a day! The cost of one coffee, a small one at that, at Tim Hortons! As we journey through the season of Lent, please consider giving up something truly life changing - change (\$) for a change in Haiti. There is a green piggy bank at the main back door for your donations. Hopefully, the unrest will settle this year and St Paul's can resume the missionary trips and deliver this special gift in person. Thank you and Blessings, Gail Singer.

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