An abstract painting featuring a central cross-like shape formed by a vertical green and white stripe and a horizontal red and orange stripe. The background is composed of various shades of purple, blue, and pink, with visible brushstrokes and a textured surface. The text is overlaid on the lower right portion of the painting.

Where your
treasure is,
there your heart
will be also

MATTHEW 6:21

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

www.stpaulsyork.org

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 184 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.

Thank you for your faithfulness in sending your offering through the mail, by using online options from your financial institution, or through the “Donate” now from the church website **stpaulsyork.org**. Your gifts are keeping us current with the commitments associated with St. Paul’s and our ministry partners.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Face masks are required inside,

Kindly sign in at the door through which you entered. This will help if we need to be in contact.

Please take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

Please wear your mask. Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew.

Communion Procedure:

- *Ushers will direct you. The pulpit side (left) of the nave communes first followed by the font side (right).*
- *Wearing your face mask, come to the chancel step taking your place at one of the five positions marked on the chancel floor with a green cross.*
- *Your entire household may gather at a position marked by the green cross.*
- *Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host.*
- *Please do not reach out to take the Host from the minister.*
- *Once the minister has moved to the next group, then remove your mask, receive the host, replace your mask and return to your pew by the closest side aisle. There is no need to hurry.*
- *We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).*

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open at St. Paul’s. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Norma Shue, Deacon Harold Sargeant, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion 8:00 AM, 12 Noon & 7:00 PM

Stand

PSALM: Psalm 51:11–18 *spoken responsively by half verse.*

¹¹Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹²**Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

¹³Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

¹⁴**I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.**

¹⁵Deliver me from ¹death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.

¹⁶**Open my lips, O LORD,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

¹⁷Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

¹⁸**The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

CONFESSIO

Brothers and sisters: We were created to experience joy in communion with God, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of his creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love - the discipline of Lent – help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

*The people sit. There is silence and self-examination.
Then the pastor leads the people in the confession.*

Most holy and merciful God:

We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault 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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

we confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

we confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

we confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

we confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

we confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

8:00 AM & 12 Noon A time of silence

7:00 PM CHOIR RESPONSE *As Pants the Heart*

Joel Martinson

On this day we remember that we are dust, **and to dust we shall return.**

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and Passion of your Son, our Lord,

bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Stand

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . . Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

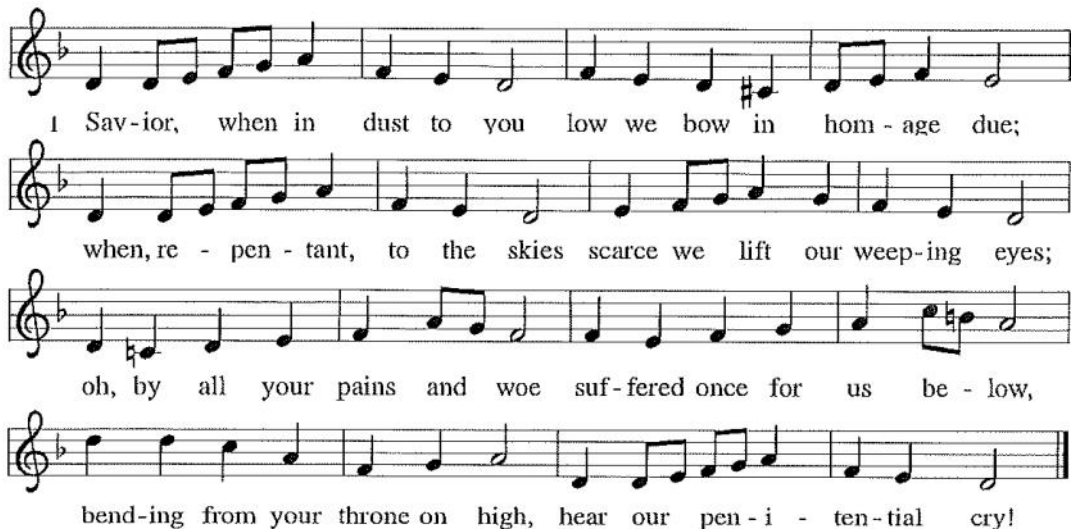
READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 *(back cover)*

Stand

7:00 PM HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to You (LBW 91) stanza 1



The image shows the musical notation for the first stanza of the hymn 'Savior, When in Dust to You'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;
when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;
oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,
bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 *(back cover)*

The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew**.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

7:00 PM Organ Meditation

Variations on Forty Days and Forty Nights Christa Rakich

Stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

O God, you call the church to be ministers of reconciliation throughout the world. Inspire us in our proclamation of the gospel and guide our ministries to build up the body of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you created the earth and all its inhabitants and you declared that it is good. Protect mountains and valleys, animals and plants, and direct us to be good stewards of all you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you desire peace. Direct governments and leaders to work for peace and the well-being of all people and raise up advocates to speak and serve on behalf of the downtrodden. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you are our hope in the midst of despair, our help in the midst of sorrow, and our consolation in the midst of affliction. Grant comfort to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*) and support caregivers who attend those in need. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you call us to love one another. Accompany with your grace those journeying toward baptism and call us all to repentance as we prepare to celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, you are our life and our salvation. We give you thanks for the righteous who have died in faith. Inspire us by their example to proclaim your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Stand

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray....Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you.

Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.

He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

Amen

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

FRACTION *A brief silence is kept.*

7:00 PM AGNUS DEI *Cantor sings first line.*

Congregation sings second line.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Sit *The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.*

COMMUNION

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.


POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord God, in your mercy, give grace to us who have received this Most Blessed Sacrament that our Lenten penance may give you glory and bring us pardon and salvation. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

7:00 PM HYMN *I Lay My Sins on Jesus (LBW 305) stanza 1*



I I lay my sins on Je - sus, the spot - less Lamb of God;
he bears them all and frees us from the ac - curs - ed load.
I bring my guilt to Je - sus to wash my crim - son stains
clean in his blood most pre - cious till not a spot re - mains.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

7:00 PM POSTLUDE *There is a Balm in Gilead* Adolphus Hailstork

In our prayers we remember...

Earline Jones, Wayne Wagner, Sandy Dickensheets, Sue Kopp, Jannette Guetersloh, Oonagh Newman, Jenny Zimmerman, Deborah Fulton, Reid Weinbrom, Darrell Kopp, Shawn Sunday, Mike Johnston, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, David List, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey, family and loved ones of Judy Himmelwright.

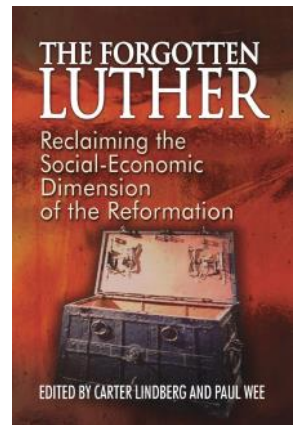
Food Pantry—February

Items needed: Jelly, peanut butter, mashed potato mix, stuffing mix, canned beans. Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

New Members Class will be held on Sundays during the month of March at 9:15 AM in Christ Hall. If you or someone you know is interested in uniting with our faith community please notify the church office. Masks and physical distancing will be practiced during the four sessions.

Lenten Wednesday Evenings led by Pastor William Snyder
The Forgotten Luther, edited by Carter Lindberg and Paul Wee
February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 7:00-8:00 PM

We often forget how frequently Luther called for reform in the social and economic dimensions of life, which he saw as a natural outgrowth of theology and love of neighbor. The book, *The Forgotten Luther*, will be the jumping off point for our discussion. Reading the book is optional. We will consider such topics as: the common chest; the danger of greed; subversion when called forth; creating new vision in the world. We will take the opportunity to examine together many social issues that challenge us in these times. Contact Patty Snyder 717-578-2253 or the church office 717-843-8155 to register and receive the Zoom link.



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Bookkeeper
Secretary
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Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Holy Week Schedule 2021

Palm Sunday, March 28

8:00 AM Indoor (advance reservations needed)

Blessing of Palms/Holy Communion

Organ, Handbells, Cantor

10:30 AM Outdoor (weather permitting)

Blessings of Palms/Holy Communion

Brass Ensemble

5:00 PM Indoor (advance reservations needed)

Blessings of Palms/Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7:00 PM Indoor

Sermon, Foot Washing, Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 2

3:00 PM Outdoor (weather permitting/bring lawn chair)

Passion Narrative & Prayers at the Cross

7:00 PM Indoor

Passion Reading & Litany of the Cross

Vigil of Easter, April 3

7:00 PM Begins outdoor with New Fire

Moves indoor for readings, baptism, Holy Communion

The Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day, April 4

8:00 AM Indoor (advance reservations needed)

Holy Communion

Organ, Handbells, Cantor

10:30 AM Outdoor (weather permitting)

Holy Communion

Brass Ensemble

5:00 PM Indoor (advance reservations needed)

Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday B, 2021

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm 51:1-17 2

Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Create. To create something takes imagination. It also takes action. In Genesis we read that God created the world. What we hear is often the action part of the text, the “what God did” part. But we don’t get much about the creative process, what God was thinking, all we hear is simply what God does.

On this Ash Wednesday we begin with Psalm 51. The Psalmist comes before God, the one who imagines and brings into being through action and the Psalmist cries out, makes a supplication; “create in me a clean heart, O God.”

Today we are not smudging our foreheads with an ashen cross, just another liturgical adjustment during this time of COVID-19. However we have marked the beginning of this holy season with the words of Psalm 51 “Create in me a clean heart, O God.” Whether it is sung or said, the plea as we come together in the presence of God is to create in us clean hearts. And from the newly created clean heart, renewal of a right spirit, and restoration in us of the joy of salvation.

This is a mighty tall order. I don’t know how much imagination you have brought along with you to this Ash Wednesday service. I don’t know what is lurking in your heart or how off center your spirit is or how much of the joy of salvation may be missing from your existence. But I do know that this is a season, a time in our lives together as Christian people, to acknowledge before God and before one another that things aren’t the way that we would like them to be. As St. Paul puts it “we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” Rather than be cast way, sidelined, benched, from God’s presence and interaction with us, showing up on Ash Wednesday marks our desire to get back in the game, removed from the bench or sideline, or from the remote distant places that we have traversed away from the Lord. Actively participating in the observance of Ash Wednesday makes your intention clear that things need to change. The Psalmist assists with our cry to God.

This is not a lament as we begin this season; this is a plea, a petition. Laments call out in pain over something that cannot change; death, destruction, Holocaust, loss. They are part of the grief process. I know that we are often resistant to change, and that if we can’t change our

ways, can't change the way we think about others and things and situations, we can't take up new actions, they may very well lead to a death. Yes, I believe that when we can't or won't change death is often looming. But our entrance Psalm marking the beginning of a season that starts in ashes and culminates in Easter's New Fire, is a call out in pain for God to intervene. It is a plea for God to bring about needed change; change in our hearts, change in our spirits, change in joy as it relates to salvation granted to us in and through Christ Jesus.

Our collective call for God to intervene and bring about needed; change, relief, help deliverance, sustenance, healing, forgiveness is no trivial thing. It is an urgent need. That is why we fervently pray in the Eucharistic prayer "Come, Lord Jesus!" We need Jesus to come bringing change, relief, help deliverance, sustenance, healing, and forgiveness for us and to us now. Lent begins by marking the season with a plea to God opening us to clean hearts, renewed spirits, restored joy as we live into God's future shaped for us through Christ Jesus. Our liturgical sign for that future shaped by God is the cross. In this season it is often traced on our foreheads with ashes or traced from forehead to chest and shoulder to shoulder, the sign is made calling forth change that is brought about through Christ Jesus.

Create. To create something takes imagination. It also takes action. In this Lenten season it is the action of God's love shown to us through the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ Jesus that makes possible a different future for each of us. It is Christ who makes change possible for us, for our hearts and for our spirits. This is perhaps the season where we get to spend some time reflecting and thinking about the creative process; how God loves us and all humanity so much, that God is willing to take on human form, become one with us. This is also the season that culminates in Holy Week where we hear the action part of "what God did and does and will do" for us in Jesus.

On this Ash Wednesday we embark on a season marked with plea and cross trusting that God is working on us creating new and honest hearts, renewing spirits, and restoring joy though Easter's victory. Amen.

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
 Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—
²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
 Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
 their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.
 Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.
¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
 a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.
 Sanctify the congregation;
 assemble the aged;
 gather the children,
 even infants at the breast.
 Let the bridegroom leave his room,
 and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
 Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
 and do not make your heritage a mockery,
 a byword among the nations.
 Why should it be said among the peoples,
 'Where is their God?'"

or Isaiah 58:1-12 [not printed]

Psalm 51:1-17**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 [not printed]****GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15.

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Tracks 1 and 2
 ELCA-R