Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness

LUKE 4:1

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulsyork.org www.stpaulspreschoolvork.com Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

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 186 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 (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

The Nursery, which is accessed from the double doors, front right, is available for any family needing a space away. The audio portion of the service is provided at 8:00 AM and the live-stream at 10:30 AM

Our Communion is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Please wear a mask while in worship and take your service bulletin home with you.

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.stpaulsvork.org

While in the Nave:

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. Occasionally an usher may seat a guest in the red zone.

Communion Procedure:

1. Come to communion using the center aisle (about 8 adults per side).

2. Communion glasses are placed on credence tables at the front pews (left and right side).

3. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.

4. Take your place along the chancel step.

5. Remove your face mask.

6. Extend your hands to receive the communion host.

7. Consume the communion host.

8. Hold the communion glass with both hands at chest height so that the communion assistant can easily pour the wine into the glass.

9 Consume the wine

10.Replace vour face mask.

11.Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.

12.Return to your pew using the side aisle.

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

March 6, 2022 First Sunday in Lent 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

PRELUDE Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days Wm. James Ross

Stand turning to face the Baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

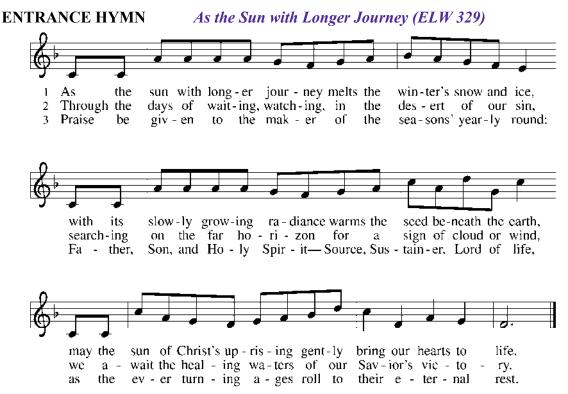
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

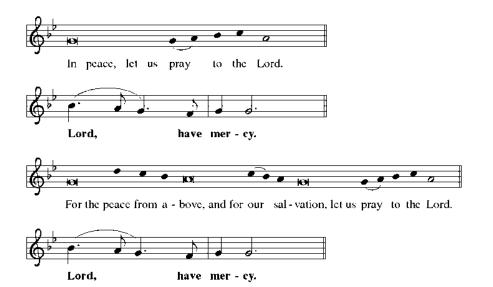
Amen

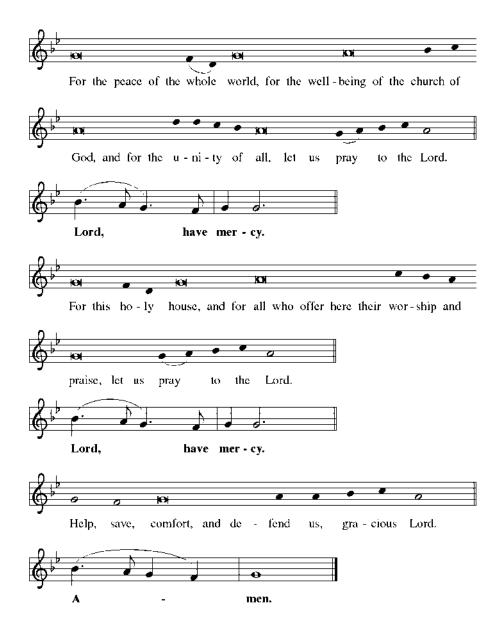


APOSTOLIC GREETING

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





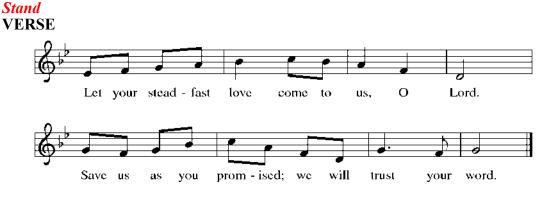
PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** Sit READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (back cover) PSALMODY Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (spoken responsively by half-verse) ¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High. who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, ²will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." ⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, ¹⁰no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. ¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. ¹²On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. ¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. ¹⁴Those who love me. I will deliver: I will protect those who know my name. ¹⁵When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. ¹⁶With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

SECOND READING



Romans 10:8b-13 *(back cover)*

HOLY GOSPELLuke 4:1-13(back cover)The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.Glory to you, O Lord.At the conclusion of the Gospel.Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit SERMON

Pastor Reep

CHANCEL CHOIR Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days Richard Shephard

Stand

NICENE CREED We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

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.

We pray for the church. Sharpen its proclamation of the word so that your people learn to reject voices of deception and distraction. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for the earth and all its creatures. Protect wilderness places and all plant and animal species that call them home. Sustain farmers and all laborers who work the land and harvest the fruits of its abundance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for the nations of the world. Awaken elected leaders and government officials to the needs of those who are oppressed and grant them compassion to deal mercifully with immigrants and refugees. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for those in need. Rescue those experiencing mental illness or contending with addiction. Ease the anxiety of those who live with dementia. Command your angels concerning all who are sick (*especially Pat & Gary Van Natten, Shirley Pomeroy, Eddie Turner, Gloria C., L. Kendrick, Kristine Gross, Rachel Barnes, James Young, Peggy Novotny, Rick Lloyd, Deirdre McManama, Drew Herdson, Porter Stacey, Morgan Lanzalotti, Courtney Snell*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for those affected by the invasion of Ukraine. Give strength, energy, and hope to all who long for their freedom and peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for those who have died (*especially*). Gather them with all the saints into your heavenly dwelling place. Comfort us with the promise that all who call upon your name are saved. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.And also with you.The people share signs of peace.The ministers prepare the altar for Holy Communion.

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

Stand

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



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.

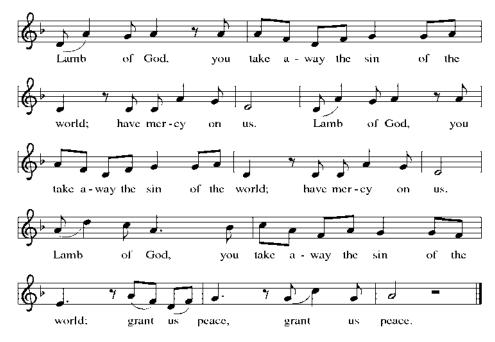
Give us this day our daily bread;

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.

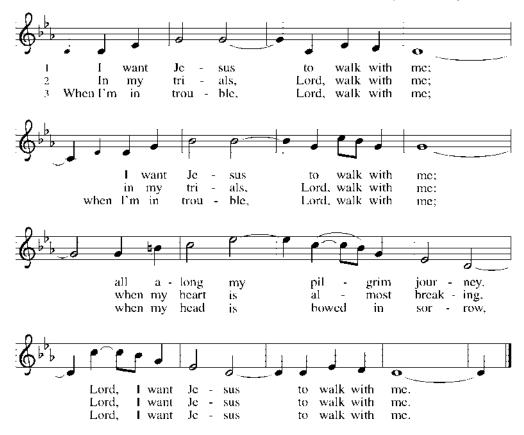
AGNUS DEI



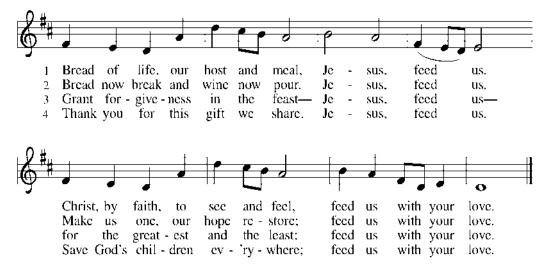
Sit

COMMUNION Today we receive the distribution of Holy Communion, the body and blood of Christ, with both bread and wine. The wine is offered by pouring chalice and individual communion glasses. This is an option for those who choose to receive the sacrament in both kinds. You may continue to receive only the communion host if that is your desire. Kindly follow the procedure for reception of Holy Communion listed inside the front cover.

COMMUNION HYMNS I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (ELW 325)



Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal (ELW 464)



Stand POST COMMUN

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.

The worshipers remain in their seats until the ministers and choir have exited the chancel.

POSTLUDE The Glory of these Forty Days

Wm. James Ross

DATE		Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Cantor	Acolyte	AV Team		Early: Altar Set-up Late: Altar Clean-up	
3-6		Kirsten Barnes	- ,	Ken Hinkle				Bob Reed, Ron Riese	Lois Ann Schroeder, Kathy Monk	
	Late					Dylan Lauer Paula Herdson	Andrew	• •	Deb Becker, Janet Fitch	

This Week at St. Paul's March 6-13

Church office open Mon—Thurs, 7:30 AM—4:00 PM, Friday 7:30 AM—11:30 AM

Sunday, March 6

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm
6:30 PM Confirmation Class—Youth Rm
Monday March 7
7:00 PM Council Mtg—Good Shepherd Rm
Tuesday March 8
9:30 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Create & Youth Music

Wednesday, March 9

- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 7:00 PM Lenten Vespers
- 7:45 PM Mpuguso Mtg

Thursday, March 10

- 6:30 PM Handbell Choir—Music Room
- 11:00 AM Harvest Dinner Planning
- 7:30 PM Adult Choir

Sunday, March 13

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
- 9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages
- 9:30 AM Pantry stocking
- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Up-dates and Announcements 3-6-22

Today we thank Pastor Tom McKee for serving as Presiding Minister at the 10:30 liturgy.

Harvest Dinner – The date for the dinner is October 8, 2022. Tickets go on sale May 8. The "American Heritage" theme of the 2022 calendar is giving shape to the menu. Additional persons are needed for the planning committee. The next meeting is Thursday, March 10 at 11:00AM. Please contact Ann Anstadt or Pastor Reep to join the team.

Lenten Choir – Please consider adding your voice for our Lenten Choir. This is a six week commitment. A complete schedule is in the March Newsletter. Contact Victor Fields or Pastor Reep for additional information.

Nursery – The 10:30AM liturgy may be viewed via live stream on the TV in the nursery. We are seeking persons willing to serve as attendants during the 10:30 AM service. Contact the church office if you are willing to take a turn.

Devotional Booklet – In partnership with our sister congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church in Tanzania, we are preparing one page devotionals. Out contributions will be translated into Swahili and theirs will be translated into English. The booklet is slated for use in the Pentecost Season. If you would like to write a devotional for submission see the information in the February issue of *Our Church*, the congregation's newsletter.

Benevolence Fund Applications – Start thinking about ministry projects within the congregation or ones focused in the neighborhood and world. Applications are available in the Good Shepherd jRoom and the church narthex.

The Mpuguso Konde Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 9 at 7:45 PM following the Vespers service.

Mother's Day Geranium Sale - Last day to order is April 6—Red, white and salmon geraniums will be available for Mother's Day, May 8 from the Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran. The cost is **\$4.00** per plant. Kindly contact Jim Mummert at 717-309-4101 or <u>elainenjim@comcast.net</u> by Tuesday, April 5 and mail him a check payable to "SpiriTrust Lutheran" to cover your order.

Please join us in Christ Hall to learn about... MINISTRIES – LOCALLY, NATIONALLY, GLOBALLY. SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:15-10:15 AM

March 6 – St. Paul's Food Pantry- Larry and Janet Moore will tell about our Food Pantry serving York County for 40 years (begun September 1982), how it runs, who keeps it running and who it serves. A tour of the Food Pantry will be included.

March 13 – Lutheran Disaster Response – Reverend Glenn Beard, the point person for our local Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Reverend William Snyder will discuss what Lutheran Disaster Response does, locally nationally, and globally. A Response Project for victims of Hurricane Ida, which hit York County in 2021, will be highlighted. Offerings will be received during the Lenten Season for LDR.

Lent 1 C, 2022 Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13

Thursday, in the early hours of the morning, I awoke to the honking sound of geese. Is it possible that some of them are already heading north? If so it seems that the geese and the ground-hog should find neutral ground and work out the actual date for the return of spring. We could weigh in on the conversation with our own calculation knowing that next week we adjust our time keeping devices one hour forward. With that time keeping adjustment we anticipate spring. We instantly perceive an extended hour of daylight knowing that the light will continue to increase. We anticipate warmer days, spring blossoms, and the earth warming beneath our feet.

The geese honking on Thursday morning made me think of a story that Cannon J. Johns tells about a flock of geese. I have shared it with you before but it still seems to be an appropriate story on this First Sunday in Lent. However, J. Johns' story about the geese has them flying from north to south. So his story starts with the days getting colder and the daylight hours diminishing.

The head goose announces to the flock that they are preparing to fly south to warmer weather. He shares the plan and tells them that it is time to go.

One goose says "I'm not going."

"What do you mean you're not going?"

"I don't want to" says the goose. "I want to stay here. I am sick of traveling!"

"You can't stay here, you will freeze to death. You will die."

"I am not going" replied the defiant goose.

So the flock organized their V formation and they took off leaving the goose behind.

The following day the goose realized that he had made a mistake. He decides that he will take off and try and catch up to the flock. But when he takes off he realizes that he has to do all of the work alone. He doesn't have the V formation to protect him from the head winds and he has to exert more energy. It wasn't long before his wings froze up and he could no longer fly and he began a rather abrupt and hasty decent to the earth. And as he made ground fall he landed in a **huge fresh steaming hot pile of cow dung**.

The goose thought to himself,

"This is it. I am going to die alone in a big fresh pile of cow dung."

But then the warmth of the cow dung started to thaw him out and he began to think that he had another chance at life.

"Oh this is fantastic" he thought.

But as he was making his final decent to the ground he had let out tremendous shrieks which captured the attention of a wild cat.

The wild cat approached the goose buried in the cow dung and (this is the gross part) began to lick the dung off of the goose.

The goose thought, "This is a miracle. The wild cat that is normally my foe is coming to my rescue."

But then the cat began to chew on the goose.

And the goose thought "I need to get out of here."

He began to flap his wings and realized that he was no longer frozen and that his wings worked and he began to flap with all of his might and he took off and flew away from the clutches of the wild cat, soaring high above the cow dung and the cat.

Why am I sharing this story with you? We all make mistakes. We all think that we can make it alone. We all end up at some time or another in a pile of crap. People who lick the crap off of you aren't always your friends. And there are times in life when you have to soar above the crap and the foes that will do you in. Lent is a season of remembering. Remembering not just any old thing, but that God loves you, goes to extraordinary lengths to save you, and that God doesn't want you to die alone in a pile of dung.

The gospel reading ends with the evil foe, Satan, the devil, the one who makes empty promises, the one who wants to do you in - stating that he will wait for an opportune time to strike again. We tend to think that we can make it on our own. We don't recognize the vulnerable situations in which we place ourselves. We delude ourselves into thinking that we are too smart to fall for a temptation where we will end up in a pile of crap. We aren't always aware of those around us who appear to be friend only seeking an opportunity to devour us. Temptations do come. And the Tempter is seeking an opportune time. He came around that day when Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was coming out of the wilderness. It appears from the text that the devil's best chance, or so he thought, was when Jesus was alone; or when Jesus seemingly had a need, or when no one else could distract his attempt to tempt Jesus. In this situation, Jesus remembers who he is and doesn't seem to waver on why it is the devil has come. The temptations, the distractions don't pull Jesus away from his mission. Remembering is an important component of our Christian Faith. The readings on this First Sunday in Lent bear this out.

Deuteronomy places on the lips of those who have forgotten their past, those who can't remember, or for whom remembering is problematic, a simplified story of God's saving love. We hear the scripted narrative recounting their history, salvation history and God's connectedness with them. The script tells the story from how it is that Abraham ended up in Egypt, to Moses leading God's people out of slavery and captivity on a 40 year journey concluding with entry into the Promised Land. In the gospel narrative we bear witness to Jesus remembering who he is, and with whom he shares an intimate relation in the person of the Father. In the Epistle reading we hear the Apostle Paul urging the community of faith in Rome to remember what is most central to their life of faith. He encourages them to remember what is essential for life in the Christian community. "*All who believe in their hearts and proclaim with their lips that Jesus in Lord will be saved.*"

In the liturgy this morning we began with confession, remembering our captivity to sin, and our need for a Savior. We remember Jesus, the One who doesn't seek to trap us or do us in at the most vulnerable time in our life, but rather the one who comes precisely to thaw us from our isolation, clean us up from the crap that weighs us down, and rescues us from the clutches of those wanting to bring harm. He comes to us this morning announcing the for-giveness of our sins. He reminds us that we have been brought into the community of the Triune God. He comes giving himself for us in Holy Communion's bread and wine reminding us of the boundless length he will go to free us, rescue us, renewing us, for a life lived in relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Remembering – I don't know why I remember that story from Cannon J. Johns about the goose, the dung heap and the wild cat. Had the goose remembered a few things it may have helped him that day when he stated rather clearly his desire to stay where he was, that he was sick of traveling and that he didn't need his community. Remembering helps us by clarifying our past, the depth of God's love, and the need for Christian community. Remembering also keeps us on our toes, knowing how the Tempter is always seeking an opportune time. Such times come when I begin to think; I am tired of certain tasks, that I am frustrated by the community, that I can manage quite well maneuvering around the huge piles of cow dung that arise in my path. These are of course precisely the opportune times that are being sought out by that old evil foe. That old foe, like the wild cat, pretends to be a friend while planning when and how to devour us. Today we remember Jesus welcoming the lost, lifting up the lowly, caring for the dying, and promising a common criminal eternal life in his realm. Such remembering sends the devil packing and granting each of us a new day. Amen.

ÅS.	Of Lucke	th George St. York _Xvbdkxn2IYIg Christ, Manchester		Psalm 49::1-8 Carolyn Kapoun	Psalm 100 Carolyn Kapoun, Emily Reep, Stan Reep	Psalm 23 Quartet	Psalm 67 Quartet	Psalm 15 Emily Reep
LENT 2022 Vespers 7:00 PM, Wednesdays Hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church 25 W. Springettsbury Ave, York	Cospection of the second secon	I Church - South I CYCfdMzkJo_Xv	600	Rev. Beth Schlegel	Rev. Beth Schlegel	Rev. Stan Reep	Rev. Stan Reep	Rev. Beth Schlegel
LENT 2022 7:00 PM, We y St. Paul's Luther W. Springettsbury		St. Paul's Lutheran Chu e.com/channel/UCYC St Deter's Vorb	ד כוכו ס, ו	Luke 12:13-21	Luke 14:15-23	Luke 15:4-7	Luke 16:1-11	Luke 19:11-27
Vespers Hosted b	P = P = P = P = P = P = P = P = P = P =	YouTube: ww.youtub		ep	Rev. William Snyder Luke 14:15-23	Rev. Tom McKee	Rev. Beth Schlegel	Rev George Fitch
	Stor	Live stream: https://w drov 2/112	טר. ו מעו ס, ו האהאהו ה	Rich Fool	Great Dinner	Lost Sheep	Dishonest Manager	Ten Pounds
			att v c	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30	April 6

	EASTER FLOWER ORDER Indicate the total number of flowers desired: Hyacinth Lilies Tulips Daffodils Flowers are \$15.00 Please make check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church						
I desire that my plan	t(s) be listed: (please print clearly)						
Number of plants	in Honor of:						
Number of plants in Loving Memory of:							
Number of plants Dedicated to the Glory of God							
From							
Amount Paid: Cash	Check						
Orders a	re due Sunday, March 20, 2022						
	nts may be picked up after the aster Service on April 17th						

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone."

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him."

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

¹¹and

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35.

Cover: Negev Desert, Israel. Copyright @ iStock/GP232. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at Tracks are Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.