

An abstract painting with a rich, textured surface. The composition is dominated by deep reds, purples, and blues, with streaks of green and yellow. The brushstrokes are visible, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall mood is dramatic and intense.

Where
your
treasure
is,

there
your
heart will
be also

MATTHEW 6:21

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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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 187 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Offerings Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

Postlude It is our tradition to remain seated for the postlude. If you need to leave we ask that you do so reverently. This tradition developed as a result of our livestream. We want anyone viewing to be able to listen to the postlude without unnecessary distraction. Thank you.

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.

An AED/Defibrillator unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

Please be aware that there is a rise in individuals loitering at church buildings and asking for money. This is panhandling and it is illegal. Please do not give money. Simply direct them to contact the Pastor at a time other than during worship. Thank you.

Parents, please do accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
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February 14, 2024
Ash Wednesday, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM
Lutheran Book of Worship Setting III

PRELUDE *Variations on Forty Days and Forty Nights* Christa Rakich

Stand

CONFESSION

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

+ Imposition of Ashes +

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward by the center aisle.

The minister will trace the sign of the cross on the forehead with ashes, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After receiving the ashes, return to your pew by the side aisle.

*When all who desire ashes have received them,
the pastor will lead the people in concluding the confession.*

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

FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

(back cover)

PSALMODY

Psalm 51:1-17 (*spoken responsively by half-verse*)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | lovingkindness,*
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.
- ² Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,*
and cleanse me | from my sin.
- ³ For I know | my transgressions,*
and my sin is ev- | er before me.
- ⁴ Against you only | have I sinned*
and done what is evil | in your sight.
- ⁵ And so you are justified | when you speak*
and upright | in your judgment.
- ⁶ Indeed, I have been wicked | from my birth,*
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- ⁷ For behold, you look for truth | deep within me,*
and will make me understand | wisdom secretly.
- ⁸ Purge me from my sin, and I | shall be pure;*
wash me, and I shall be | clean indeed.
- ⁹ Make me hear of | joy and gladness,*
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.
- ¹⁰ Hide your face | from my sins,*
and blot out all | my iniquities.
- ¹¹ Create in me a clean | heart, O God,*
and renew a right spir- | it within me.
- ¹² Cast me not away | from your presence,*
and take not your Holy | Spirit from me.
- ¹³ Give me the joy of your saving | help again*
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.
- ¹⁴ I shall teach your ways | to the wicked,*
and sinners shall re- | turn to you.
- ¹⁵ Deliver me from | death, 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 pro- | claim your praise.
- ¹⁷ Had you desired it, I would have | offered sacrifice,*
but you take no delight | in burnt-offerings.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Stand

HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to You (LBW 91)

1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,

when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-tur-ing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the remaining four lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

oh, by all your pains and woe suf - fered once for us be - low,
 by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,
 by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,
 oh, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,

bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 turn, oh, turn a fa - v'ring eye; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 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.**

Sit
SERMON Pastor Reep

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.**

Continued on next page...

**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.

O Lord, our God, you gather your church and call us to return to you. Accompany us throughout our Lenten pilgrimage. Create in us clean hearts and renew us for your service. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Renew your creation, O God. Bring rains to parched places and heal lands affected by a changing climate. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Protect those most vulnerable. Loosen the bonds of injustice and bring an end to all violence, oppression, and persecution. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Renew your people, O God. Respond to those who cry out to you in secret or in seclusion. Equip us with compassion to care for those who experience homelessness, food insecurity, economic hardship, and illness (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Renew our congregation, O God. Inspire our faith formation ministries and those who teach and lead. Invigorate us with lifelong curiosity and wonder as we grow as your disciples. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O Lord, our God, we give thanks for all your faithful ones of every time and place. Renew us by the example of their lives of prayer and service, and at the last, bring us with them into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through 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.

Sit

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

7:00 PM Chancel Choir *Forty Days and Forty Nights*

Richard Shephard

OFFERTORY



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?



I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing



and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the



pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,



in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

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

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

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

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle (about 10 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. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.*
- 5. Extend your hands to receive the communion host.*
- 6. Consume the communion host.*
- 7. Hold the communion glass with both hands at chest height so that the communion assistant can easily pour the wine into the glass.*
- 8. Consume the wine before you leave the chancel edge.*
- 9. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.*
- 10. Return to your pew using the side aisle.*

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

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BLESSING

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

Amen.

HYMN TO CLOSE

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary (LBW 93) next page

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, blest re - deem - er, whom we love,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re - pen - tant vow,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent love for you;



foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior from the world a - bove;
though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
may our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be - hold your cross a - new;



of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall;
Yet your sin - less death has brought us life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



yet up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, you have borne the pain of all.
on - ly what your grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - lied.

DISMISSAL

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Ausder Tiefe"

Gordon Phillips

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



Lenten Worship

Sundays	8:00 & 10:30 AM	
New Members Class	9:15 AM	Good Shepherd Room
The Psalms	9:15 AM	Christ Hall



Wednesdays		
6:00 PM	Supper	Christ Hall
7:00 PM	Vespers	Nave



March 24	Palm/Passion Sunday Handbells, Brass, Organ	Combined liturgy	9:15 AM
March 25	York Conference Vespers Combined Conference Choir	Hosted by St. Paul's	7:00 PM
March 28	Maundy Thursday Foot washing/Stripping of Altar		7:00 PM
March 29	Good Friday Cellos Reproaches of the Cross		7:00 PM
March 30	The Vigil of Easter		7:00 PM
March 31	The Resurrection of Our Lord Organ, Trumpets, Piano Duet	Combined liturgy	9:15 AM

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."