

Zeal for your house will **consume me**

JOHN 2:17



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.stpaulspreschoolyork.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 188 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 or use the QR Code provided. During the Season of Lent our special appeal is for "God's Global Barnyard".

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.



**Lutheran Church in York, PA - St.
Paul's Lutheran...**

stpaulsyork.org

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.

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
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children Choirs Director	Julianna Jones	jjones.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
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Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Third Sunday in Lent
March 3, 2024
Holy Communion 8:00 AM & 10:30AM
Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting 4

PRELUDE

Contemplation

John Marsh

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

ENTRANCE HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (ELW 533)



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.



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.**

8:00 AM KYRIE *spoken* **10:30 AM Children's Choir Kyrie** Plainsong setting

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

CHILDRENS' SERMON

FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-17 (back page)

PSALMODY Psalm 19 *spoken responsively*

¹ The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,*
and the firmament | shows his handiwork.

² **One day tells its tale | to another,***
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.

³ Although they have no | words or language,*
and their voices | are not heard,

⁴ **their sound has gone out in- | to all lands,***
and their message to the ends | of the world.

⁵ In the deep has he set a pavilion | for the sun;*
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

⁶ **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens**
and runs about to the end of | it again;*
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.

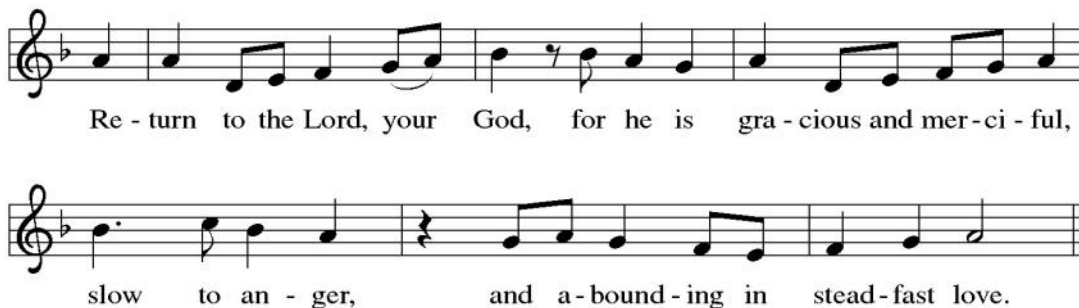
⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;*
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom | to the innocent.

- ⁸ **The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;***
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.
- ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;*,
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
- ¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,***
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.
- ¹¹ By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,*,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.
- ¹² **Who can tell how often | he offends?***
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.
- ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion | over me;*,
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.
- ¹⁴ **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**
be acceptable | in your sight,*
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (back page)

Stand

VERSE *Sung by all*



HOLY GOSPEL John 2: 13-22 (back page)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **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.**

**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.

Almighty God, awaken us to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to protect your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for an end to war and strife in every land (*regions in conflict may be named*). Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family (*especially*). We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust your promise that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, 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.

Sit

OFFERING

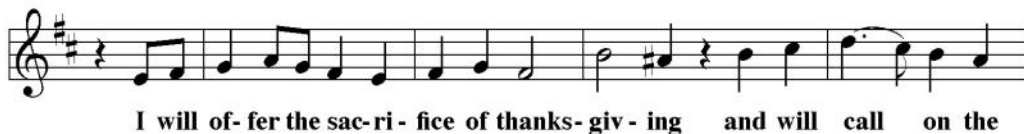
8:00 AM *What Wondrous Love is This*

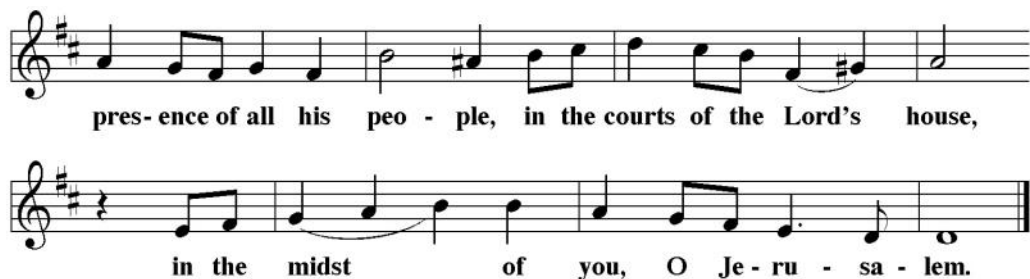
Paul Manz

10:30 AM *Jesu, Lamb of God Redeemer*

Edward Elgar

OFFERTORY



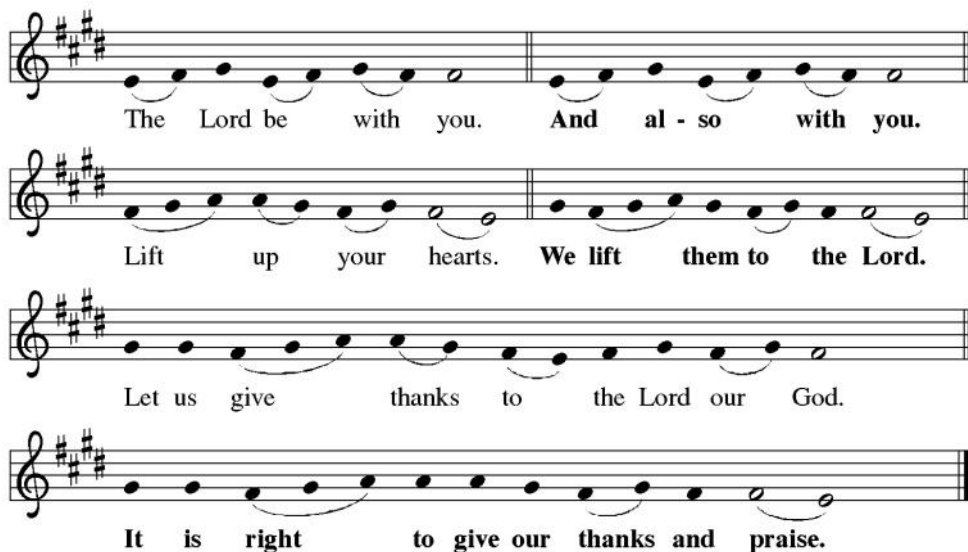


OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

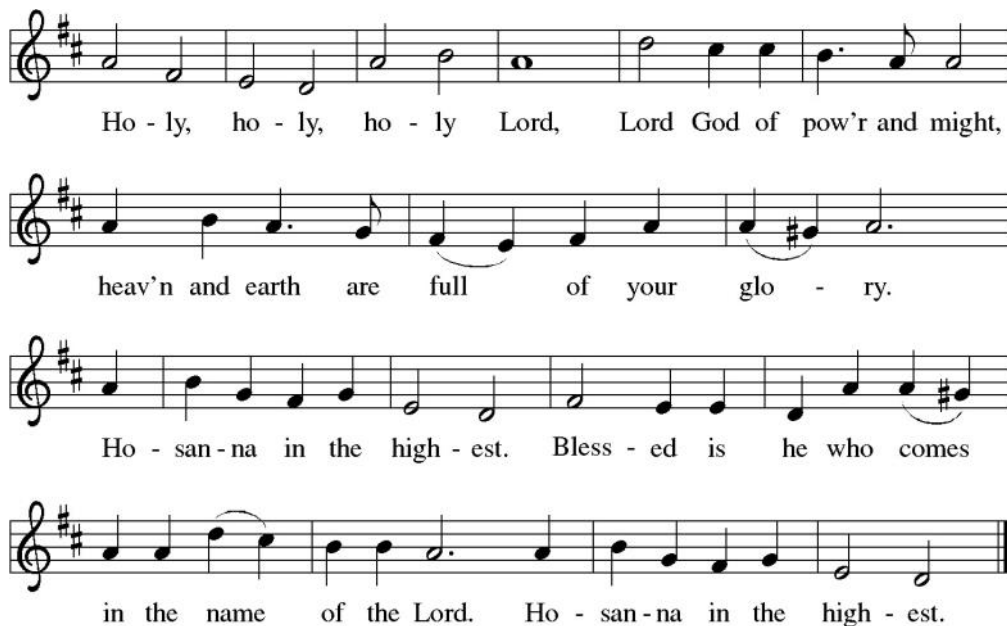
DIALOGUE *Sung by Pastor and congregation*



PREFACE *The preface appropriate to the day is sung.*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Sung by all.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, 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 RITE *A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI *Sung by all.*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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 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 & wine to you.
5. Extend your hands to receive the communion bread.
6. Consume the communion bread.
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.

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

1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.

Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. 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**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people remain standing until the minister and servers exit the nave.

POSTLUDE

Passacaglia on "Through the Desert"

Martin Setchell

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Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Communion Assistants	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Set-up & Altar Clean-up
03/03	8:00 AM	Harold Sargeant	Denise Rider	Laura Livingston		Cliff & Jane-ne Beck	Team 2E: Ron Riese, Kathy Monk, Ken Hinkle	Kathy Monk, Lois Ann Schroeder
03/03	10:30 AM	George Fitch	Tom Gibson	Aaron Jacobs	Larry Becker	Deb & Larry Becker	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Tonya Cave, Sandy Dickensheets

This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open 8:00 a.m.—4pm Mon—Thurs

Sunday, March 3

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
 9:15 AM Sunday School for All
 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist—Live Stream
 6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Monday, March 4

7:00 PM Preschool Committee Mtg.—ZOOM

Tuesday, March 5

9:30 AM Pantry
 6:00 PM CREATE—Preschool—Grade 6

Wednesday, March 6

10:00 AM Preschool & Pastor in Nave
 10:30 AM Bible Study—Christ Hall
 6:00 PM Lenten Dinner—Christ Hall
 7:00 PM Lenten Vespers—Nave

Thursday, March 7

10:00 AM Preschool & Pastor in Nave
 4:00 PM St. Paul's Book Club—Panera Bread
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir—Choir Room
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir—Choir Room

Saturday, March 9,

8:00 AM Council/Committee Retreat

SPRING AHEAD AT MIDNIGHT!

Sunday, March 10—Easter Flower Orders Due

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
 9:15 AM Sunday School for All
 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist—Live Stream

Sunday Morning, Preschool through Grade 6 children will meet upstairs in their age grouped classrooms. This is a great time to start your child in a class. Some of the best stories are explored during this winter and spring season.

Announcements and Up-dates for the week March 3, 2024

St. Paul's is collecting clothing for Union Lutheran Church's Clothing Ministry. Union collects 'gently used' clothing (and shoes) for its clothing closet and offers it **free of charge** to needy families in the York City community. A bin has been placed in the Good Shepherd room for collections.

Benevolence—Each year St. Paul's Congregation has set aside a portion of our giving to be used for charitable missions and projects to benefit our members and neighbors locally, regionally, nationally, and worldwide. If you are seeking funding to support a need in our community and beyond, please complete and submit an application. We still have capacity for projects in 2024. We are currently soliciting applications for 2025. Bright green copies are in the Good Shepherd Room and you can also obtain a fillable form from Patee in the church office.

The next St. Paul's Book Club will meet on March 7, 4:00-5:00 PM at the Panera on South Queen Street. We will discuss Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger. The April meeting is set for April 11th with the book to be announced. All are welcome.

Wednesday Mid-Week - During the Wednesdays in Lent a simple supper of soup and bread will be held in Christ Hall at 6:00 PM. Volu. Following the supper Evening Prayer, Vespers, will be held in the church nave at 7:00 PM. We have invited the congregations of Grace, St. Peter's and Christ Manchester to join us for all or part of the evening. For those who cannot join in person please do join us through the live stream at 7:00 PM.

Lenten Devotional Booklets, *Walking in His Ways Foot Steps to the Cross* - Lenten devotional booklets are available in the narthex on the oval library table and in the Good Shepherd Room on the breakfront. The theme "*Walk in His Ways*" is from Psalm 128 verse one. In this season of Lent daily devotions strengthen our individual families as well as our church family at St. Paul's. In addition to the Lenten booklets for adults, there is one geared for children, *Foot Steps to the Cross*. This booklet is accompanied by a sticker chart. Directions are provided on the sticker chart and the daily foot print stickers numbered for each day of lent are provided in the booklet. Please remember that you need both the chart and the booklet!

Lenten Mid-week Offering—God's Global Barnyard—The offerings from the mid-week Lenten services are designated for God's Global Barnyard, a project undertaken by the elementary Sunday school classes. Donations may be made by using your Lenten envelope provided in the packet, by marking a special white color envelope located in the pew rack "Barnyard" and placing it in the offering basin, or through the website by using the Donate Now designation for God's Global Barnyard. The children look forward to totaling all of the offerings and then with a dollar amount in hand beginning the hard work of figuring out what animals to purchase to help a family or families in a developing nation.

The Lutheran Men's Club of York sponsors Wednesday morning Lenten Devotions **for men and women** during breakfast at the Lyndon Diner on Rt. 30. The time of fellowship is provided for both men and women and calls upon pastors from the York area to led the devotional. The start time is 7:30 AM, however, many folks arrive a bit early to share in conversation. Participants order from the menu and are responsible for the cost of their breakfast. Reservations are not needed. Presenters for the month of March are:

Mar 6 - Rev Andrew Berdahl - Pastor with Advent

Mar 13 - Rev Katherine Brantner - Pastor with St. Paul - Hametown

Mar 20 - Rev James Watt - Pastor with Christ

Mar 27 - Rev Thomas McKee - Retired Pastor. He will administer the Sacrament.

Tanzania Mission Trip—The group of travelers divides into 4 groups reflecting; Youth, Medical, Educational, and Pastoral Concerns. The children and youth plan to engage with peers learning of similarities and differences in growing up in a Christian community. Those interested in medical care, the new hospital being built in Matayma, and local health clinics will engage with health care professionals. Those who share a passion for education, especially music, will learn educational approaches as well as the enrichment of music. Lastly, others will learn of the work of the local congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church, and the Konde Diocese. Please know that the costs associated with the trip have escalated since planning began a year ago. Please do give a gift to help offset the enormous expense of the mission trip. You may do so through a "special" envelope located in the pew rack and marking it "Tanzania". Thank you!

The St. Paul's Dinner Group will be starting back up during the months of April and May. They are a great way to get better acquainted with our church friends over a casual meal. Look for the sign-up sheet at the Springettsbury entrance. **Sign-up deadline TODAY!**

Lent 3 B, 2024 Exodus 20:1-17 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

“Business as usual” is a condition to which we all fall prey at one time or another. I am guilty of this: In my leadership role as pastor, as a husband, a father, or as a community member. It is easy to adopt a “business as usual” approach especially if things are going well and there is relatively little upheaval. So you may continue with “business as usual.” However the gospel reading from St. John has made me question my own “business as usual” attitudes.

It is early in the Gospel account of St. John. We are only in the second chapter. The story of the money changers in the temple and their encounter with Jesus comes as a bit of a surprise! This is different from the other gospel accounts. They mesh this ruckus encounter with other events in what we think of as Holy Week. There this story, this encounter, is placed between a triumphal entry and death on a cross. Matthew, Mark and Luke place this “*zeal for his Father’s house*” story at the end of Jesus’ earthly ministry. They have this money changers in the temple encounter associated with the events leading up to Jesus’ arrest, his trial, his crucifixion. But here in John the story is juxtaposed with the wedding at Cana in Galilee.

At the wedding it is anything but “business as usual.” The guests have drunk their fill and the wedding wine runs out. That is when the six stone jars of water set aside for rites of purification are suddenly changed from water to wine by the low profile unsuspected guest, Jesus of Nazareth. Those in attendance don’t seem to notice that the wine ran out. And only the wine steward truly knows the chain of events. There is a sentence of transition and swiftly we are at this morning’s reading.

The same person, who without fanfare or prominence changed water to wine, now makes a whip of cords and drives out the people, the animals, pours out the coins of the money changers and makes mayhem out their table displays. Jesus’ “*zeal for his Father’s house*” is noted, as are his demeanor and remakes to those who are present.

When the merchants rose early in the morning, set up their tables and stalls at the temple, unpacked their things, got their cattle, sheep, and doves arranged just so. And the money changes arrived with their cash box and a day’s supply of coins that didn’t bear the head of the Roman official on them. They all assumed it would be another day at the temple, “business as usual.” That isn’t the reality. Jesus, I believe is letting everyone know that with him, the Lamb of God, things are going to be different. What worked, what was pleasing, what satisfied, is all called into question. The encounters that follow will make us scratch our heads and think. Our creativity, our faithfulness, our desires will all be called into question and moved to a different level. What once worked, what was once acceptable, and what seemed to meet the need, in Christ Jesus has changed and is changing.

That is because we are changed and are changing in our Baptismal relationship with Christ Jesus and with one another. As Children of God the “business as usual” practice of the secular world, is overturned by the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ Jesus, God’s only Son. It is replaced with a zeal for life and living that sets us apart and calls us to be about the business of our Father in heaven whose work and will is made know in Christ Jesus. Whose work and will, sometimes is made known at weddings, and sometimes is

made known when things and practices we hold near and dear are driven out, making way for clearer identity, stronger relationships, and faithful living.

Right now in the life of our parish community it is anything but “business as usual.” Preparations for a mission trip to strengthen relationships with members of our sister congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church, Tukuyu, Tanzania are under way. By the admission of Deacon April Trout, ELCA representative to the Konde Diocese, there has never been groups such as ours visit the territory with families, children, teenagers, and only one pastor among a group of two dozen. The two dozen pushes the limit making this summer’s mission delegation the largest group the diocese will have received.

Recently leadership for the Food Pantry had to abandon “business as usual” in order to creatively meet the growing demand for food for members of our local neighborhood. The split distribution cycle based on the first letter of last name, seems to be working: neighbors are receiving the needed groceries, the parking congestion is reduced, the volunteer staff is able to work at a life giving pace, and the occupancy for the space housing the pantry is once again within the designated parameters.

The children participating in the Tuesday evening Create program are moving beyond “business as usual” as they prepare a play, a musical, for the Easter season. The children are enthusiastically learning the story of Lazarus and his new life made possible by Jesus’ command. “Come out!” Jesus’ command “Come Out” is a plea not just for Lazarus who is four days dead, but a plea for us, for you and for me, to be unbound from the things that hold us and keep us from living the life God intends for those who love him. The joy of having critical mass, enough children, actively participating in order to put on a musical is absolutely astounding. It has pushed us to go beyond “business as usual.”

In the month of April we host four events; The York County Seniors Honor Choir, The York College Choir, A 60th Anniversary celebration of our preschool, and a piano and organ recital! With each one of these events we are made aware that the congregation’s ministry continues to grow and change, and requires more from each one of us as we “*Teach the world that God is love.*”

When Jesus entered the temple that day in the early part of his earthly ministry, when his zeal called into question established patterns and systems and injustice, the outcome was that “*his disciples believed the scriptures and the word that he had spoken.*” Jesus’ action brought about belief in him. What Jesus does; changing the water into wine at the wedding at Cana in Galilee; driving out the money changers and merchants from the temple; providing opportunity to strengthen relationships through a mission trip; providing food and arranging for orderly distribution to meet weekly needs; teaching children the importance of relationship, trust, collaboration, and sharing gifts; opening us to share our church building with others within the community; and dying and rising to bring us forgiveness and life, these actions move us from a business as usual mindset to living life with zeal for the gospel. We believe. This is the message that as St. Paul writes will mostly look foolish to others (those who are perishing) but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not have wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Psalms 19**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Next Sunday's Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21.

Cover: *Christ Expelling the Money-Changers from the Temple* by Nicolas Colombel (French, 1644–1717). Oil on canvas. Courtesy of the Saint Louis Art Museum.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R



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 With Sacrament of Holy Baptism		7:00 PM
March 31	The Resurrection of Our Lord Organ, Trumpets, Piano Duet	Combined liturgy	9:15 AM