



1<sup>st</sup>  
Sunday  
*in* Lent

## **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!**

*May this hour be a journey of the heart, a renewal of spirit, a pause in our lives as we worship the Lord our God together. If you are a guest this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to sign our guest book located in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary, also known as the narthex. Following our worship service, we invite you to share in a time of fellowship over coffee, juice, and snacks in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and becoming a member, please visit with any member of the congregation or Pastor Janis Sloka, III. Thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church!*

## **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!**

*We feel strongly that the faith formation of youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome youth of all ages to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number of roles, such as: ushers, greeters, readers, and musicians. While we expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles, and all—we also understand that sometimes they (and their parents or guardians) need a break; on those occasions, you are welcome to utilize the nursery (unstaffed) located on the north end of the narthex. Additionally, there is a playroom for children and a couch room for older youth on the west end of the Fellowship Hall. You can also find children’s bulletins and crayons on the table as you enter the main church building doors.*

## **ABOUT OUR WORSHIP**

*As Lutherans, worship is connected with and central to everything we do—uniting us in celebration, engaging us in thoughtful dialogue, and helping us grow in faith. At the heart of our worship life is the presence of God through the word proclaimed and the sacraments—Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; this is because worship is—first and foremost—fundamentally about what God is doing in the world and in our lives, and then our response to God’s action. In the context of worship we find our response in the liturgy, which is a way of living God’s story. The liturgical texts that form the prayers we pray, the texts we say, and the songs we sing find their roots in both the Old and New Testaments; furthermore, these liturgical texts invite each and every one of us—not just the pastor or choir or any other worship leader—to use our voices to praise God. Through worship we are shaped to be participants in God’s life in this world.*

## **PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR...**

- Assistance with wheelchair seating
- Assisted listening devices
- Large print bulletins
- Directions to restrooms

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
First Sunday in Lent  
February 26, 2023  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) – Setting 4

*+Indicates to rise as you are able. Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*

## **WELCOME**

### **+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another and our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that He gave us His only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you and me! God embraces us with divine mercy, † forgives us in Christ's name, and revives us in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

## +GATHERING SONG

*"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" ELW #618*

## +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.**

## +CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



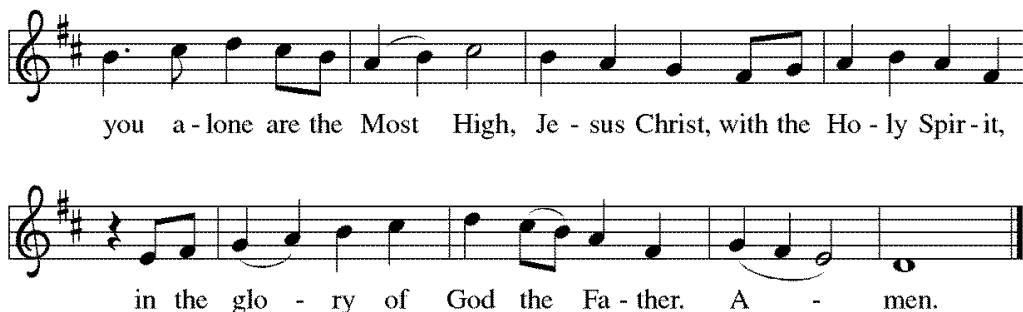
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



### **+PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. **Amen**

### **PSALM 32**     *Please read responsively by whole verse.*

1Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**2Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit, there is no deceit.**

3While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**4For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

5Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**6Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

7You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

**8I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

9Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

**10Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.**

11Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

## READING Romans 5:12-19

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

12Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—13sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. 14Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

15But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. 16And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. 17If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

18Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. 19For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

## +GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

1Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

4But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

5Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'  
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

7Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; 9and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.'"

11Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**     *"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" ELW #517*

### **+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of the Western North Dakota Synod. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You create lush gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great..**

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are a hiding place for all in distress. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love (especially Don, Mona, Claryce, Steve, Bishop Craig, Wayne, Travis, Heidi, Betty, Lorinda, Doug, Jeff, Randy, Alton, Terry, and Keith). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, especially worship volunteers, fellowship hour hosts, and worship leaders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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 Savior. **Amen.**

## **+PEACE**

*The sharing of the peace is one of the oldest traditions in the Christian church. Far more than a sociable handshake, it is a ministry we do for each other that proclaims the promise of God's peace given to us and reconciles us to God and one another. Share the peace today with your neighbors.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**



## OFFERING

*Every good and perfect gift is from God. In grateful response to all of God's gifts, we offer our time, talents, and treasures. These offerings support the ministry of the church-bearing witness to the love of Christ in our community, country, and world. Your financial offerings may be placed in the plates by the sanctuary doors. You are also invited to visit [www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving) to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### +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.**

### +OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts,  
receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

### +OUR MISSION

What is the mission we share together?

**Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service;  
and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.**

### +BLESSING

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

### +SENDING SONG

*"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" ELW #545*

## +DISMISSAL

Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Office Hours:** are from 9a.m.-12 noon all Mondays-Tuesdays-Wednesdays during February and March.
- **Thank you, Mike Youngs, for leading worship today!**
- **Lent: *Join us each Wednesday for Devotions and Worship.***
  - We will gather each day at 12Noon for lunch and devotions. Please bring your own lunch.
  - Each evening we will have free-will supper at 6:30PM. It will be provided by Lenore's Catering. We need volunteers to set up, serve and clean up. A signup sheet is on the volunteer tables. Worship will follow at 7:15PM in the Sanctuary.
- **Breeze Messages:** *Are you not receiving emails from the church office? The bulletin on Friday's?* Please be in contact with Pastor Sloka and let him know.
- **St. Paul Annual Spring Supper: is NEXT Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. We still need a lot of help!** Please sign up for the job you feel most comfortable with and /or contribute the food items needed. We need dishwashers, dish scrapers, potato peelers, roasting turkey, potatoes and making dessert. The apple crisp recipe is at the volunteer table area. Most chairpersons are already working. Ticket prices are adults \$18, students \$5, children 5 and under are free. **Tickets are now available and will be pre-sold today and next Sunday during the Fellowship Hour.**
- **Raffle Tickets:** *the prices remain the same: \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Or a book for \$10.*
- **Fellowship Hosts:** We still need hosts for March.
- **“Fresh Start Kits” for Heart River Brides of Hope:** still collecting during February. There is more information on the table at the volunteer area.

- **Readers:** are needed for March. A sign-up sheet and a copy of the readings is on a table in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary.
- **Paper Products Month:** February is the month we collect Copier Paper; 8 ½ X 11 & 8 ½ X 14; Toilet Paper and tissues. Currently we need 8 ½ X 11. This collection helps to keep costs down.
- **Update our Living Wall:** People are encouraged to send updated pictures to the church to put up on the Living Wall. Bring in a picture to the office or email your picture to the church, [stpaul@restel.com](mailto:stpaul@restel.com). Faye Seidler will then put them on the wall.
- **Live Facebook:** each week at St. Paul's. The 4 Ministers are also on FB and Instagram each week.
- **Equal Exchange:** a variety of coffee and chocolate are for sale, at cost, on a cart in the fellowship hall. This supports the small coffee farmers.
- **Get your St. Paul Gear!** Spread our mission with custom shirts! Check them out in the Fellowship Hall.

*You invited to visit [www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving) to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.*

*Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul!*



**In Our Prayers:** Don Vetter, Mona Reinisch, Claryce Johnson, Steve Seidler, Bishop Craig Schweitzer, Wayne Klemisch, Travis Kolden, Heidi Smith, Betty Iglehart, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Jeff Wretling, Randy Mautz, Alton Krebsbach, Terry Metz, Keith Bjornson.

**In Thanksgiving:** Our worship volunteers

*Please submit prayer requests to Loree, Holly, or Pastor Janis. Those for whom prayers have been requested will remain on our prayer lists and named in worship for four weeks, unless requested otherwise.*

## Birthdays Wishes This Week To:

Larry Ellwein	26
Marquise Hudgen	26
Zachary Seidler	26
Kaida Gislason	02
Donna Blanchard	04
Lucas Dusek	04
Cory Nordquist	04
Spencer Seidler	04

## This week at St. Paul's:

<i>Today</i>	9:45 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	2:00 p.m.	Camp of the Cross Ministries Annual Meeting
<i>Mon.</i>	9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
<i>Tues.</i>	9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
<i>Wed.</i>	7:30 a.m.	9-12 Youth Breakfast Club
	9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
	12:00 Noon	Lent Lunch and Devotions
	3:00 p.m.	3-6 Sunshine Friends
	6:30 p.m.	Lent Supper
	7:15 p.m.	Lent Worship
<i>Thurs.</i>	10:00 p.m.	Community Bible Study at The Meadows

## Next Sunday, March 5th

9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion- New Members
10:45 a.m.	Fellowship
11:00 a.m.	NO Sunday School
SPRING SUPPER SETUP, MEAL, and CLEANUP	



# LENT

## A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LENT

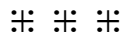
Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter.

The term “Lent” originally comes from the Anglo-Saxon word “lencten” which means “spring.” This is the time, in the Northern Hemisphere, when the days are lengthening. The season began as period of fasting leading up to the Vigil of Easter. Catechumens, those preparing for baptism at Easter, would fast and spend days in intense preparation. For those that were already baptized, Lent was a period to be renewed in their faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer.

Although it was originally only a two-day period of preparation, Lent became a three-week preparatory period in the middle of the fourth century and then this was further expanded into six-weeks, or forty days. By the end of the fifth century, there was a desire to exclude Sundays from Lent since Sundays are always celebrated as feasts of the Resurrection. Thus, Lent begins not on Sunday, but on Ash Wednesday.

The current practice of forty days of Lent recalls Jesus’ forty-day fast in the wilderness after his Baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) as well as Moses’ forty-day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28).

Shared by ELCA Worship, March 23, 2017, <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/430/>.



## TWO WAYS TO GIVE DURING LENT



M&M's containers and collecting quarters for  
the Central African Republic.  
\$10 for each container.



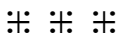
Barn Coin Collector for the ELCA's Global Barnyard



- Today is the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**.
  - During Lent we **learn** about the **life of Jesus**.
  - The symbol we see for Lent is a **road to a cross**.
  - A **road** reminds us of a **journey**.
- 

**Color the road to the cross.**





## TWO WEDNESDAY LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

### “SEEKING: HONEST QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER FAITH”

This year we are offering two options for the Wednesdays in Lent

- ⌘ Wednesday Noon Lenten Devotions and Lunch in the chapel (bring your own lunch)
- ⌘ Wednesday Dinner at 6:30PM (Free will offering) in the Fellowship Center
- ⌘ Wednesday Worship at 7:15PM in the Sanctuary

### PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, April 2nd  
9:45 a.m.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 6th  
7:15 p.m.  
*Holy Communion*

### GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 7th  
7:15 p.m.

### EASTER

Sunday, April 9th  
7:00 a.m. worship,  
*Holy Communion*  
breakfast 8:00-9:15 a.m.  
and 9:45 a.m. worship  
*Holy Communion*

ST. PAUL



LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA

P.O. Box 726 – Garrison, ND 58540

stpaul@restel.com

Church Office: 701-463-2019

Sunday Worship – 9:45 a.m.

www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com

pastorsloka@gmail.com

Pastor Janis Cell: 701-861-9915

Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

## SERVING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH

<i>Ministers</i>	The People of St. Paul Lutheran
<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Janis Sloka, III
<i>Worship Leader</i>	Mike Youngs
<i>Faith Formation Director</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church Council President</i>	Keith Thelen
<i>Choir Director</i>	Lisa Haugen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church &amp; Financial Secretary</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Custodian</i>	Pam Kolden
<i>Sunday School Superintendent</i>	Lisa Maki
<i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Missionaries</i>	Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto
<i>Organist</i>	Sundi Lagge
<i>Reader</i>	Marian Lehnherr
<i>Acolyte</i>	Hudson Klemisch
<i>Greeters</i>	Layne, Missy, Lofton, and Luka Reynolds
<i>Ushers</i>	Michelle and Leigh Wagner
<i>Door Greeter</i>	Keith Thelen
<i>Fellowship Hosts</i>	Marylyn Zimmerman, Bernie Ellwein, Sharon Schwarz

## MISSION STATEMENT

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to **GATHER** as God's people; to **GROW** in faith, love and service; and to **GO** into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.