

Third Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Symphonic Theme”

J. Brahms

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EXHORTATION, CONFESSION, AND PLEA

Trusting in God's mercy, we gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Brothers and sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all his creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that 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 the love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, and works of love, the discipline of Lent, help us to wage our spiritual warfare.

I invite you, therefore, to commit yourself to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Let us now make confession:

Almighty God, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

Know that God 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 we do on this day may please him, 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.**

OPENING HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

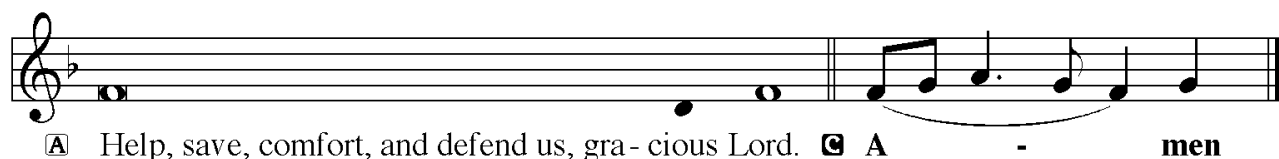
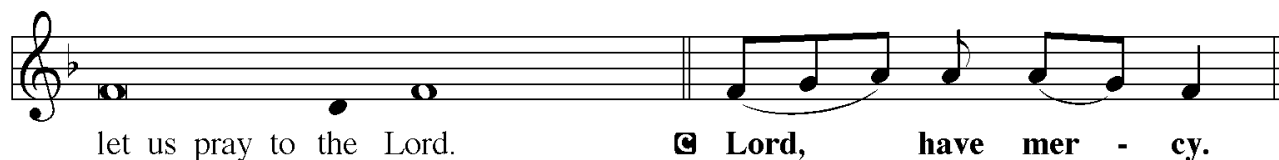
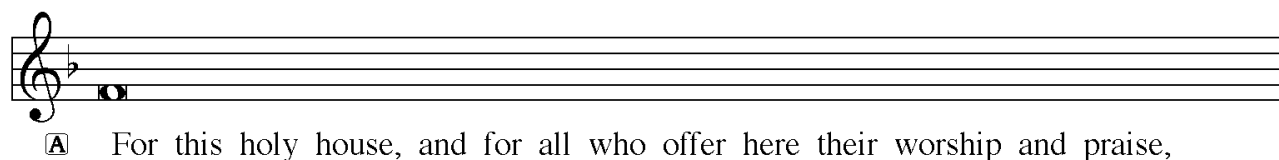
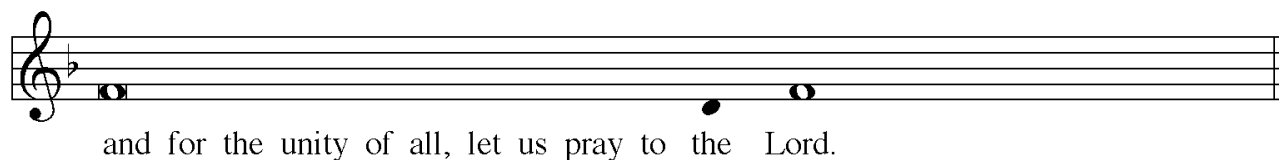
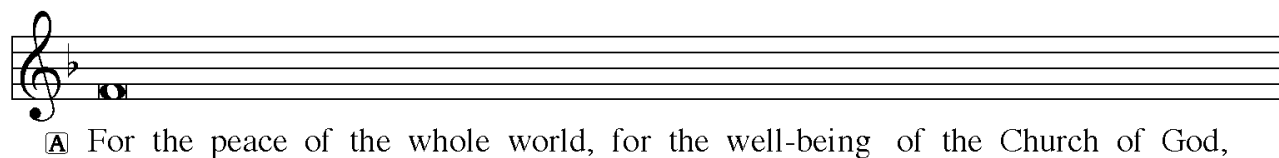
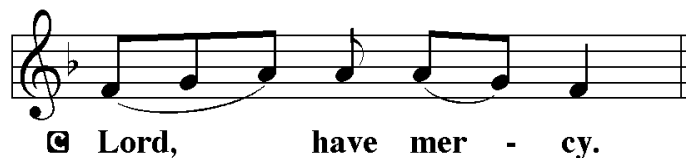
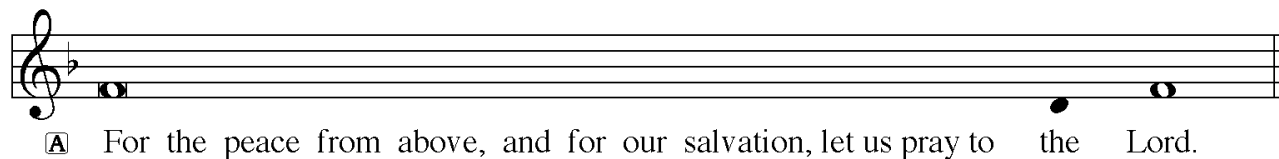
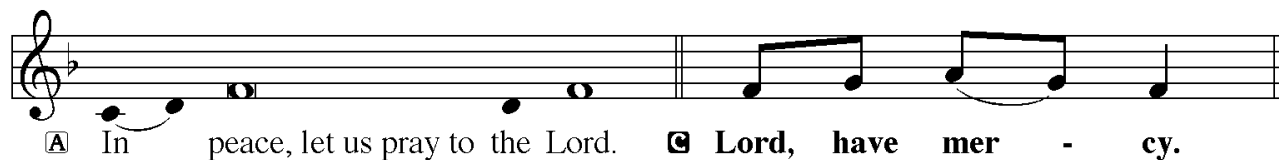
#338

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

Eternal God, 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 expressions of your redeeming love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

A Reading from Isaiah

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,

call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:1–9)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 63:1–8

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

⁴**So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶**when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸**My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the

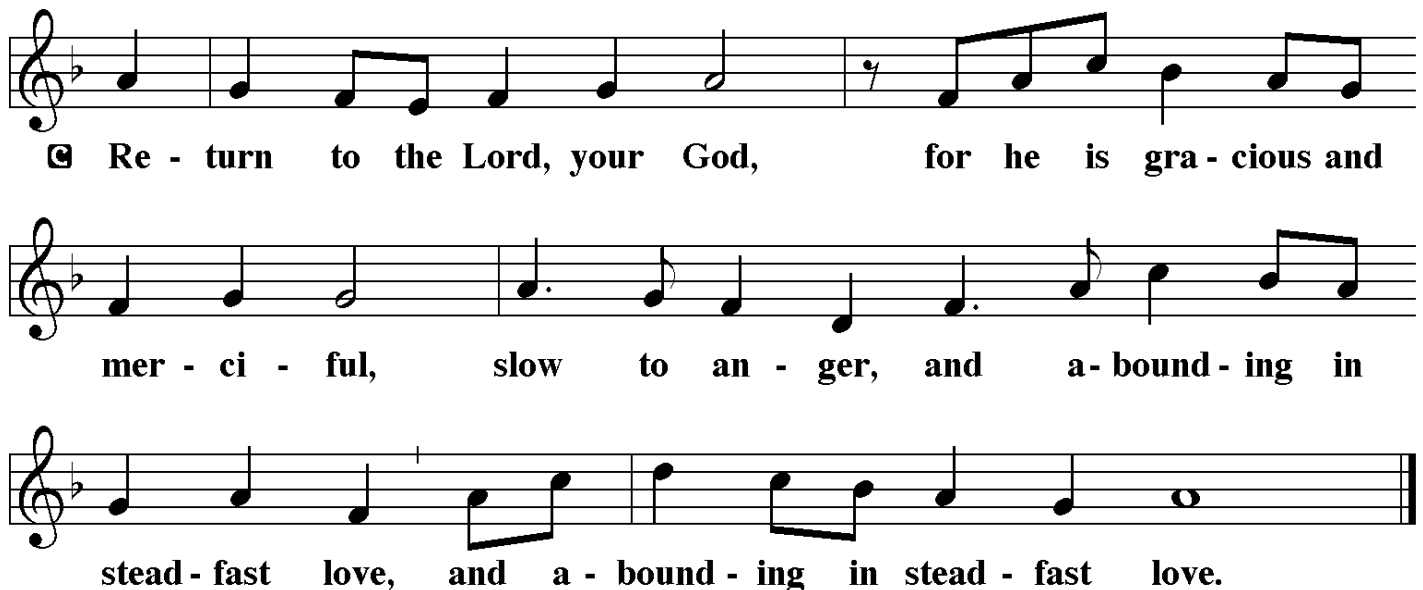
rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:1–13)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think

that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ” (Luke 13:1–9)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

#623

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy God, build up the body of Christ and cause the gifts of your Spirit to grow among us. Teach us to see your hand in all that is good and right. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Water the earth with gentle rains and melting snow. Provide clean water for drinking, washing, and nourishing plants that will bear fruit. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those suffering and in pain (*especially...*). Grant wisdom to health-care workers who use their gifts to bring healing to their patients. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Promote unity within your church and throughout the world. Open our eyes to see your image and likeness throughout all humanity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Knit together the communion of saints, and bind us to Christ, our head. Give us wisdom to see that our diversity and uniqueness is a blessing and not a curse. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Uphold those who speak your word of truth in midst of violence and brutality.
Gently receive those who have died in the faith into your everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways;
through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

Ushers: Come immediately to the front and wait for the Communion Assistant. Receive the collection along the center aisle, from front to back, then walk behind the last pews and up the side aisles to receive the collection on the outside aisles, again from front to back. Return to the back and wait for the Communion Assistant to come forward with the alms basin.

OFFERTORY (8:00)	“Christ, the Life of All the Living”	F. Zachow
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ANTHEM (10:30)	*“He Is the Rock”	M. Barrett
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OFFERTORY HYMN



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

Generous God, you do not feed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and all that you have given into our care that this feast that we share might be transformed into a bountiful feast that welcomes all, in the name of Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a 'P' (Piano) dynamic marking. The second staff begins with a 'P' (Piano) dynamic marking. The third staff begins with a 'P' (Piano) dynamic marking. The fourth staff begins with a 'C' (Crescendo) dynamic marking. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.'

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

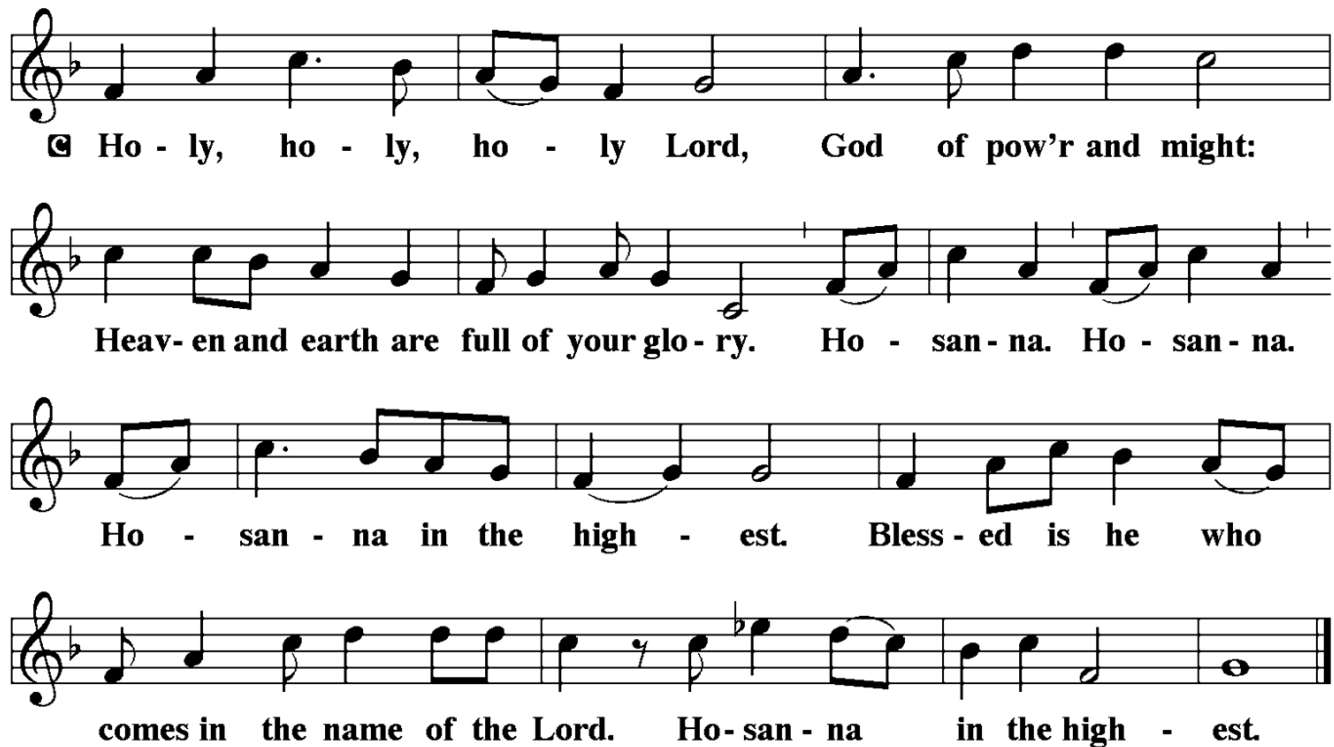
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should in all times and 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 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. Ho - san - na.
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.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

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 forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

DISTRIBUTION

The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction, pulpit side first. Please move into the center aisle, proceed to the Pastor, and receive the bread in your open hand. Then turn to the assistant, where you may dip the host into the wine and partake, returning to your seat by the side aisle. The lectern side will follow, then the choir. Those unable to come forward will receive the Sacrament in their pews.

AGNUS DEI

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.

COMMUNION HYMN “O Living Bread from Heaven” #542

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Father, you gather us together as one family so that no one is pushed away or kept hungry. Now that the meal is ended, send us back into the world. Teach us to trust in you and help us to walk with patience. Allow us to do your good and gracious will among those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

763

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Trust in God’s mercy.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in E Minor”

G. Blake

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in honor of Barbara Sterner.

**He Is the Rock* was presented in loving memory of Duke Schenck and in honor of Sue Schenck on the 35th anniversary of their marriage, July 31, 1980, by sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Jack Hurley. (2015)

SERVING TODAY (3/24/19)

8:00 AM

**LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul;
USHERS: Kay Weidensaul & Nevin Zehner; GREETER: Scott Butler**

10:30 AM

**LECTOR: Cindy Ritschel; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter; USHERS:
Bob & Niki Schuld; ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER: Trisha Teter/Hunter Teter;
GREETERS: Mary Ellen Hering & Jim Spotts; COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Jean
Premich & Barb Sterner; ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller & Connie Teter**

SERVING NEXT WEEK (3/31/19)

8:00 AM

**LECTOR: Debbie Moyer; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter; USHERS:
Debbie Moyer; GREETER: Doug Travor**

10:30 AM

**LECTOR: Candice Felton; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Robin Zimmerman;
USHERS: Shoener Family; ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER: Danika Bolinsky;
GREETERS: Brian Miller & Sue Schenck; COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr
& Glenda Bright; ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich & Gwen Wehr**

CALENDAR

Saturday, March 23	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, March 24	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum & Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship
	3:00 PM	Beethoven Concert
	5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
Monday, March 25	6:30 PM	Financial Peace University
Wednesday, March 27	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Lenten Midweek Service
	After service	Chancel Choir
Saturday, March 30	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, March 31	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum & Sunday school
	10:30 AM	Worship

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES



WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

Pastor Mike will continue to preach on the 23rd Psalm during a series of six midweek Lenten services at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays.

Learn more about “the Good Shepherd” psalm and consider how daily trusting in a Loving God can radically change your life!

**SERVICE COMMITTEE:
BOOKS FOR KIDS DRIVE**

Our Service Committee is holding a book drive for the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, which offers books to families with children. A reading teacher from the Blue Mountain School District has volunteered to help families choose donated books appropriate for their children.

Your new or gently used books are needed to help children up to the age of 10. Books for toddlers and preschool children are especially helpful now. A container is located in the narthex, where children's books can be placed at any time through Easter Sunday, April 21.

Now might be a good time for families to go through their own libraries so that outgrown favorites might be shared with a younger child who is eager to have them.

Remember: A Book Is a Gift You Can Open Over and Over!

BEETHOVEN CONCERT

Today, Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 PM

Here at St. Paul's

Local violinist Simon Maurer and pianist Xun Pan will present the second of a four-concert series showcasing all ten of Beethoven's "Sonatas for Piano and Violin."

Three sonatas will be discussed and performed. Free admission.

Donations to "The Beethoven Project" will be accepted.

Easter Flower Orders

(Please place in the offering plate in the gathering room or return by mail.)

Deadline: Sunday, March 31

No orders will be taken after this date.

Your name: _____

Type of Flower	How Many	Price	Total	Sponsorship
Single-stem Lilies	_____ X	\$7.00	_____	H/M _____
Regular-sized Daffodils	_____ X	\$6.00	_____	H/M _____
6-bulb Tulips (Red)	_____ X	\$6.00	_____	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Purple)	_____ X	\$6.00	_____	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Pink)	_____ X	\$6.00	_____	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinth (White)	_____ X	\$6.00	_____	H/M _____
Hydrangeas (Pink)	_____ X	\$14.00	_____	H/M _____
TOTAL \$ _____				

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 Ext. 11
pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076
justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	
Hope Clarke, Office Support Staff	
office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	
Karen Travor, Treasurer	570-366-2316
karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-366-8766
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809
jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	

Friendship Pads. Please sign the friendship pads in the pews. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book in the narthex.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY...

If you or someone you know needs immediate pastoral care,
please call 717-362-4597.
