

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 15, 2020

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

GATHERING

*As we gather together, let us now refrain from conversation, quiet ourselves,
and welcome the Lord Jesus Christ into our midst.*

PRELUDE “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” J. S. Bach

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 Almighty 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.**

GATHERING HYMN “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” #769

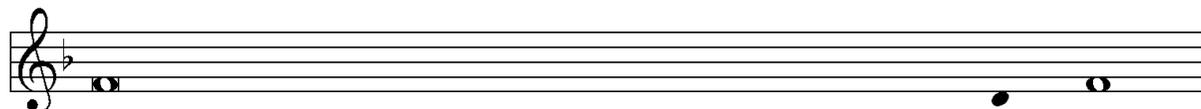
GREETING

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



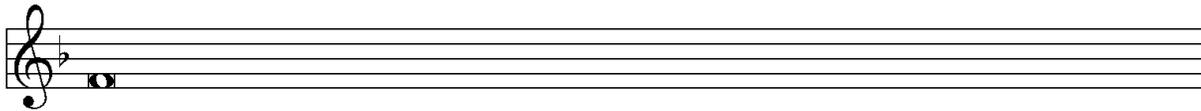
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



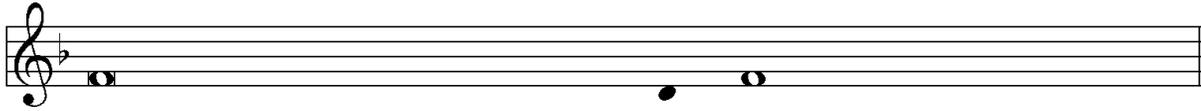
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



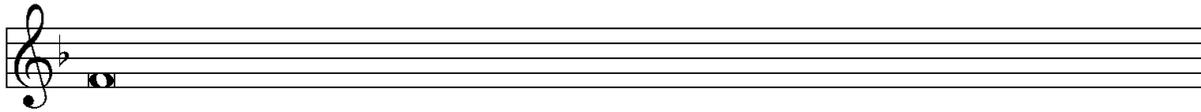
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



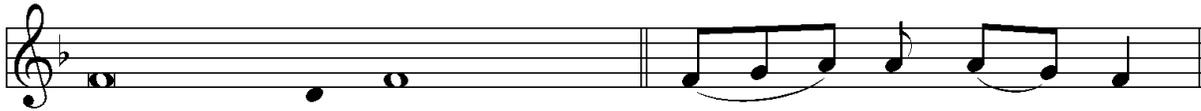
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

WORD

A Reading from Exodus

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I

do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?” (Exodus 17:1-7)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95 (Responsively)

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**²Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

³For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**⁴In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**⁶Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**⁸Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.**

⁹They put me to the test,
though they had seen my works.

**¹⁰Forty years long I detested that generation and said,
“This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways.”**

¹¹So I swore in my wrath,
“They shall not enter into my rest.”

A Reading from Romans

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and

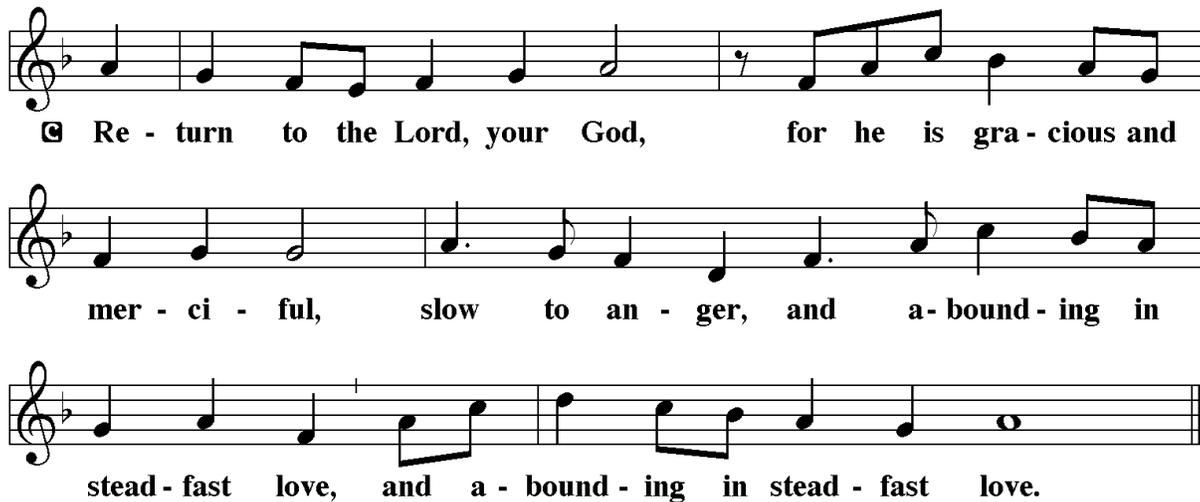
endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (Romans 5:1-11)

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: John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that

living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” ¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” ¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” ¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans

came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.” (John 4:5-42)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” #658

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (In Unison)

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

Turning our hearts to God, who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of living water, may your church proclaim your grace and may its witness be a source of refreshment for thirsty souls. Help us to proclaim that Jesus is truly the savior of the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, protect all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams from pollution and misuse. Bless the work of those who dig wells and those who advocate for access to clean water. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, open the hearts of world leaders, that they may hear the cries of the suffering and act with compassion and mercy. Bring peace and reconciliation to people divided by race, culture, or nationality. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, mend the hearts of those who grieve and draw near to all who are sick, ill, or suffering (*especially...*). Reveal yourself to those who question your presence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, renew us in the promises of baptism. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace in our community and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, we thank you for those who endured suffering and who now rest in your care. Pour your Holy Spirit into our hearts and give us peace as we live in the hope of our salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING

For 10:30 service ushers: Take the offering plates from the table in the back of the church. 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)

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

J. Linker

Anthem (10:30)

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

S. Strite

Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY HYMN



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of wonder, you set a table and invite us to feast with you. You give us gifts to share with others, so that everyone may be blessed. Open our eyes to daily see your goodness and mercy. Help us to welcome everyone to come to your table. Open our hearts and minds and come to us through Jesus Christ now and forever.

Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



G 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



G 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 (In Unison)

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.

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 may receive the Sacrament in their pews. Those who do not desire to receive the Sacrament may come forward to receive a blessing.

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 “Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty” #777

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, Ever-living God, for you have fed us with heavenly food and drink. Give us abundant life now and strengthen our hope for a greater life yet to come. Help us to know your love for us in Christ Jesus and teach us to share that Godly love with our neighbors everywhere. **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 Hope Is Built”

#597

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Forgive others, as you have been forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Solemn March”

W. A. Mozart

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

Altar flowers are presented in memory of my brother, Eric C. Shaud by Crystal Brensinger.

Chancel flowers are presented in memory of Corrinne Shoener on her birthday, April 13, by Kathy Miller and family.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Eric C. Shaud, by his mother, Nancy Kaiser.

A REMINDER ...

When we gather to worship, everyone is encouraged to complete the Friendship Pad located in your pew. Please pass the Pad to your neighbor and return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also encouraged to sign our Welcome Book in the narthex. If you have a special need or concern, please share it with the Greeter at the door—or with the Pastor.

SERVING TODAY (3/15/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Gail Rarick; **COMMUNION ASSISTANT:** Ruth Ann Withers

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Sue Reier; **COMMUNION ASSISTANT:** Jeff Ritschel;
USHERS: Scott Butler and Joyce O'Rourke; **GREETER:** Scott Butler;
ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr;
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Dana Jenkins

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (3/22/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Deb Moyer; **COMMUNION ASSISTANT:** Gail Rarick

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky; **COMMUNION ASSISTANT:** Scott Butler;
USHERS: Mike and Sue Petresky; **GREETER:** Doug Travor;
ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr;
COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Barb Sterner, and Jean Premich

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S		
--------------------------------	--	--

Sunday, March 15	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship
Monday, March 16	6:30 PM	Worship & Music Committee
Tuesday, March 17	1:00 PM	Men of St. Paul's
Wednesday, March 18	7:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 19	6:00 PM	STIC
	6:30 PM	Financial Peace
Saturday, March 21	12 NOON-2:00 PM	Free Spaghetti/Meatball Meal
	5:30	Worship
Sunday, March 22	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship

Reverend Michael T. Petresky, Pastor pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316 Ext. 11
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-573-4076
Juli Schenck, Office Support Staff office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-8757
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-366-8766
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	936-648-6809

HELP US MAKE EASTER BASKETS

All youth are invited to a special Sunday school session on March 22nd at 9 AM to make Easter Baskets for the children of the food pantry patrons. Donations of candy will help complete this annual service project. Please bring individually wrapped candy; no loose jellybeans or M&M's. A collection basket will be in the gathering place.

FREE SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL MEAL

As an outreach to our neighbors in need, the men of St. Paul's will host a Free Spaghetti and Meatball Meal on Saturday, March 21st from 12 Noon to 2:00 PM in Reidler Hall. Beverages, bread, and salad will be provided along with desserts (courtesy of our Women of the ELCA.) Please invite your neighbors and friends to come for this free fellowship meal.

FINAL BEETHOVEN CONCERT

Simon Maurer and Xun Pan will complete their series of concerts to celebrate the 250th birthday of German composer and pianist, Ludwig van Beethoven, on Sunday, March 29th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM in our sanctuary. Hear Beethoven's music, and learn his personal story and struggle. Although admission is free, a free will offering to benefit the Project will be collected. A reception will follow the performance.

Easter Flower Orders

Please detach lower portion and place in the offering plate in the Gathering Room
or return by U.S. Mail.

Deadline: Sunday, March 22, 2020

No orders will be taken after this date due to Blue Mountain Farms' deadline.

Your name: _____

Type of flower	How Many	Price	Total	Sponsorship
Asiatic Lilies	_____X	\$8	_____	H/M_____
Regular-sized Daffodils	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
6-bulb Tulips (Red)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Purple)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Pink)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (White)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
Hydrangeas (Pink)	_____X	\$15	_____	H/M_____

TOTAL \$ _____