

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, April 3, 2022

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

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Meditation at the Cross" A. Whitworth

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXHORTATION

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

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to contend against all evil and resist everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to take up the discipline of Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, charity and works of love, as together we are strengthened and renewed by God's Word and Sacraments.

(Silence for self-reflection)

CONFESSION

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. 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.

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 lives 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

“Just As I Am”

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
of the mind, yea, all I need in thee to find,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

1. Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer. We
2. Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin. Pour
3. Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part. Re -

come to hear your li - ving word; it saves us from de - spair.
out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of 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 Isaiah

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 ²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise. (Isaiah 43:16-21)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126 (Read responsively)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
 then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
 and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations,
 “The LORD has done great things for them.”

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

A Reading from 1 Corinthians

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

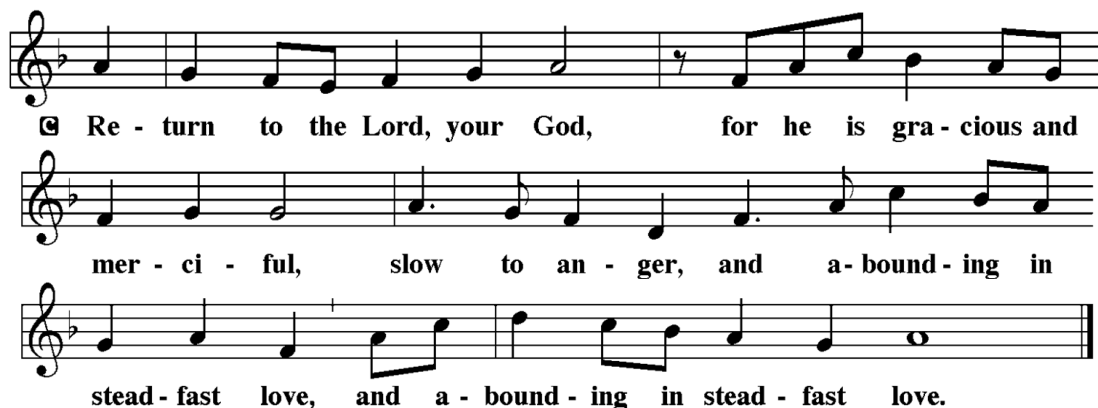
⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:4b-14)

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. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."
(John 12:1-8)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Our Father We Have Wandered"
[See back of bulletin]

THE NICENE CREED (Read 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

As we journey toward the Easter Feast, let us turn to our God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Look with mercy upon your people gathered here today. By your Holy Spirit, prepare us to renew our baptismal promises as we celebrate Easter. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Restore areas of the world which have been abused. Help us to preserve and protect all that you have created. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Reveal the foolishness and dangers of violence and destruction. Make a way for peace and cooperation among all nations. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Send healing and wholeness to all who suffer in any way. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list and the people of Ukraine. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Help to understand the lives of people who are hidden from us. Broaden our understanding of our shared human experience and free us from racism and bigotry. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection. We give thanks for all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Hear us, O God; **your mercy is great.**

(The Pastor concludes): Gracious God, hear the prayers of your people whose hunger and thirst you satisfy in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:00)

"Lenten Hymn"

M. Burkhardt

ANTHEM (10:30)

"Lamb of God"

T. Paris

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God our Redeemer, receive these gifts and the sacrifice of our lives. Refresh us with this food and drink and bring us newness of life for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

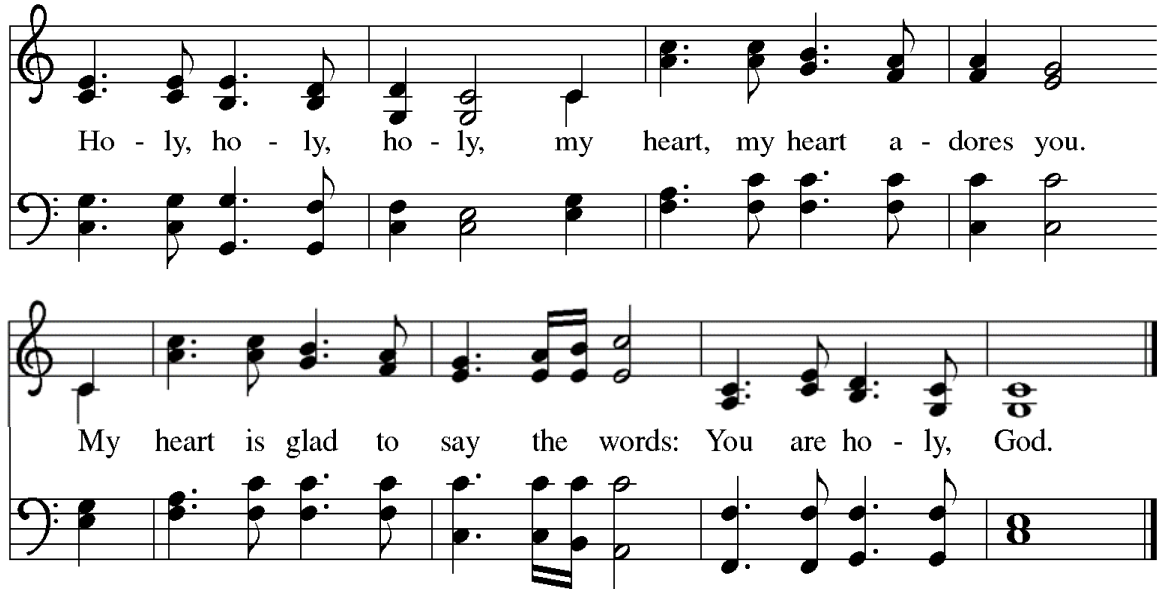
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

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 (read 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

Come to the Lord's table.
Here is food and drink that will sustain us for our Lenten journey.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ, are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We share the Sacrament by intinction, that is, by allowing communicants to dip a wafer of bread (which is the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (which is the Blood of Christ) before they consume it. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pews.

If you (or your child) would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

AGNUS DEI



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.



COMMUNION HYMN

“Softly and Tenderly”

[See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, your Son welcomed sinners and ate with them. We give you thanks for the forgiveness and grace we have received in this meal. Make us signs of your love, that all the world may know your mercy and lovingkindness, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

You were created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen to be holy and beloved, and freed to serve your neighbor. May God bless you that you may be a blessing to others, in the name of the Father, the †Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

DISMISSAL

Forgiven and strengthened at God's table of grace and mercy, go now in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Recessional in G Minor"

C. Sergisson

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

Introduction to the Day: Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

Altar flowers are presented in loving memory of Carl Long by Christine Long and Dr. Kevin Long.

Chancel flowers are presented in memory of George Washington Lengel, our great-grandfather, by James Lengel and family.

Bulletins are presented in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. F.S. Olmes by the Lafko family.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (4/3/22)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Ruth Ann Withers

COMMUNION ASST.: Ruth Ann Withers

10:30 AM

GREETER: Crystal Brensinger; USHER: Glenda Bright; LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky

COMMUNION ASST.: Madelyn Knecht

ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel

COUNTERS: Tom Wehr, Gwen Wehr, and Glenda Bright

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (4/10/22)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul

COMMUNION ASST.: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Deb Bolinsky; LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel

COMMUNION ASST.: Doug Travor

ALTAR GUILD: Barb Sterner and Sue Schenck

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 3	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, April 4	6:30 PM	Worship & Music
Tuesday, April 5	6:30 PM	Evangelism
Wednesday, April 6	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
Friday, April 8	1:00 PM	STiC SRT Walk in Tumbling Run
Saturday, April 9	1:00-3:00 PM	Sunday School Easter "Egg-stravaganza"
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, April 10		PALM/PASSION SUNDAY
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
		Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL!

We continue to host a Sunday School for children every second Sunday of the month. Children ages 1-10 are invited to join us during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, April 10, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. Teenagers are also invited to participate as helpers. Please contact Sarah Eger at 570-394-3522 or swoodring86@hotmail.com.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Pastor Mike will conclude this series on the "I AM" sayings of Jesus found in the Gospel of St. John at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6 with: "I AM the Way, and the Truth, and the Life" - John 14:6. Come and see! Everyone is invited to attend.

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

The Sunday School team will be hosting an afternoon of "egg-citing" activities for the children of our church and our community, on Saturday, April 9th from 1 to 3 p.m. If you would like to help and/or donate items, please see the sign-up sheets, in the gathering room at church, or call/text Sarah Eger at 570-394-3522. Thank you for your continued support of the Sunday School program!

EASTERN EUROPEAN CRISIS RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is ministering to the people of Ukraine in their war-torn nation as well as in neighboring Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. It also is providing humanitarian aid through ecumenical partners such as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service. These partners reach out to refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water, and hygiene kits.

You can help the people of Ukraine through many international relief organizations including Lutheran Disaster Relief. If you would like to donate, please make your check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and write "LDR - Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on the memo line. If you give cash, please write "LDR - Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

DONATIONS FOR UKRAINIAN RELIEF

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church at Minersville Pa. is collecting items to provide relief to the people of Ukraine. They do not accept donations of clothing due to high cost of shipping such items. Medical and personal supplies are their immediate priority.

One way we can help them by collecting over-the-counter pain relievers (like Tylenol, Advil, and aspirin, etc.). These items are compact and easy to transport. Pain relievers for children and babies are also much appreciated. Please check expiration dates on these items before you purchase them.

If you would like to donate pain relievers, please bring your items to the donation box located in our narthex when you come to worship or during our regular office hours.

If you would like to donate other relief items, please call St. Nicholas' church office at 570 544 4581. They can tell you what items are needed and how you can drop them off at their location in Minersville, PA, Monday through Friday.

Thank you on behalf of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church for your generous donations for the relief of the Ukrainian people.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Our Father We Have Wandered”

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Softly and Tenderly”

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? “Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”