

# *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

## *Sunday, February 5, 2023*

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

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

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### GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

“We Are Called”

M. Hayes

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
who makes all things new, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

O Holy One,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**Our feet have not followed in your path**

**and our hearts have turned away from you.**

**Forgive us that we may be reconciled to you and one another**

**and teach us to walk in the light of your grace. Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus who says,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.”

Know that you are forgiven of your sins and that you are freed to love God and  
serve your neighbor. May the Light of Christ guide you now and forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

“Gather Us In”

[See back of bulletin]

**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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit, show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

### A READING FROM ISAIAH

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. (Isaiah 58:1-9a)

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

## PSALM 112:1-9 (Read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord  
and have great delight in his commandments!

<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

## A READING FROM FIRST CORINTHIANS

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the

world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

(1 Corinthians 2:1-12)

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-20)

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

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      “You Are the Way”  
[See back of bulletin]

## THE APOSTLES’ CREED (Read in unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Call your people to seek your wisdom in all worldly matters. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at your creation. Sustain your world and protect all the plants and creatures which fill it from the depths of the oceans to the heights of the mountains. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Inspire voters to exercise their rights with discernment and raise up public servants who listen to your voice and strive to practice righteousness. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Heal those afflicted in body, mind, and spirit. Comfort those whose spirit is weak or wounded. We especially pray for everyone who daily faces violence and all those on our prayer list. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth and light for the world. Keep us mindful of your commandments and open our hearts to treat others with mercy and compassion. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for all whose faith in Christ has been an encouragement to our own faith. Help us to treasure their memory and in your time, bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

*(The Pastor concludes):* We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY (8 AM)**

“Allegro”

G. F. Handel

**ANTHEM (10:30 AM)**

**OFFERTORY HYMN** “Let the Vineyards be fruitful, Lord”



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them, we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# MEAL

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

Ⓟ 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.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. 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.



## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

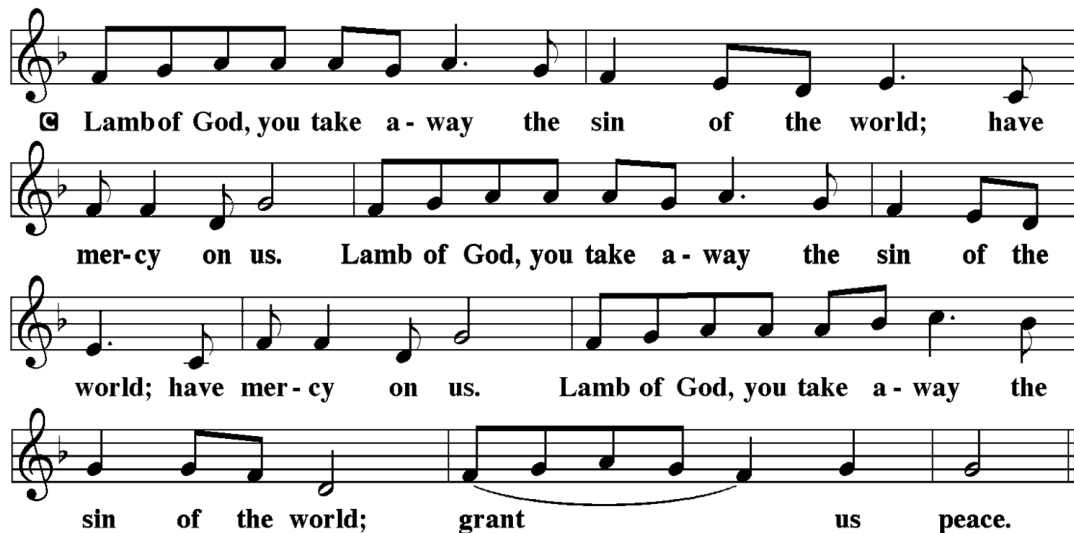
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by *intinction*. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. 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. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pew.

## 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 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" [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

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" [See back of bulletin]

**THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

“Overture”

J. S. Bach

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**Altar flowers** are presented in loving memory of Irma Kamp by Tina Butler and Victoria and Alexandria Spitler.

**Bulletins** are presented in loving memory of LeRoy and Corrinne Shoener by their daughter and families.

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**Introduction to the Day:** Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S**

Sunday, February 5	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, February 6	6:30 PM	Worship & Music
Wednesday, February 8	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Saturday, February 11	8:30 AM	Chili/Soup-er Bowl Sale on the Square
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, February 12	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Sunday School Annual Congregational Meeting

**SERVING THIS SUNDAY (2/05/23)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER/USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Cindy Ritschel; LECTOR: Gwen Wehr

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Greg Sklar

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/12/23)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER/USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Ruth Ann Withers

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: TBA; USHER: Diane Brobst; LECTOR: Hope Clarke

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Wayne Lutsey

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

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**“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School for children ages 1 to 10 years old will continue every second Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. service. Please join us next Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. You can also call/text/email me with questions or to volunteer. Sarah Eger: (570) 394-3522 (cell); [swoodring86@hotmail.com](mailto:swoodring86@hotmail.com).

**CHILI & SOUP-ER BOWL SALE**

The Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup-er Bowl Soup Sale this Saturday, February 11, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. “on the Square.” Our soup will be \$7/quart or 3 quarts for \$20 and chili will be \$8/quart or 2 quarts for \$15. Come for great chili, tasty homemade soups, and many delicious baked goods.

**STiC**

Please sign the Valentine cards for our homebound folks in the Gathering Room! STiC will have a 'workshop' on propagating succulent plants on Saturday February 18 at 10 AM. These will become the plants we take to homebound folks in 2024.

# GATHERING HYMN

## “Gather Us In”



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

## OPEN POSITIONS ON CHURCH COUNCIL

During our Annual Congregational Meeting next Sunday, February 12, 2023, we will vote to fill open positions on our Church Council. If you are an active member and would like to learn more, please contact Council President Doug Travor, any Council member, or Pastor Mike.

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## “You Are the Way”

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn.

# COMMUNION HYMN

## “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

The musical score consists of three systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines.

## SENDING HYMN “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be next Sunday, February 12, 2023, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. In case of inclement weather, our annual meeting will be held on the following Sunday, February 19. Members should mark their new calendars for this important meeting!

## CRAFTER'S GUILD

The Crafter's Guild of St. Paul's will gather on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 5 p.m. at the home of Kristin Durkee, 1097 Grove Street, Orwigsburg, PA. All crafters or people interested in learning a craft are welcome! The Guild appreciates donations of items for the crafts, too. At this time, the Guild would love quilt batting and thread. Please call Kristin Durkee (804-380-9066) or Amy Dewald (570-449-4816), if you are interested in joining this new group.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year our Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. The imposition of ashes and the sharing of Holy Communion will be offered at this service.

## **WELCA**

All women of St. Paul's: please attend our Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting at 1:00 p.m.at church. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held at the same time and place on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. This will be a planning session for our hosting of the WELCA Schuylkill Cluster Spring event to be held at our Church on Saturday, April 29th.

Your December In-Gathering offering will be accepted at this time. These funds have been designated for Lutheran Disaster Relief for Florida Hurricane 2022.

Please watch your bulletins for any necessary changes or updates.