

# Welcome!

to  
*St. Paul Lutheran Church*  
*Clay Center, KS*

*Thank you*  
*for joining us for worship!*

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*March 7 & 8, 2026*

*Worship Folder*



## **St. Paul Lutheran Communion Statement:**

**COMMUNION WELCOME**-God calls upon His people to exercise care in the use of His Supper because harm results when Communion is received without repentance or a right understanding (1 Corinthians 11:23-30) and when fellowship is practiced without agreement in God's Word (Galatians 5:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:14). In Communion Jesus gives us His true Body and Blood, in with and under the bread and wine, to forgive our sins (Matthew 26:26-28 and 1 Corinthians 10:16-21). We also profess agreement in the teachings of the church at whose altar we commune. Thus, we cannot offer this Supper to those who have not received instruction per the mysteries of this meal. We do invite fellow members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to join our members as we receive the Sacrament today. Others are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those who desire to come forward for a blessing are invited to do so, indicating their intent to receive a blessing by crossing their arms in front.

Distribution of the bread is to the hand of the communicant. "Gluten Free" wafers are available. Please let the ushers know PRIOR to service if you are needing this substitution.

Distribution of the wine is by choice of individual cup or common chalice. If you receive with the individual cup, please keep the small cup visible to the minister with the common cup. Individual cups of unfermented grape juice will be provided at the center of each of the trays for those who prefer grape juice over wine. Both are "fruit of the vine" and in the sacrament become means by which Christ grants us his blood to assure us of forgiveness, life and salvation. The unfermented grape juice is light in color.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

## **PRELUDE**

**What Wondrous Love Is This****LSB 543****SUNDAY SERVICE****Baptism – Jakari Chevelle VanWey****Join together on page 268 in Hymnal***The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.***P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.**C Amen.****P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,**C who made heaven and earth.****P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.***Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.***P** O almighty God, merciful Father,**C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.****P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.**C Amen.****Introit****P** Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**C How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O LORD of hosts!****P** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.**C Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young,  
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.****P** Blessèd are those who dwell in your house,  
ever singing your praise!**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.****P** Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**Kyrie**

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day****P** The Lord be with you.**C And with thy spirit.****P** Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent

hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G Amen.**

### Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 17:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

*Psalm 95:1–9*

**P** <sup>1</sup>Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!  
**G** <sup>2</sup>**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**  
**P** <sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.  
**G** <sup>4</sup>**In his hand are the depths of the earth;**

**the heights of the mountains are his also.**

**P** <sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.

**G** <sup>6</sup>**Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

**P** <sup>7</sup>For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you hear his voice,

**G** <sup>8</sup>**do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**

**P** <sup>9</sup>when your fathers put me to the test  
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

### Epistle

*Romans 5:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G Thanks be to God.**

### Holy Gospel

*John 4:5–26*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

**G Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup>There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus 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." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he

comes, he will tell us all things." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**G** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

### May God Bestow on Us His Grace

LSB 824

#### Sermon

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.  
**G** Amen.

#### Offering

Romans 12:1 — “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

#### Offertory



**G** 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 Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

#### Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray to the Lord.  
**G** Lord have mercy.

† Service of the Sacrament †

#### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**G** We lift them up unto the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.  
**G** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### Sanctus



**G** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

**Lord's Prayer**

**C** 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.

**The Words of Our Lord**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

**Agnus Dei**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

✠ Distribution Hymns ✠

- Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me** LSB 761
- My Song Is Love Unknown** LSB 430
- How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds** LSB 524
- Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord** LSB 637

**Nunc Dimittis**

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Benedicamus

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen, amen, amen.

### Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB 423

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### Thanksgiving

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.
- P** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.