

Scripture Readings

Mar 1	Second Sunday in Lent	Gen. 12:1-9	Psalms 121	Rom. 4:1-8, 13-17	John 3:1-17
Mar 8	Third Sunday in Lent	Ex. 17:1-7	Psalms 95:1-9	Rom. 5:1-8	John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)
Mar 15	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 42:14-21	Psalms 142	Eph. 5:8-14	John 9:1-41

A Women's Retreat
 A time to CONNECT; learning to LEAN on Jesus, and one another
 Featuring Deb Burma, CPH Author and Speaker
 Saturday March 14, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 St. Paul Lutheran Church 816 9th St. Clay Center
 RSVP by March 8, Michelle Tessaro 785-630-0750
 Event is Free - \$15 suggested donation for lunch at Vintage Vibe Bakery and Bistro
 No one is turned away due to cost

Building Project Update
 The initial Capital Fund Raising Campaign has been a success and \$1 million has been raised to begin construction of our building project. Any future contributions for the building project should continue to be identified as made for the "New Building Fund" and will help reduce the amount needed to be financed to complete the project. Please continue to keep the building project and our congregation in your prayers.

Friendship Circle will be collecting Mites for Missions on Sunday, March 1

This Week's Schedule - February 21 through March 1	
Saturday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
Sunday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM Organ Recital - 2:00 PM
Monday	Men's Bible Study - 7:00 PM
Tuesday	Friendship Circle - 6:30 PM
Wednesday	Bulletin Deadline - Noon Lenten Service - 12:05 PM & 7:00 PM
Next Saturday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
Next Sunday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM SPMiddles - 5:00 PM

Welcome

to

St. Paul Lutheran Church

816 9th Street
 Clay Center, KS 67432

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REV. PAUL TESSARO,
 SENIOR PASTOR 785-630-0751

REV. MATTHEW VATTHAUER,
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR 817-917-6288

"A Place of Grace, A Source of Hope, A Mission of Mercy!"
 For 137 years!!!
 OUR MISSION
 "Existing in God's love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the Gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service."

February 21 & 22, 2026

Jesus' Righteous Obedience to the Father Leads to the Justification of All

Following His Baptism, Jesus is "led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil" (Matt. 4:1). As He takes upon Himself the curse of our sin and sets Himself against our enemy, He trusts His Father's voice and waits upon His Father's hand for all things. The devil questions His sonship, but the beloved and well-pleasing Son remains faithful and lives "by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). Jesus patiently suffers hunger in His mortal flesh and returns to the dust whence man was taken, and by His pain He brings forth food for all the children of men (Gen. 3:18-19). By the sweat of His brow, we eat the fruit of His cross, even as our nakedness is covered by His righteousness. Although all people live in bondage to death through the trespass of the first man, Adam, all the more "have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many" (Rom. 5:15). His righteous obedience "leads to justification and life for all men" (Rom. 5:18).

RADIO BROADCAST this week is sponsored - Sharon Carlson -
 In Memory of Loved Ones.
 The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$40.00.
 A book is in the Narthex to sign-up for dates.

WELCOME to our guests and congregation! We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship and please feel free to join us again!

First Sunday in Lent
Hymn #s - 656, 569, 621, 602, 594, 420, 718
SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Organist	Sat. Connie Paronto/Sun. Connie Paronto
Ushers	Nicholas Lehman, Brett Ohlde, Kirk Hammel, Brad Dieckmann
Greeters	Jeremy & Kristi Hager
Live Stream	Jarrett Wachsnicht
Acolyte	Wrangler Crady, Bayler Langvardt
Communion Assistant	Wes Wright
Altar Guild	Pam Sump, Winnie Wells, Rosie Hager, Kathy Burger
Fellowship Host	Wollenberg's

FAMILY EDUCATION - 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Preschool - Kindergarten - meet in Room 11 (West Wing)
1st Grade - 3rd Grade - meet in Library Room (West Wing)
4th Grade - 8th Grade - meet in Conference Room (West Wing)
9th Grade - 12th Grade - meet in High School Room (Basement)
Adult - meet in Fellowship Hall (Basement)

Weekly Attendance	Sat	Sun	Total	Family Education Attendance	Total
February 7 & 8	25	125	150	February 8	39
February 14 & 15	33	84	117	February 15	24
February 18 - Ash Wednesday			103		

Sunday, February 22 there will be special music during worship as the Children's Hand-Chime Choir will be playing. We are excited to have this addition to our worship.

The Devotions for Lent are on the table located in the Narthex. This year's topic is 'BEHOLD YOUR KING!'. Feel free to take one or more for family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Don't worry if supply on the table is low as there will always be more the following week.

New Evangelism Booklets & Devotional Material - "The Word in Season", "PORTALS of PRAYER", and "My Devotions" (Daily Readings for Young Children) devotion books are in!! Feel free to take one or more for family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

IN OUR PRAYERS
Congregational Members

Remembering our shut-ins: Bonnie VonLehe-Wakefield Care/Rehab, Larry Rakowsky - Presbyterian Manor; Julie Hillman-Linn Nursing Home; Cedric Pfaff-Well Springs of Westmoreland; Mary Ann Mall, Lola Lehman-Liberty Place; Pauline Burger-Legend; Larry Ernsting - Topeka VA; Georgie Dierking.

Health concerns: Dwight Koch, Ron Schmale, Raef Schuette, Larry Ernsting, Nancy Kemp, Stan Ohlde, and Larry Rakowsky.

Our outreach programs: Prayer Shawl Ministry, Small Group Ministry, Christian Preschool at St. Paul, Radio Ministry, LWML Friendship Circle, and our Youth groups.

Sorrow: Family & friends of Lyle Underwood

Larger Community Members

Healing: Denise Kidwell, Marcia Woods, Idonna Perkins, Bobbi Holz, Dee Knitter, Jackie Hall, Sarah Tessaro, Ron Baehr, Ryan Withee, Emmitt Budy, Dee Hilton, Malissa Milum, Rev. David Grouner, Scott Trautwein, Gary Hilton, Donna Watson, Ron McDaniels, Micah Helms, Addie Voelker, Ann Huninghake, Mike Dunn, Sandy Larkey, Irene Bane, John Zeller, Rev. Greg DuBois, Melissa Martin, Benjamin Willroth, Jennifer Zimmerman, Gail Thomas, Lois Nash, Melissa Dunn, Darlene Miller, Darla Wilder, Rachelle Smith, Joe Parlli, Sheila McGrew, Grant & Grace Goodin, Connie Winter, and Kerri Brown

Military: Kyle, Enrique, and Cooper.

REMINDER
 All Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be designated by March 31, 2026 to either St. Paul Preschool or St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Mission Efforts beyond St. Paul

You Matter Tour; Hope House; LeadaChild; For the Sake of the Church; Lutheran Bible Translators; Lutheran Heritage Foundation; KansaSEED Deaf Ministry; Lutheran Hour Ministries; North

Please remember to inform the church office when the person for whom you requested prayer should be removed from the prayer

Looking for volunteers to sign-up to do Fellowship Host on Sunday Mornings. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to volunteer. Any questions talk to Gene Ferguson or Pastor Tessaro. Thank you!

We are looking for sponsors for the Radio Broadcast for the year 2026. Please see the sign-up book located in the Narthex to choose your week to sponsor for the cost of \$40. You can sponsor in celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of someone or something special in your life to give thanks to God!

Friendship Circle meets Tuesday,
 February 24, 6:30 pm.
 Circle Soup Supper

Our youth group is sponsoring a fundraiser at the Family Life Center located at the Methodist Church Wednesday, March 25th.