



*Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her;
that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast.*

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18–24

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass

A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

As We Gather

Look out! There were snakes biting the Israelites, sent by God as punishment for complaining about the manna, that miraculous food He gave on the way to the Promised Land. But look up! See the bronze serpent Moses put on a pole. Everyone who looked up at the serpent will live. The serpent was a type of Christ, a parallel symbol in the Bible. We, too, have snakes—our discontent with God’s daily blessings and lack of faith in His promises. But as we look up in faith to Jesus, the Christ on the cross, we shall be saved. That faith is a gift of God in His grace. Jesus is the center of the gracious Good News. We are God’s workmanship, and now He holds the door open as we walk through, looking up to Jesus.

*During Lent the service begins with the Litany and the Collect of the Day.
This replaces the regular Preparatory Rite, Introit, and Kyrie.*

Stand

✠ THE LITANY ✠

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| P O Lord, | C have mercy. |
| P O Christ, | C have mercy. |
| P O Lord, | C have mercy. |
| P O Christ, | C hear us. |
| P God the Father in Heaven, | C have mercy. |
| P God the Son, Redeemer of the world, | C have mercy. |
| P God the Holy Spirit, | C have mercy. |
| P Be gracious to us. | C Spare us, good Lord. |
| P Be gracious to us. | C Help us, good Lord. |
| P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death: | |
| C Good Lord, deliver us. | |

P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross
and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the
Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity;
In the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You:

C to hear us, O Lord.

P To rule and govern Your Holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of
Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to
sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who
have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to
accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the
weakhearted and the distressed:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to
give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates
and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and
guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness
in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and
to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and
preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God:

C We implore You to hear us.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C have mercy.

P O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Salutation and Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. Grant, we implore You, Almighty God: that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of Your grace may mercifully be relieved; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Hymn

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

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✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit

Old Testament

Exodus 20:1-17

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³"You shall not murder.

¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵"You shall not steal.

¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 122:1, 7

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

**Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:22–25

²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Tract

Psalm 125:1–2, 5b

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people,
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon Israel!**

Holy Gospel

John 2:13–22

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

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

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Stand

Nicene Creed

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.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory



C 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

At the end of each petition:

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

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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



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,



bles - ed is He, bles - 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.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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



C 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.

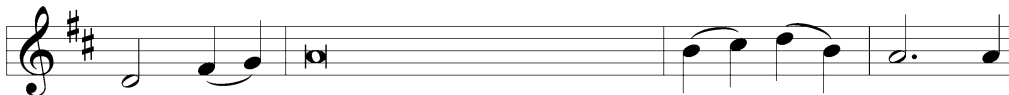
Sit

Distribution Hymns

The Tree of Life	561
Glory Be to Jesus	433
What God Ordains Is Always Good	760

Stand

Nunc Dimittis



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.

Thanksgiving

- P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.
- C** **And His mercy endureth forever.**
- P** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your Only-Begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- 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.**

Hymn of Departure

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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Acknowledgments

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"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, March 30	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
Wednesday, April 2	7:00pm	Midweek Lenten Divine Service	Sanctuary

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

04/03 – Tristen Noggle

04/04 – Darrell Ahrens

Making a Palm Cross – Saturday, April 12, 2025

Pastor Ermeling will be teaching and making palm crosses for Palm Sunday service on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 11:00am in Irmer Hall.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to serve on Sundays as Ushers or Sunday school teachers. If you are able to serve in any of these positions or if you have further questions, please speak with Taryn Wininger.

SOCIAL MINISTRY – CANNED FOOD DONATIONS

We have been collecting canned food for the past several months. Please continue to place your canned foods on the Social Ministry cart in the Narthex. These donations will be taken to the West Valley Community Food Pantry housed at St. John's Lutheran Church, 7205 N. 51st Ave, Glendale.

TIME TO RENEW ANNUAL LUTHERAN WITNESS

Lutheran Witness renewal for the new subscription year is July 2025. The price is \$27.65 for 11 issues (June/July is a combined edition). They are delivered to your home address. If you are interested in receiving the *Lutheran Witness* Magazine, please contact the church office at 623-846-2228 or email, info@stpaulslutheran-az.com. For payment, please use the pew envelopes, designated for *Lutheran Witness*. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church (please write *Lutheran Witness* on the memo line) and place it in the offering collection plate on Sunday. **The deadline to subscribe is April 27.**

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION & TRUTH

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent teachings include: Christians & Public Schools; God Promises in Isaiah; A Pro-Family Housing Agenda; The Effect of Same-Sex Marriage on Children; “The Day of the Lord” in the Bible and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

LENT & EASTER SCHEDULE

March 12 – April 9, Wednesdays	Divine Services	7:00 PM
April 13	– Palm Sunday	9:30 AM
April 17	– Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
April 18	– Good Friday	7:00 PM
April 20	– Easter Sunday	9:30 AM

“...He bore the sin of many, and makes
intercession for the transgressors.” Isaiah 53:12

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at info@stpaulutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

IMMEDIATE CONCERN:

Mary Howard, recovering a recent fall; after Mary will undergo physical therapy.

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Suzi Riley-Malsack, undergoing physical therapy after a fall.

Charlie Cook – exp. procedure to heal bladder

Kevin Stamm – health issues

Nigel Proctor – suffering from severe digestive issues

Jorge Jimenez – fighting cancer

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Rose Tressler – ongoing health issues

Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Rei Irmer (sister of Louise Ahrens) prayers for continued healing.

David Wies (cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with leukemia and will be undergoing treatment.

Sharon Wies (wife of Cliff Wies, cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer.

Nick Koontz (husband of Mary Howard's stepdaughter) diagnosed with leukemia.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Substitute Pastors and their families

The Rev. Jeff Proctor and family

Sunday School teachers & children

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

Lexington Life Academy families & staff

OUR NATION: For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (*members, friends, or relatives*): **Jackson Buffington, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Juan Garcia, Robert Gilmore, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Ethan Peterman, Andy Smiley, Jacob Wilson**

OUR SHUT-INS: Anne Smith