

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

# Weekly Announcements

March 23, 2025



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

splco.org

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

## **Holy Baptism**

During the 8am Worship Service, we welcome **Evangelina Kay** into St. Paul's church family. She is the daughter of Alec & Delaney (Weissenborn) **Heffern**. Her sponsors are Lydia Nelson & Aaron Winters. We will keep Evangelina in our prayers

**Flash photography is not allowed during a baptism which takes place during the worship service. The pastor may reenact the baptism after the service for picture-taking opportunities.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Midweek Lenten worship and dinner**

Our midweek Lenten worship services are on Wednesdays. Worship services are held at 12:15pm and 6:30pm. Prior to the evening service, there is a hymn sing at 6:15pm. Dinner is served in the fellowship hall from 5-6:15pm for a free-will offering. This week's meal is sponsored by St. Paul's Faculty. They will be serving a soup supper. Please come join us!

### **Easter Food Bags**

If you or anyone you know would like an Easter Food bag, please fill out the form that is on the Lord's Cupboard bulletin board that is outside of the Fellowship Hall. The form is pink. You can drop the form off to the church office or take a photo of it and email it to [lordscupboard@splco.org](mailto:lordscupboard@splco.org) or put it in the offering plate. Please have the form filled out and returned by March 31<sup>st</sup>. The food bags will be given out during the Lord's Cupboard distribution on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

### **Egg fundraiser for the Lord's Cupboard**

We are asking for donations toward purchasing eggs for our LC guests. During the month of March, we will have baskets of colorful, plastic eggs for you to fill with your coins, bills, or checks. Once you place your donation inside the plastic egg, please return the egg to the baskets by the church, the school entry doors, or to the Church office. There will be a LC volunteer in the narthex after the service to take any donation you would like to make.

Other options to help are:

- † Make a donation in an envelope marked "LC eggs" and place it in the egg basket by the entry doors, put it in the offering plate or take it to the church office.
- † Online donations are always available. Go to [splco.org](http://splco.org), click on the "Donate" button on the upper right, then scroll down to Lord's Cupboard.

At the current cost, we need approx. \$1,000 per month to give our LC guests eggs. As of March 14<sup>th</sup>, your generosity has donated \$1,102, thank you!

*Thank you so much for helping our neighbors with such a needed food source!*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## St. Paul's Youth Group

### March Events

- March 23<sup>rd</sup> MS (5:30-7:00 pm) & HS (7:00-8:30 pm)
- March 30<sup>th</sup> **Krazy Golf** after 10:30 Service



### April Events

- April 6<sup>th</sup> HS Youth Group 7-8:30 pm
- April 13<sup>th</sup> Deliver Easter Food bags after the 10:30am service
- April 13<sup>th</sup> MS Youth Group 5:30-7pm; HS Youth Group 7-8:30pm
- April 19<sup>th</sup> Easter Breakfast Set-Up
- April 20<sup>th</sup> Easter Breakfast/NO YOUTH GROUP
- April 27<sup>th</sup> END OF THE YEAR FUN - MS & HS Bowling after 10:30 service

## EASTER FLOWERS

Help beautify our Easter Worship with spring flowers. You can choose Lilies, Tulips, Hyacinths, Daffodils, Azaleas or Hydrangeas.



|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Easter Lilies | \$15.00 |
| Tulips        | \$13.00 |
| Hyacinths     | \$13.00 |
| Daffodils     | \$13.00 |
| Azaleas       | \$30.00 |
| Hydrangeas    | \$30.00 |



Deadline for ordering is **MONDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Please make checks payable to ***St. Paul's***  
(payment must accompany order)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate number of each type of flower:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lilies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths
- \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodils
- \_\_\_\_\_ Azaleas
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hydrangeas

Total amount: \_\_\_\_\_

(You may pick up your flowers following the 10:30 Worship Service on Easter.)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Lutheran Schools Night, Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

Join us for a night of family fun as the Milwaukee Brewers take on the Cincinnati Reds, 6:10 PM. You can share the link below with your families, and they can order tickets online, selecting the sections/seats from the Loge Outfield/Infield Box, Field Infield Box or Terrace Box/Infield. Tickets range from \$17.50-\$67. They can also purchase a parking pass in advance. General Parking is \$16 and Preferred Parking is \$21, in advance. For groups of 10+, please contact Teddy with the Brewers at 414-902-4657. If you are ordering tickets for a group, you can forward tickets via text or email to the individuals Ballpark App.

Purchase your tickets online at <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Lutheranschools25> or scan the QR code.



### Ladies Aid

Ladies, have you ever wondered about those funny noises that you suddenly hear coming from your car as you are driving? Where's that noise coming from and most importantly, what's causing that noise? And how about those warning lights that start appearing on your dashboard? Come to Ladies Aid's next meeting on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 5:30pm to get a little insight about those questions. TJ from Precision Auto will be our guest speaker and will be able to address questions concerning our cars. Please join us on April 3<sup>rd</sup> for another evening of fun, food and fellowship.

**\*\*Save the date for our annual Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details.\*\***



**Luke 13:3 – “No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”** The season of Lent is all about repentance: turning back to the Lord, away from our sins, in faith. We know that it is only in the Lord that we can find salvation. So, we do well in this

season of repentance to examine ourselves, asking questions like, “What is trying to keep me away from Jesus?” “What is a temptation I face?” “What is a sin I need to repent of and leave behind?” Then we turn to the Lord for the strength to leave these sins behind, and for the courage to follow Him in faith and faithful living.

## **Congregation at Prayer**

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Third Sunday in Lent: *A Difficult Life Imbued with Hope*

March 23 – 30, 2025

### ***A Difficult Life Imbued with Hope***

St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that they are “beloved” and that—in Christ—they have become part of the history of salvation with “fathers” in the faith from whom they are to learn. (See 1 Cor 10.1-6) One of these fathers is Ezekiel, who was called as a watchman to call people to repentance. (See Ezek 33.7-10) All these “fathers” pointed ahead to Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection saves us eternally and whose Word helps us come to grips with even the most tragic events of life and imbues it with hope.

### ***Order of Meditation and Prayer***

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

#### ***Invocation***

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### ***Apostles' Creed***

***Christ-Centered Theme:*** Christ imbues even tragedy with true hope.

***Verse:*** John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

***Psalm:*** Psalm 136 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule  
**LSB, p. 304**

**Catechism— Table of Duties—What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17**

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <p><b>What the Hearers Owe their Pastors</b><br/>                 We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you.<br/>                 1 Thessalonians 5:12</p>   | 1 <sup>st</sup> grade+ |
| <p>Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.<br/>                 Live in peace with each other.<br/>                 1 Thessalonians 5:13</p>  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade+ |
| <p>Obey your leaders and submit to their authority.<br/>                 They keep watch over you as men who must give an account.<br/>                 Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.<br/>                 Hebrews 13:17</p> | 3 <sup>d</sup> grade+  |

**The Third Sunday in Lent: *A Difficult Life Imbued with Hope***

| Day          | Bible Stories for Families with Young Children | Readings for Adults & Older Children |                |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sun.</b>  | David and Jonathan Become Friends: 1 Sam. 18   | Psalm 84, 42, 32                     | Luke 13.1-9    |
| <b>Mon.</b>  | God’s Great Promise to David: 2 Samuel 7       | Psalm 119:73-80, 121, 6              | Jgs 17:1-18:31 |
| <b>Tue.</b>  | The Wisdom of Solomon: 1 Kings 3; Proverbs 8   | Psalm 34, 25j, 91                    | Jgs 19:1-20:48 |
| <b>Wed.</b>  | Solomon Builds the Temple: 1 Kings 5-6         | Psalm 5, 27, 51                      | Jgs 21:1-25    |
| <b>Thur.</b> | Jonah: Jonah 1-4                               | Psalm 38, 126, 102                   | Ru 1:1-2:23    |
| <b>Fri.</b>  | Israel Goes Away: 2 Kings 17                   | Psalm 22. 107, 130                   | Ru 3:1-4:22    |
| <b>Sat.</b>  | Sunday’s Gospel Reading: Luke 15.1-3, 11-32    | Psalm 43, 31, 143                    | 1 Sm 1:1-28    |

**Prayers: *Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul’s***

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. **Amen**

## **Daily Themes for Prayer**

*Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*

**Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*

**Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

**Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*

**Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*

**Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*

**Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

## **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS** – Bob Bratz; Bob Reddelien; Vernon Schilling; Ian McMillan; Janet Dahm; Joanne Kullman; Carol Fellin—cancer care; Jim Braatz; William Kuebler—cancer; Dorothy Duchow; Bruce Bojko—cancer; Ruth Polcha; Bill Anderson; John Lindemann; Gary Flanagan; Virginia Meintz; Belle Romback; Nancy Wolter; Don Meyer—cancer; Ann Duggan; Jim Duggan; Marilyn Marohn; Sally Eubanks; Dick Allen; Truman Seifert—acute myeloid leukemia; Carolyn Nagel—lung cancer; Don Schmitt; Karen Meyer—cancer; George Menden—prostate cancer; Diane Gartzke—post traumatic stress disorder; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Vernon Schilling—cancer; Marcus Pankow—cancer; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell—cancer treatment

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer:** Marna—liver cancer; Daniel (Bill Merten's brother); Curt Duchow (Dorothy's son)—mantle cell lymphoma; Rhonda—breast cancer; Hailey—13 year-old w/ brain tumor; JoyAnn; Dan Faltersack—COPD; Jeff—stage four colon cancer; Dick Watt; Betty Dow (Linda Uttech's cousin)—Leukemia; Jeff—non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; Jayne Roberts' husband—lymphoma; Cheech Counsell (Dona Thurow's son-in-law); Tyler; Christopher—cancer; Tanner—2 year-old with cancer; Missy (Sheila Ram's niece)—breast cancer; Dawn—lung cancer; Jim (Jackie Meyer's dad); Jim (Laura Grubba's brother-in-law); Phyllis; Mike; Elizabeth—breast cancer; Kayla—thyroid cancer; Erin (Mileager)—Rayborn—Hodgkins Lymphoma; Mary Sprague—breast cancer; Debra Thurow (Dona's daughter); Kathy Berkbigler (Pat Borgman's cousin)—breast cancer; Ron Rafalski—throat cancer; Nancy—breast cancer

**Other:** Tom (Jamie Stache’s boyfriend)—stroke; Dorothy—Alzheimer’s; Trish Lederer—vision issues; Patricia Eberhardt (Chad’s mom); Brent (Barb Allwardt’s brother)—Alzheimer’s; Cindy Counsell (Dona Thurow’s daughter)—massive stroke; Paul; Bob; George; Paul; Liz Peronto (Barb Allwardt’s sister); Doug—CCL; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan’s son)—MS; Paul Fellin

**Those serving in the military-deployed:** Joe; Sam Duggan; Justin Michener; Zach Howard; Theresa; Phil Preston; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke; Jacob; Brian; Randy; Kyle; Jake; Jeff; Matt; Brad; Ben; Mike & Rob

**Those serving God as missionaries:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump & family; Trevor Thiel – Alaska (Fort JBER); Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer; Rev. Ted Krey, Deaconess, Tirzah Krey in the Dominican Republic; all seminary students in the Dominican Republic, and all other pastors and missionaries in Latin America

**Those in need:** Our Shut-Ins; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

**Baptism:** Evangelina Kay Heffern – March 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Birth:** “Baby Girl” Adamczyk – March 21<sup>st</sup> (proud grandparents, Jamie & Jill George)

*Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism*

*Hymn of the Week: Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing*

LSB 421

**Looking forward to the Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025**

**Hymns: 915, 571 (543, 609, 420) 686**

***Ambassadors of Reconciliation (Pastor O’Donnell)***

When the father in “The Parable of the Prodigal Son” sees his son a long way off, the father knew his son was not the same. He knew that the lost son was found, (See Lk 15.11-32) that through suffering he had come to repentance, that he was a “new creation.” The father knew that he was an ambassador of reconciliation with God, (2 Cor 5.18) and that the whole ordeal with his son was for this end. Therefore, the father rejoiced, as is fitting in the Lord, whose will is to turn away from anger, give comfort, and bring salvation. (See Isa 12.1-2) Indeed, Christ’s Church—and every member thereof—serves as an “ambassador of reconciliation.”



## Tales from 5K



In kindergarten, the world is our classroom. We enjoy growing closer to God daily as we learn about His marvelous creation each day. Currently, we are learning about our community and have enjoyed visits to local places such as the Wisconsin Fitness Company, Roots Coffeebar and Cafe, and Reichl and Kolstad Orthodontics. As we learned about communities, we discovered each person's role in the community. In the classroom, we created our own St. Paul's Coffee Shop play area. In this area, students have learned how to take orders, role play, fill orders, and practice their math skills as they pay for orders.

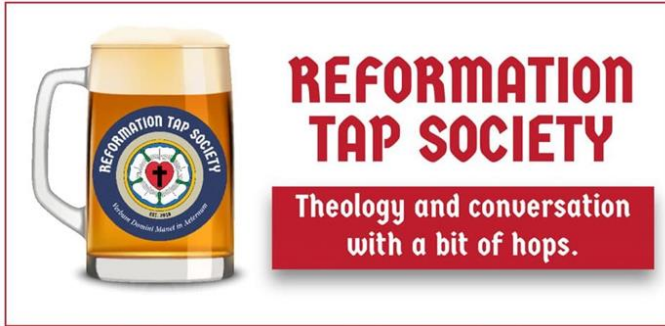
One of our favorite weekly activities is buddy STEM with the seventh graders. During this time, kindergarteners use math, science, engineering, and technology skills to tackle various challenges.

These challenges include nature art, creating roller coasters, and learning about insulation. We are blessed to give our students the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with their buddies.

Along with developing into readers, writers, and mathematicians, a large part of kindergarten involves developing our social-emotional skills. In the classroom, we learn various tools and strategies to regulate our emotions. In Friendlyzy, we are learning that God created each of us uniquely, with different gifts and talents. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. It's our differences that make the world an exciting place. Throughout the day, kindergarteners are given many opportunities to grow in their leadership skills through leading Number Corner, working independently, group activities, and leading the class in various daily routines.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Reformation Tap Society talks are casual and thoughtful adult conversations about important things. The 2024-2025 RTS season explores many facets of grit and endurance under the theme “Unshakeable Joy in Christ.” Though we welcome adults of any age, topics and language are aimed at those 18-35. Our speakers understand that RTS is a public event, so the conversation won’t be raw, but our speakers are encouraged to practice candor geared towards adults. Parents of young ones should collaborate on a babysitter, then come and enjoy the beverages, food, and conversation. RTS is an opportunity to hear perspectives not regularly heard in popular culture. All are welcome.

RTS is held on the 3rd Sundays, September through May. We gather at 5 p.m., have a “beer talk” from the brewmaster at about 5:25, and at about 5:30 our speaker takes the mic. The speaker will present on a topic of interest, then take questions until 6:15 or so. (BTW, you’re welcome even if you’re not a beer fan. Other beverages are available.) For more information, visit

<https://splco.org/church/reformation-tap-society/>.

**April 27**

**Joyfully Anxious:**

**How to Untangle Law, Gospel and Poor Mental Health**

Presenter: Harrison Goodman

**5-7p.m.**

**BrewFinity Brewery**

N58W38900 Industrial Rd. Suite D

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

[www.brewfinitybrewing.com](http://www.brewfinitybrewing.com)

**First time guests  
get a free  
beer or soda on us!**

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

|                              |  |   |  |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>March 24    | Lord's Lambs Giveaway  | Fellowship Hall   | 6:00 pm  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>March 23   | Church Leadership Team Meeting   | Room 202  | 5:30 pm  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>March 26 | Lenten Worship<br>Lenten Meal<br>Lenten Hymn Sing<br>Lenten Worship  | Church<br>Fellowship Hall<br>Church<br>Church                                   | 12:15 pm<br>5:00 pm<br>6:15 pm<br>6:30 pm                        |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>March 27  | Church Choir Rehearsal<br>Praise Team Rehearsal  | Church<br>Church  | 6:30 pm<br>7:30 pm   |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>March 29  | Divine Worship<br>AA Meeting   | Church<br>Fellowship Hall   | 5:00 pm<br>8:30 pm   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>March 30    | Divine Worship<br>Public School Confirmation<br>Sunday School<br>Life Application Bible Study<br>Divine Worship<br>Youth Group <b>Krazy Golf</b> | Church<br>Room 219<br>Meet in Gym<br>Fellowship Hall<br>Church<br>Meet in Lobby | 8:00 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:15 am<br>10:30 am<br>11:45 am |

### BIBLE STUDIES

**Life Application Bible Study**

**Sunday: 9:15 am – Fellowship Hall**  
262-567-5001

**Women of Joy**

**Saturday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) - 8:00 am**  
Whelan's

**Journeyman**

**Saturday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) - 7:30 am**  
Maxim's

**Sunday School**

March 23, 2025

**The Unique Greek**

Bible Truth: God makes us His children in Baptism.  
Acts 16:11-15

# NEXT WEEKEND

|                      | 5:00 PM      | 8:00 AM   | 10:30 AM      |
|----------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| <b>Readings</b>      | Ps 32        | Is 12.1-6                                       | 2 Cor 5.16-21 |
| <b>Acolytes</b>      | TBD          | TBD   | TBD           |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>   | Jamie Stache | Amber Butler                                    | Karen Dentice |
| <b>Elders</b>        | Dave Meyer   | Chuck Laabs                                     | Jon Schmeling |
| <b>Greeters</b>      | Char Binney  | Dutch & Lynda Holland<br>Dave & Bonnie Schlieue | Anne Fait     |
| <b>Live-Stream</b>   | N/A          | Grace Schockman<br>Brenainn O'Donnell           | N/A           |
| <b>Radio</b>         | N/A          | Chuck Muecke                                    | N/A           |
| <b>Ushering Team</b> | Dave Meyer   | Bob Bratz                                       | Tom Showen    |

MARCH 30, 2025

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Pastor: Lance Armstrong O'Donnell

Theme: *Ambassadors of Reconciliation*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg. 184

10:30am Worship

Special Order



## ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music  
Jill George, Principal

Rev. Jason Schockman, Associate Pastor  
Christine Flores, ECC Director

Office Hours: 7:00 am – 3:30 pm (Monday-Friday)

### ***The Third Sunday in Lent***

#### **Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-20**

"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

"And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

"And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

"Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just,' when it is their own way that is not just. When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

#### **Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and

all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

#### **Holy Gospel: Luke 13:1-9**

There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

March 23, 2025



St. Paul's  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



### **Worship Schedule**

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

**210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066**

**262-567-5001**

**[www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)**

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, School, & Early Childhood Center

† Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate. † *As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.*

## GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! We're delighted that you've joined us for worship.

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul's, a greeter, elder, or pastor will be happy to help you.

Please fill out an attendance card, located on the pew in front of you, and place it in the offering plate.

We welcome young children to the service. Try sitting closer to the front by a side aisle. There are activity bags located behind the back pews, and a simulcast downstairs if necessary.

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is not a private meal, but a body-and-soul communion with Christ and His body, the Church. In keeping with the Lord's instruction (cf. 1 Corinthians 11.17-34) and with the common historical practice of the church, St. Paul's welcomes only those who are in full confessional agreement to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If you hold a confession differing from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or are not yet confirmed in our confession of faith, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing (Please indicate by folding your hands over your heart.). If you are physically unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion. Those communing should mark this on the attendance card. If you have questions, our pastors will be pleased to speak with you.

### Distribution and Communion Wine

Please place open hands out to receive the Body of Christ and also to indicate whether you are receiving the Blood of Christ from the common cup or the individual cup. The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are dark in color.

## LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 89      **Total: 331**  
8:00 am – 134  
10:30 am – 108

Scan the QR code and give electronically. This is a safe and easy way to offer your gifts to God.



## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

|                      | 5pm                              | 8am                              | 10:30am         |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Liturgist</b>     | Ps. Schockman                    | Ps. Schockman                    | Ps. Schockman   |
| <b>Preacher</b>      | Ps. O'Donnell                    | Ps. O'Donnell                    | Ps. O'Donnell   |
| <b>Musicians</b>     | Allison Mackie                   | Allison Mackie                   | Praise Team     |
| <b>Anthem</b>        | N/A                              | Church Choir                     | N/A             |
| <b>Acolytes</b>      | TBD                              | TBD                              | TBD             |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>   | Traci Anderson                   | Megan Miller                     | Karen Gotthardt |
| <b>Elders</b>        | Dave Meyer                       | Arno Kirchenwitz                 | Tom Showen      |
| <b>Greeters</b>      | Margie Hertneky<br>Roxie Gerlach | Rick Zastrow<br>Jim & Jody Arndt | Tom Miller      |
| <b>Live Stream</b>   | N/A                              | Edwards                          | N/A             |
| <b>Radio</b>         | N/A                              | Chuck Laabs                      | N/A             |
| <b>Ushering Team</b> | Joel Tesch                       | Gary Flanagan                    | Mike Neff       |

### Prayer before communing:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this Holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Radio Broadcast:** Pat Borgman in loving memory of her husband,  
Pastor Paul Borgman

## ST. PAUL'S MEDIA

† **Radio: LIVE Sunday at 8am on WTKM (104.9 FM)**  
† **YouTube: LIVE Sundays at 8am (stpaulsev.lutheranchurch7279 )**  
† **Web: Anytime at [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org) or YouTube**

## DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book  
Setting 3, pg. 184

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Greeting                                 |     |
| Hymn of Invocation                       | 765 |
| 5pm: Confession/Absolution               | 184 |
| 8am: Rite of Holy Baptism                | 268 |
| † Evangelina Kay Heffern                 |     |
| <b>+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +</b>           |     |
| <b>Psalm 85 (insert)</b>                 |     |
| <b>Salutation &amp; Collect</b>          | 189 |
| <b>Ezekiel 33:7-20</b>                   |     |
| <b>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</b>             |     |
| <b>Luke 13:1-9</b>                       |     |
| 5pm: Nicene Creed                        | 191 |
| Hymn of the Day                          | 421 |
| Sermon                                   |     |
| Offering                                 |     |
| Offertory                                | 192 |
| 5pm: Offertory Anthem                    |     |
| † <i>Change My Heart, O God (insert)</i> |     |
| <b>Prayer of the Church</b>              |     |
| <b>+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +</b>      |     |
| <b>Distribution Hymns</b>                |     |
| † 691, 696, 722                          |     |
| Nunc Dimittis                            | 199 |
| Post-Communion Collect                   | 201 |
| Benediction                              | 202 |
| Closing Hymn                             | 917 |
| Announcements                            |     |

**Reading: Psalm 85** (chanted responsively)



LORD, you were favorable | to your land;\*  
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your | people;\*  
you covered | all their sin.**

You withdrew | all your wrath;\*  
you turned from your hot | anger.

**Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,\*  
and put away your indignation | toward us!**

Will you be angry with us for- | ever?\*

Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?

**Will you not revive | us again,\*  
that your people may re- | joice in you?**

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,\*  
and grant us your sal- | vation.

**Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,\*  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his  
saints;**

**but let them not turn back to | folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,\*  
that glory may dwell | in our land.

**Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each | other.**

Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,\*  
and righteousness looks down | from the sky.

**Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,\*  
and our land will yield its | increase.**

Righteousness will go be- | fore him\*  
and make his foot- | steps a way.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

# **A Difficult Life Imbued with Hope**

by Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 3rd Sunday in Lent  
23 March, A.D. 2025  
Ezek 33.7-10; Ps 85; 1 Cor 10.1-13; Lk 13.1-9

## **Introduction**

In Matthew 9.1-8, what does Jesus reveal about "thoughts"?

CCT: Christ imbues even tragedy with true \_\_\_\_\_.

## **I. Jesus on Assumptions, Suffering, & Tragedy**

### **A. A Repulsive Scenario**

1. What is the repulsive scenario described regarding The Lord's Supper? What is a typical assumption?

2. What does Jesus say about an analogous event in Galilee? (See Lk 13.1-3?)

### **B. A Tragic Scenario**

1. What is the tragic scenario described about a sick man?



2. What does Jesus say about an analogous event in Jerusalem? (See Lk 13.4-5)

### **C. The Reality of Our Thoughts**

1. What do our thoughts reveal? (See Lk 13.1-5; 1 Cor 10.1-13)

### **D. Christ: Watchman and Savior**

1. How is Jesus is our great "watchman"? (See Ezek 33.7-10)

2. How is Jesus More than a Watchman?

### **Conclusion**

1. How should we be careful about our assumptions?

2. What is our hope?

# **Sam Church Choir Offering Anthem:**

## *Change My Heart, O God*

Eddie Espinosa

CCLI License #483884

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true:  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You!

You are the Potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true:  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You!