

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Bangor, Wisconsin

**LIVE STREAM SERVICES DURING THE COVID – 19 CRISIS
ARE BROADCAST AT WWW.STPAULSBANGOR.COM
AT 8:00 A.M. (LIVE) & 10:00 A.M. ON SUNDAYS
AND 9:00 A.M. (LIVE) & 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAYS IN LENT
WATCH FOR FURTHER UPDATES OF HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

Lenten Worship 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. March 25, 2020

Personal Prayers For Worship: Pages 10-11 & 134-139 (front of hymnal)

Opening Solo - **"Nobody Cared"**

Liturgy – Page 38 (abbreviated "Service of the Word")

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 53:7; Acts 8:26-35; Mark 15:1-5

SERMON – Isaiah 53:7– THE LAMB OF GOD

Apostles' Creed – Page 41

Prayer – Lord's Prayer - Benediction

Closing Hymn – 100 (Verses 1 & 2)

Our 2020 Lenten Sermon Series THE SAVIOR ISAIAH SAW

February 26 (Ash Wed.)	Isaiah 52:13-15	The Servant King
March 4	Isaiah 53:1-3	The Man of Sorrows
March 11	Isaiah 53:4-5	Our Substitute
March 18	Isaiah 53:6	Our Suffering Shepherd
March 25	Isaiah 53:7	The Lamb of God
April 1	Isaiah 53:8-9	The Innocent Victim
April 9 (Maundy Thursday)	Isaiah 53:10	The Submissive Servant
April 10 (Good Friday)	Isaiah 53:11	The Anguish of His Soul
April 12 (Easter Sunday)	Isaiah 53:12	To The Victor Belong The Spoils

WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES!

During the outbreak of the COVID – 19 (Coronavirus) we are doing our best to bring the good news of our Savior to as many as possible by means of live streaming on our website (www.stpaulsbangor.com) and on Facebook.

OFFERINGS & FINANCES GOING FORWARD

Our online giving app is now up and running! Simply go to the home page at www.stpaulsbangor.com and click on the offering button. We are also receiving offerings by mail, or as you may wish, by bringing

offering envelopes to the parsonage. Our treasurer will make deposits twice a week. **Please check our website for updates on various matters.**

"DELIVER US FROM EVIL"

In the Lord's Prayer, our Savior has folded our hands for us, as parents do for small children, and taught us to pray: "Deliver us from evil." God does. The very fact that you are reading this proves that you are still here, that God has rescued you a thousand times from perils and plagues that never happened. We give too little thanks for all the times we have been spared simply because those catastrophes, illnesses or accidents never happened.

But there were catastrophes that *did* happen. Illnesses took their toll. The loss of loved ones broke our hearts. Prodigal children or family strife made life hard. But here too, God kept His promise to deliver us: "We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose" (*Romans 8:28 EHV*).

God ultimately delivers us from evil when our last hour comes, and He grants us a blessed end and graciously takes us from this world of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Amid the pandemic in our own day, we cannot discern the future. Moses once said: "The hidden things belong to the Lord our God, but the revealed things belong to us and to our children forever" (*Deuteronomy 29:29*).

The Middle Ages saw the outbreak of the Black Death which killed millions throughout Europe. The Spanish Flu of 1918-1919 claimed more lives than World War I. Public gatherings in large cities were banned...in churches too. Many still recall the fear they felt when polio appeared.

On August 2, 1527, the plague struck Wittenberg, Germany in the days of the Reformation. Luther, along with his friend, Bugenhagen, chose to stay and minister to the flock as best they could. Luther wrote a lengthy letter to Pastor John Hess, the leader of the Reformation in Silesia. The issue was "whether one may flee from a deadly plague." Luther struck a thoughtful balance, urging trust in God on the one hand, and not carelessly tempting God on the other hand. He placed heavier obligations on those called to serve the public good – pastors, physicians and government leaders.

Luther wrote: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor

needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God." Of this we can be sure, that in one way or another, often in ways we cannot see, God WILL deliver us from evil.

THE SAVIOR ISAIAH SAW

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

52 ¹³Look, my servant will succeed. He will rise. He will be lifted up. He will be highly exalted. ¹⁴Just as many were appalled at him — his appearance was so disfigured that he did not look like a man, and his form was disfigured more than any other person— ¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him, because they will see something they had never been told before, and they will understand something they had never heard before.

53 Who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ²He grew up before him like a tender shoot and like a root from dry ground. He had no attractiveness and no majesty. When we saw him, nothing about his appearance made us desire him. ³He was despised and rejected by men, a man who knew grief, who was well acquainted with suffering. Like someone whom people cannot bear to look at, he was despised, and we thought nothing of him. ⁴Surely he was taking up our weaknesses, and he was carrying our sufferings. We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted, ⁵but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced. He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved. The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way, but the Lord has charged all our guilt to him. ⁷**He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent in front of its shearers, he did not open his mouth.** ⁸He was taken away without a fair trial and without justice, and of his generation, who even cared? So, he was cut off from the land of the living. He was struck because of the rebellion of my people. ⁹They would have assigned him a grave with the wicked, but he was given a grave with the rich in his death, because he had done no violence, and no deceit was in his mouth. ¹⁰Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and to allow him to suffer. Because you made his life a guilt offering, he will see offspring. He will prolong his days, and the Lord's gracious plan will succeed in his hand. ¹¹After his soul experiences anguish, he will see the light of life. He will provide satisfaction. Through their knowledge of him, my just servant will justify the many, for he himself carried their guilt. ¹²Therefore I will give him an allotment among the great, and with the strong he will share plunder, because he poured out his life to death, and

he let himself be counted with rebellious sinners. He himself carried the sin of many, and he intercedes for the rebels.

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3/25/20 Lenten Worship