



Rethinking Religion

DEVOTED COMMITMENT

Fifth Sunday in Lent

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

March 17, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, though I can claim to be a strong believer in you, my devotion to you can waver in good times and bad, in times of plenty and of want, and in times of security and of persecution. Forgive my wavering commitment to you, Lord, through the committed Savior you sent for me. Help me see today your devoted commitment to me that won my salvation. In Jesus I pray. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids' Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

THANK OFFERING

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



HOLY COMMUNION

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

SETTING ONE

p.154

The Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

OPENING HYMN

808 Drawn to the Cross



1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed with heal - ing
2 How well you know my griefs and fears, your grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; let noth - ing
4 To pledge my la - bor will - ing - ly, which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, to find in you my
bused, my mis - spent years; so now to you with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing through your
sweet a ser - vice be that an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
cross and pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928, alt.

Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

ABSOLUTION

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



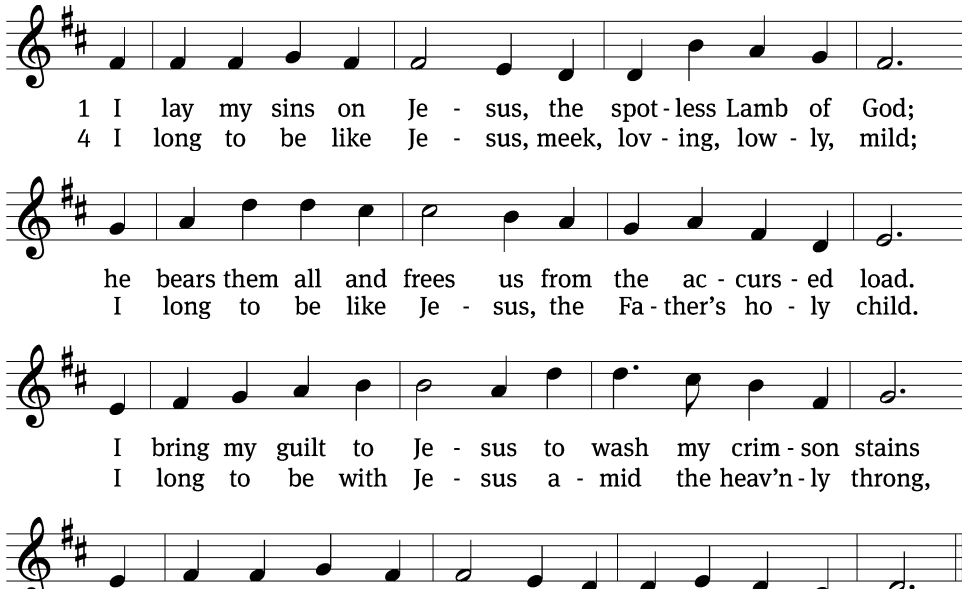
A - men.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889

HYMN

798 I Lay My Sins on Jesus sts. 1, 4

(short musical intro)



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, the spot - less Lamb of God;
4 I long to be like Je - sus, meek, lov - ing, low - ly, mild;

he bears them all and frees us from the ac - curs - ed load.
I long to be like Je - sus, the Fa - ther's ho - ly child.

I bring my guilt to Je - sus to wash my crim - son stains
I long to be with Je - sus a - mid the heav'n - ly throng,

white in his blood most pre - cious till not a spot re - mains.
to sing with saints his prais - es, to learn the an - gels' song.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt.

Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now this is what the LORD says,
the LORD who created you, O Jacob,
the LORD who formed you, O Israel.

Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.

²When you cross through the waters, I will be with you.
When you cross the rivers, they will not sweep you away.
When you walk through fire, you will not be burned,
and the flame will not set you on fire.

³Because I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior,
I gave Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious and honored in my eyes,
and I myself love you,
I will give people in exchange for you,
and peoples in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not be afraid, because I am with you.
From the east I will bring your offspring,
and from the west I will gather you.

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them back!"
and to the south, "Do not hold them."
Bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name,
everyone I created for my glory,
everyone I formed,
yes, everyone I have made.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:7–9

⁷In the days of his flesh, he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. ⁹After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10:45

**For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

GOSPEL

John 12:20–33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." ²²Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

²³Jesus answered them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
²⁴Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. ²⁵Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven: "I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again."

²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

³¹"Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

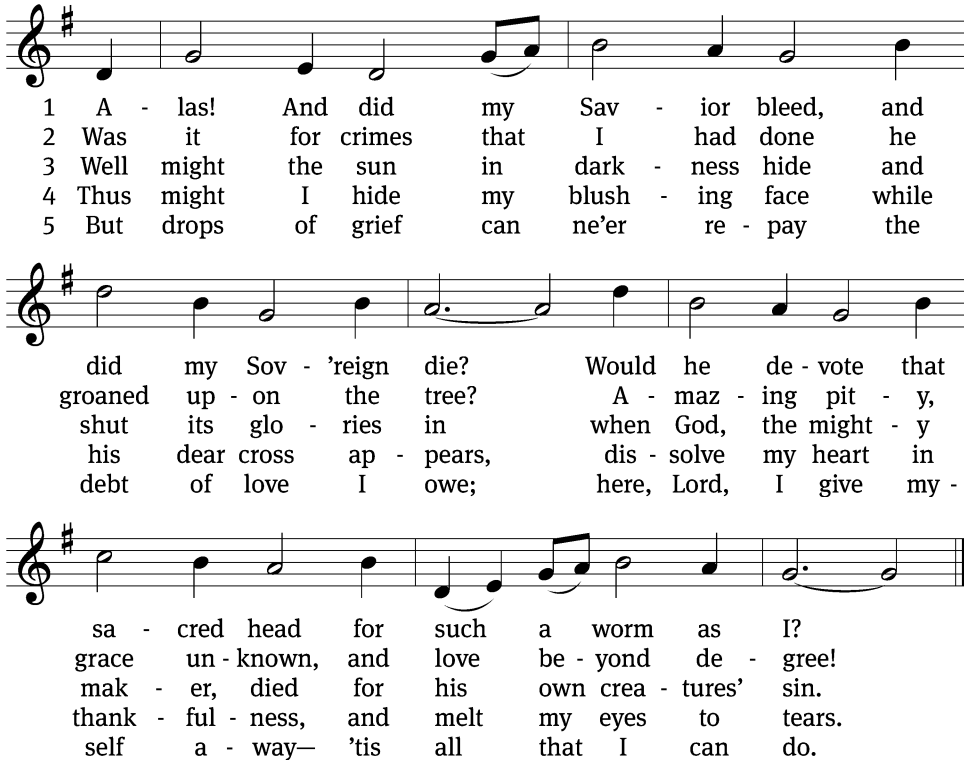
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



HYMN OF THE DAY

410 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done he
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while
 5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the

did my Sov - 'reign die? Would he de - vote that
 groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
 shut its glo - ries in when God, the might - y
 his dear cross ap - pears, dis - solve my heart in
 debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give my -

sa - cred head for such a worm as I?
 grace un - known, and love be - yond de - gree!
 mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
 thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
 self a - way— 'tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1766–1824

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Hebrews 5:7–9

Jesus Made Sure to Reach His Goal

Stand

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated

OFFERING

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:6,7).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The pastor speaks the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

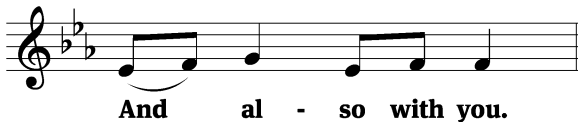
Stand

The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we also bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. See p.295 in the hymnal for preparation.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17). Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

394 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, sin - ners, ru - ined
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, come de - filed, with -
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound - ed, par - a -
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul - re -

by the fall; here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
 out, with - in; from in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
 lyzed, and blind; here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

flows to you, to me, to all, in a full, per -
 from the lep - ro - sy of sin, wash your robes and
 here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
 break his cov - e - nant of blood, signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 make them white; you shall walk with God in light.
 will re - store; they that drink shall thirst no more.
 deem - er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.


Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

704 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, to his im - age
 3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus; his death from the
 4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to
e'er con - form; heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us, sun - shine
sec - ond death, from our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us, quick - ens
from the dead, death and grave must soon re - lease us. Je - sus,



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,
fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in tears of sor - row,
us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti - fy, while liv - ing,
thou art now our head. We are tru - ly thine own mem - bers,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and
we shall reap in heav'n - ly joy, and the fears that
flesh and blood and die to sin, and the grave that
where thou liv - est, there live we; take and own us



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
now an - noy shall be laugh - ter on the mor - row. Christ, I
shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
con - stant - ly, faith - ful Friend, as thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.
suf - fer here with thee; there, O share thy joy with me.
here I die to thee, there to live e - ter - nal - ly.
here I live to thee, al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

700 Draw Us to Thee



1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy
2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; let us de -
3 Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the
4 Draw us to thee that al - so we thy heav'n - ly
5 Draw us to thee un - ceas - ing - ly; in - to thy



steps for - ev - er and has - ten on where thou art
part with glad - ness that we may be for - ev - er
road to heav - en! Di - rect our way lest we should
bliss in - her - it and ev - er dwell where sin and
king - dom take us. Let us for - e'er thy glo - ry



gone to be with thee, dear Sav - ior.
free from sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.
stray and from thy paths be driv - en.
hell no more can vex our spir - it.
share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Friedrich Funcke, 1642–1699

Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

811 My Faith Looks Up to Thee



- 1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
- 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
- 4 When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my
my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Text and tune: Public domain

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES

Our midweek Lenten worship this year is entitled *Scriptures Fulfilled*. It focuses on various Old Testament prophecies concerning the suffering and death of the Christ and how Jesus fulfilled them. We pray this series refreshes us in the truths that our God is all-knowing, powerful, and gracious. Come deepen your appreciation for our Lord Jesus Christ's love for you, me, and all people.



MIDWEEK STUDY

Our midweek study is an evangelism module called *In Season & Out of Season*. In his second letter to Timothy, apostle Paul wrote, "Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season" (4:2). Although originally written as an encouragement to a first-century pastor, Paul's words are equally applicable to twenty-first-century Christians. We have the same message to share with sinners who desperately need to hear it. *In Season & Out of Season* seeks to encourage and equip God's people to share that message in any and every situation.



GRAPE JUICE NOW OFFERED AT COMMUNION

For those who cannot drink wine, we are now offering grape juice during the Lord's Supper. The grape juice will be **in the center of the tray in the purple-tinted cups**. Please reserve the cups with grape juice for those who need them. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Groth.

BAKE SALE

On Sunday, March 24th, PACE will be hosting our annual bake sale between services in the church basement. Funds raised will help support the Easter Egg Hunt and various other PACE initiated events throughout the year. If you would like to donate a baked good for the event, feel free to bring an item to the church basement on Saturday, March 23rd between 9:00-10:00 am or on March 24th prior to the first church service. If baking isn't your expertise, feel free to indulge in the talents of those others have prepared!

EASTER EGG HUNT

March 30th, your St. Paul's School will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of our congregation and community. The event will start at 10:00 am and will include an egg hunt, games, an Easter story, and door prizes. We hope that our St. Paul's family will help support the event by either attending the event, spreading the word, or attending the bake sale. Thank you for your support.

EASTER BREAKFAST

The church will be having an Easter Breakfast again this year, between services 7:15-9:00 am. If you are interested in donating breakfast sweets (sweet rolls or coffee cake), please contact Pam Hoth 608-386-0169, Linda Hoth 608-461-0055 or Ruth Elsen 608-461-8092.

FAREWELL FOR RIEDIGERS

Christ Lutheran in West Salem invites all who would like to join them for a farewell open house for Pastor Riediger and his wife Sue on Saturday, March 23, from 2:00-4:00 pm, in the Christ-St. John's gymnasium. There will be a light lunch served with a program at 3:00 pm.

WELS COULEE WOMEN'S RETREAT

On Saturday, April 20, 2024, at Luther High School, join us for a day of fellowship, growth, and renewal as we learn from Scripture how God fills us with love that it overflows into everything we do. Speakers include: Emily Krill of the "Messy Worship" blog, Amy Vannieuwenhoven author of "Look Up From Your Phone So I Can Love You", Rev. Joseph Radsek from Institutional Ministries, Rebeckah Ellinghuysen MA, Anna Wallander of Temple Love Fitness, and Hayli Littlehead. Visit our website for more details and registration information! <https://welscwr.wixsite.com/retreat>

CAMM LETTER

Copies of the Central Africa Medical Mission letter for March can be found printed in the lobby.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2024 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00 Budget to Date: \$118,260.00

Received Last Week: \$9,143.96 Rec'd to Date: \$87,320.73

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 108 Online Viewers: 43 10:00 am: 84 Total: 235

Sunday Bible Study: 36 Sunday School: 2 Tues./Wed. Bible Study: --

Midweek Lenten Service: 84 Online Viewers: 13 Total: 97

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion
MONDAY	6:00 pm	Bible Basics Class
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
TUESDAY	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am	Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	3:30 pm	Public School Catechism Class
	7:00 pm	Lenten Worship
THURSDAY	6:00 pm	3K Investigation Committee Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship
	9:00 am	Bake Sale
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth
Harriet Langrehr

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WiFi: SPLC_Guest
Password: gracealone

608-486-2754

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