

In case of emergency, you may contact:
Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, as well as Justin Arndt (608-435-6336, 414-587-6642 (cell), or Nalani at 608-387-2311. Justin and Nalani also receive text messages.

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)
Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Additional Contact Information:

Pastor Cathleen: cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu

Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com

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FACEBOOK!! Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

**(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)*

Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.^

Prelude....A time for silent reflection

***Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

*[The Sunday Assembly](#), Lorraine S. Brugh, Gordon W. Lathrop, Augsburg Fortress, 2008

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Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

the Word draws near to you,

and all who call out to God shall be saved.

In Jesus, God comes to you again and again

and gathers you under wings of love.

In **✝** Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days" **ELW #319**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above,

and for our salvation,

Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

We have placed information with regard to the summer programs available at Sugar Creek Bible Camp on the table in the narthex.

The church contributes 50% of the camping fee.

PERSONAL CARE KITS

We are close to packing 200 care kits using grant money from Thrivent Financial. That is all well and good, but what does that say when we have not received donations from individual members? Open your hearts to those in need and consider donating one or more of the

following items:

Towels:	Size 20" x 40" to 27" x 52", light-weight, dark colors preferred
Soap:	Bath size bars
Combs:	Sturdy
Nail Clippers	Metal, with or without nail file
Tooth Brushes	Please leave in packaging.

Please place your donated items on the table located in the narthex.

THOSE SERVING IN APRIL

ALTAR: Lori Brueggen & Barb Ornes

READERS:

3rd Arlis Ballwahn
10th Carolyn Dougherty
17th Barb Ornes
24th Miranda Arndt

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Arlis Ballwahn & Barb Ornes

We have placed an insert in today's bulletin. Please consider making a personal gift to Lutheran Disaster Response. You may send your gift directly or, if you prefer, make your check payable to St. Paul's and we'll send a lump sum under St. Paul's name. Your gift will also be entered in our records for tax purposes.



MOVIE NIGHT AT ST. PAUL'S

Mark your calendar and plan to attend movie night on Wednesday, April 27, compliments of the Social Ministry Committee. The main feature will be "Miracles from Heaven" (PG), Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

CHICKEN DINNER FUNDRAISER

We will be sponsoring a drive-up chicken dinner on Sunday, April 24. Jamie Thomas will again prepare the barbeque chicken and we'll serve the usual potato salad, beans, cranberry sauce, and dinner roll. The cost will be \$10.00/plate. The church council approved the profit from the dinner to be designated to the cemetery maintenance account. We need your help in selling tickets, not just buying one for yourself and family members. See Nalani for tickets!

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

***Canticle of Praise** "Glory to God in the Highest" ELW p. 148

***Prayer of the Day**

**God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.^

First Reading

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you
forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time
of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not
reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not
stay near you."

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Seth Tormoen, Danelle Dougherty,
Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton.

CALENDAR

Today	Manna & Mercy Bible Study	11:30 am
	Church Council	11:15 am
Wed., March 30	Lenten Service	7:00 pm
Sun., April 3	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:15 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine on Feb. 24, the Ukrainian people have fled their country. Civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Ukrainian men of military age (18-60) are required to stay in the country, so most of those fleeing the violence are women and children. According to one report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, more than 3 million people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying their companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

The church council voted to send \$3,000.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response, specifically earmarked for "Easter Europe Crisis Response". The ladies of the W-ELCA voted to donate \$500.00 .**The gifts will be used in full (100%) for direct response to assist those affected.**

“Lamb of God”

ELW p.154

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.^

*Benediction

Sending Hymn “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

ELW #325

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God’s People, Pastor: Cathleen Morris; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Ayawyn Conner; Altar: Dixie & Leonard Arndt; Communion Servers: Thadyn Conner & Ayawyn Conner

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Steve Zirk, Gary Von Ruden, Sue Ann Degenhardt, Curt Brieske, Randy Steinbrink, Gloria Meltesen, LuAnn Bever-Denter, Florence Dougherty, Darlene Babbitt, Sacia Morris, John Acker, Lois Reineke, Rylan McCarthy, Judy Bever.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Carolyn Dougherty and family on the passing of George. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 30, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the church, with the funeral service to begin at 11:00 AM. Burial at the Hillside Cemetery, immediately following the service.

know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation “Return to the Lord, your God” ELW p. 151

GOSPEL READING

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father’s love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father’s home.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him

