

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



March 22, 2020

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

When the instruction for standing appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.*

At the ✚, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

*The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Improvisation

WELCOME

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



- 1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

* GREETING

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

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

READING

Ephesians 5:8–14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



* GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not

know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ross Goodman

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

* HYMN OF THE DAY

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
Music: LIEBSER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

* APOSTLES' CREED

In response to the Gospel, let us confess the faith of the church:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, ability, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of those who would seek to cause violence or terror. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day. Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. We pray for all healthcare workers and all those who support the healthcare system during this difficult time. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, we lift up to you all who are in need, especially Beverly, Ed, Janna, Karma, Lorraine, Louise, Lynn, Meredith, and Paul. We give thanks for all they offer us and the love and joy they bring to this world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of insight, help this assembly lift up the unique gifts of each person who enters, no matter their physical capacity, cognitive ability, or sensory need. Help us to be creative and brave in making our facilities and our ministries accessible to all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of insight, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We give thanks for your saints. Join us together with them as your children in this world and the next. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

* PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

* THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

* LORD'S PRAYER

Please feel free to say the Lord's Prayer in the language in which you first learned it, or in one of these translations:

**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.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

* DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prélude, from *Suite du Second Ton*

Jacques Boyvin

SERVING THE LORD IN WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Ross Goodman
Pastor Liz Senft
Vicar Samm Melton-Hill
Ryan Patten

Preacher
Assisting Minister
Assisting Minister
Director of Music and Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Help Board

Even in times like these, you still want to help! And we love you for this. Many of you have reached out asking if there is anyone that needs anything and offering your help. While keeping social distancing in mind, we have created a google form that will allow us to identify what needs are present in our community and who may be able and willing to offer help. Please fill out this form. We will then work to match people who need help and those able to offer help. This may include anything from delivering groceries, to offering entertainment for children via Zoom, to prayer requests. The form should take between 5-10 minutes to complete. Thank you!

Social Ministry Update

As we all hunker down to do our best to stop the spread of the corona virus, and Arlington public schools have closed and children that receive free or subsidized lunches are now at further increased risk of food insecurity. The Arlington EATS Market has an emergency plan in place to provide food kits for these students. Additionally they will provide meals to food insecure households that are under quarantine. You can help by making a cash donation on the Arlington EATS Market website or by dropping any of these items the church collection box. Request from Arlington EATS Market:

Emergency Items Needed for COVID-19 Response: Cereal, Pasta Sauce, Mac and Cheese, Oatmeal, Soup, Canned Beans, Granola Bars, Raisins, Nuts, Toilet Paper, Reusable Bags (Clean) or Paper Bags, Hand Sanitizer, Clorox Wipes

Donations can be left in the breezeway under the mailboxes at any time, Monday through Thursday or on Sundays. Thank you for remembering our neighbors in these challenging times. Best wishes from the Social Ministry Committee!

Mass Bail Fund Noisy Offering

People that are incarcerated are particularly vulnerable during times like these. We will continue taking up a "Noisy Offering" on the last Sunday of the month. This month will be on March 29th. Details about how this will happen will be distributed next week.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT ST. PAUL

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

11am | Coffee Break with the Vicar

Working from home and need a break? Join Vicar Samm for a coffee break via Zoom. Come and chat with her and others. It's just like "Coffee with the Vicar," but virtual (and bring your own coffee). Follow this link to join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/815312606>

1pm | Virtual Field Trip to Mars

Join Kourtnei on a Field Trip to Mars! Access the Mars Field Trip here and join the discord server (<https://discord.gg/AQyKMc2>) to communicate as we explore Mars together. We'll be on the discord channel to talk to those who join us as we explore.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

9am-10am | Sunday School

Sunday School for Grades 3/4 and 5/6/7 will continue via Zoom. Confirmation will continue as well, however at a different time. Teachers will be in communication with their classes on how to join them on Sunday.

9am-10am | Adult Forum | Conversation about COVID-19

Adult Forum this week will offer a space to process and discuss the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. How are you doing? How are your children doing while they are out of school? What needs or anxiety are you carrying during this time? We look forward to holding space and conversation with you via Zoom this week. Follow this link to join us for Adult Forum: <https://zoom.us/j/531223415>

10:30am | Worship

Live Streamed worship is available at <https://www.twitch.tv/saintpaullutheranchurch>. We are working on improving the audio and visual quality for this week and smoothing out some of the kinks from last week. We thank you all for your patience last week! Friendly reminder, that you do not need to create an account to view the livestream, but will need an account to participate in the chat function.

Worship Bulletin: We have been working to make the bulletin more user friendly for virtual worship, so you will find the hymns embedded within the bulletin. Friendly tip from last week: using a split screen with the bulletin on one side and the stream on the other may reduce the toggling between the two.

11:15am | Virtual Coffee Hour

Though we can't gather in person, we can still share a cup of coffee together. We're trying out a virtual coffee hour for the first time via Zoom (experimentally!). The room will be open for all directly after service. If you aren't familiar with the platform, now is a good time to test it out while there are others willing and able to help you get comfortable with Zoom. Follow this link to join us for Virtual Coffee Hour: <https://zoom.us/j/167210220>

MONDAY, MARCH 23

10-11am | Youth Gathering Space on Discord

The link to join is here: <https://discord.gg/TqNqbt>

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

6:30-8pm | Minecraft with Kourtni and Ryan

Contact Kourtni for an invite to the server.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

10-11am | Youth Gathering Space on Discord

The link to join is here: <https://discord.gg/TqNqbt>

1-2 pm | Origami with Kourtni on Zoom

Kids want to do something creative? Join Kourtni for an hour via Zoom to learn how to fold some origami! Follow this link to join via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/3738166857?pwd=aGE1VVNOcDhGV3JNaoNkclVGRUgxZz09>

The meeting password is 929.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

6:30-8pm | Minecraft with Kourtni and Ryan

Contact Kourtni for an invite to the server.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

11am | Coffee Break with the Vicar

Working from home and need a break? Join Vicar Samm for a coffee break via Zoom. Come and chat with her and others. It's just like "Coffee with the Vicar," but virtual (and bring your own coffee). Follow this link to join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/815312606>

10-11am | Youth Gathering Space on Discord

The link to join is here: <https://discord.gg/TqNqbt>

FROM CYF: FAMILY RESOURCES AND UPCOMING SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday School | We are going to switch some Sunday School classes to online. 3/4 Grade and 5/6/7 grade classes will go online and be held during education hour through Zoom. Teachers will be in communication with their classes on how to join them on Sunday.

Confirmation | Confirmation will continue, but we are going to move the time we meet. Please fill out this doodle poll to determine when the best time to meet virtually as a class will be. A separate email with a doodle poll will be emailed to families.

Paper Communication | Many of us are facing more screen time than usual, and it's not always fun. If some children want to take a break and write a letter/draw a picture and send them, I will reply to each one. Pen pals are great! 70 Proctor Street, Salem MA 01970.

Discord Communication | Discord is an online voice/chat platform. It can be downloaded as an app. It can also be used on phones, iPads, computers, and etc. Members of the youth have been using our discord server to chat and keep in contact. This morning we chatted about St. Gertrude, MCAS testing, and fun facts about puffins (they are called the clowns of the sea and can be found in Ireland). The link to join is here: <https://discord.gg/TqNqbt>. We are going to make a point of gathering online Mon/Wed/Fri from 10:00 - 11:00 am to simply be with one another.



SAINT PAUL

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

929 Concord Turnpike
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476
Web: www.stpaularlington.org | Office Phone: 781-646-7773

ST. PAUL STAFF

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*
The Reverend Liz Senft, *Pastoral Associate*
Samm Melton-Hill, *Vicar*
Ryan Patten, *Director of Music & Organist*
Kourtni Patten, *Director of Children,
Youth, & Families*
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*
Lorelei Mann, *Parish Administrator*

CHURCH COUNCIL & OFFICERS

Peter Hedlund, *President*
Caroline David, *Vice President*
Aurelio Ramirez, *Secretary*
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*
Norma Ofsthun and Mark Olson,
Financial Secretaries
Monique Airasian | Elizabeth Heichler |
Kerri Frick | Kelli Oliver |
Susanne Olson | Hollie Schmidt

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9am–4pm



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Liturgical materials and visuals reproduced by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003024. ✞ Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible. Copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. ✞ Music reprinted under OneLicense #A-709763. All rights reserved. ✞ Psalm reprinted from *St. Martin's Psalter* by Thomas Pavlechko. Copyright © 2010 St. James Music Press.