



# ST PAUL PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

MARCH 15, 2026

# WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL!

We are happy to have you here!

## HOW TO KNOW WHEN TO STAND, SIT, OR SPEAK

Whenever you see an asterisk (\*) at a heading, you are invited to stand as you are able. You are not required to stand, so if, for health or emotional reasons you cannot or do not wish to stand, that is okay.

You are invited to speak the words printed in **bold type**.

## HOW TO SING HYMNS IN HARMONY

To save space in printing the bulletin, we usually limit what is printed to the melody. If you'd like to sing in harmony, the hymn numbers are listed in our bulletin so you can open the red books in the pews (called ELWs).

## WE ARE AN OPEN COMMUNION CONGREGATION

This means that any Christian who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is invited to receive Holy Communion.

## HOW TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT US



Offerings can be made online at [stpaulpgm.org/give](https://stpaulpgm.org/give), mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

## A NOTE ON COMMUNION WAFERS



To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerance to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain

15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.

If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

# GATHERING

*The Gathering for worship began when you started readying yourself for worship*

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*During Lent we remember our baptism and journey toward Easter. In today's Gospel, Jesus gives sight to a man born blind, who says, "I was blind, now I see." His story reminds us that God opens our eyes to a deeper truth: we are God's beloved children. In baptism, Christ brings us from darkness into light. As David was anointed to serve, so God anoints us to bear Christ's light in our daily lives.*

**PRELUDE** — *Out of consideration for our musicians, please refrain from talking during the prelude. You are encouraged to use this time to breathe and center yourself.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *(Remain seated)*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silently consider one way you need God's mercy today.*

P: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water

Christ offers: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and

hope in the world: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to

come forth to life: Gracious God,

**A: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of

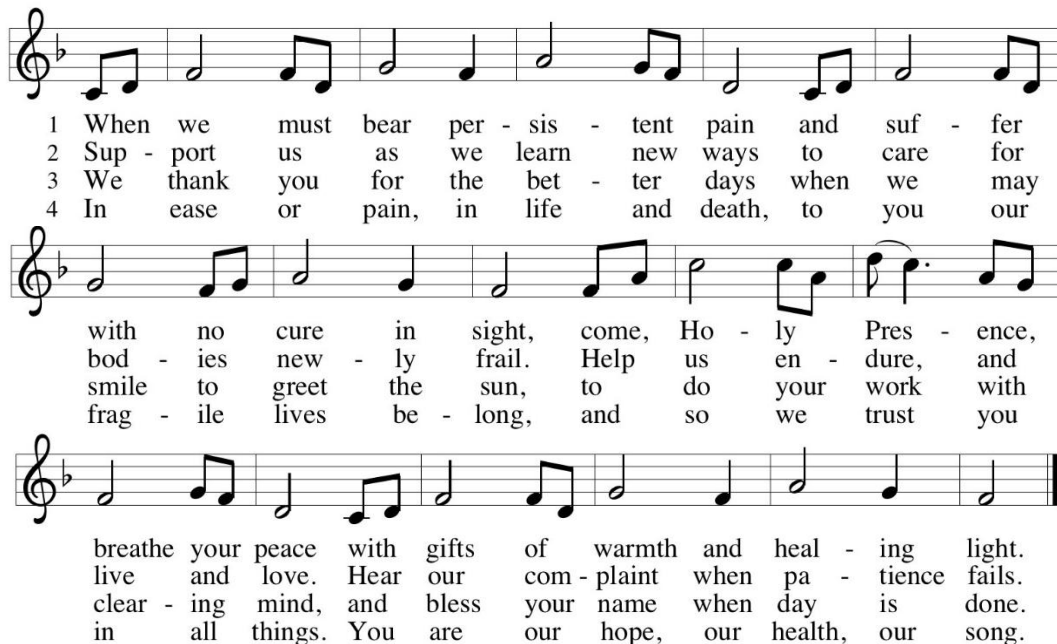
God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✠ Jesus

Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead

dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **A: Amen.**

# \*GATHERING HYMN "When We Must Bear Persistent Pain"

(ACS 1014)



1 When we must bear per - sis - tent pain and suf - fer  
2 Sup - port us as we learn new ways to care for  
3 We thank you for the bet - ter days when we may  
4 In ease or pain, in life and death, to you our  
with no cure in sight, come, Ho - ly Pres - ence,  
bod - ies new - ly frail. Help us en - dure, and  
smile to greet the sun, to do your work with  
frag - ile lives be - long, and so we trust you  
breathe your peace with gifts of warmth and heal - ing light.  
live and love. Hear our com - plaint when pa - tience fails.  
clear - ing mind, and bless your name when day is done.  
in all things. You are our hope, our health, our song.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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## \*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **A: And also with you.**

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord,** have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



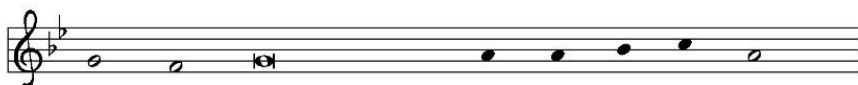
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also with you**

P: 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. **A: Amen.**

## WORD

*Listen for how God is speaking to you in the readings*

### **FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13**

*The Israelites had wished to have a king, like their neighbors. Reluctantly, Samuel had agreed and anointed Saul, a rugged and handsome man, as king. But Saul proved a disappointment to him and to God – Samuel grieved over Saul and the Lord regretted having made him king.*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup> Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup> He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." <sup>13</sup> Then

Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23: "The Lord's My Shepherd"

(ELW 778)

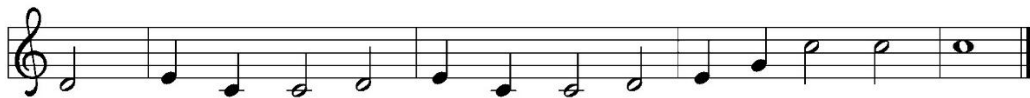
*Tradition has held that this most familiar of psalms was composed by David, reflecting on his time caring for his father's sheep. But it has another appropriate connection with David – Israel and its neighbors often spoke of their kings as shepherds, protecting and guiding the nation.*



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650

Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

## SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5:8-14

*The apostle is eager that the Ephesians "live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called." Now he uses the language of darkness and light to make his point.*

<sup>8</sup> Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup> Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness;

rather, expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, <sup>13</sup> but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

### \*GOSPEL READING: JOHN 9:1-41

*During Lent this year we read stories from John in which Jesus makes claims about himself which provide rich connections with baptism. In earlier weeks, those connections included the images of new birth and living water; now the central image is illumination. This passage harks back to John 1, when Jesus is first called the light of the world, and harks forward to the garden of Gethsemane, when those who arrest Jesus must come with artificial lights, since they cannot see the Light of the World.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the ninth chapter.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> 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?” <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No,

but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> 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." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>18</sup> 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 <sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> 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." <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> 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." <sup>25</sup> He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> 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?" <sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup> They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup> He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> 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." <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY: "Be Thou My Vision"

(ELW 793)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

## \*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

### \*APOSTLES' CREED

**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 to the dead.  
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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. As we pray, think of a person or place in need of that prayer.

*A brief silence.*

L: God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community especially the Nittany Conference of Lutheran churches, Pine Grove Presbyterian, and Saint Alban's Anglican and across the globe especially the Montana Synod and the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.  
**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys, especially Marilyn Niemann, Jack Nordberg, Nelson Wheeler, Edna Harpster, and Ada Mayes. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.  
**A: Amen.**

## \*PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

## MEAL

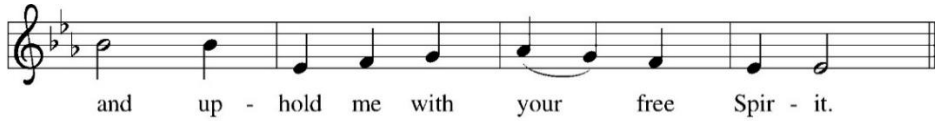
### OFFERING

### MUSICAL OFFERING

### OFFERTORY: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

(ELW 188)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



### \*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **A: Amen.**

### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

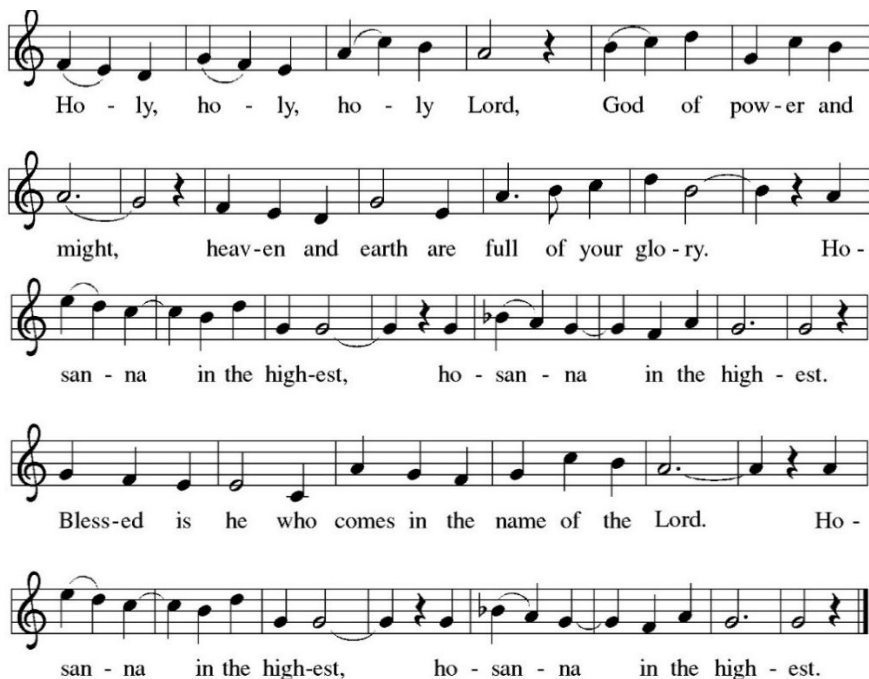
\* DIALOGUE

Musical notation for the Great Thanksgiving dialogue, consisting of four staves. Each staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (F major). The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise." The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and half notes with slurs and ties to connect phrases.

### \*PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was handed over,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**A: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore,

his life, death, and resurrection,

we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

**A: Amen, come Lord Jesus.**

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food

and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:

wash away our sin,

that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

**A: Amen, come Holy Spirit.**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

\*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.  
Lead us not into time of trial,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
forever and ever. Amen.**

\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

## \*LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you. L: The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMN: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (ELW 623)

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to  
 fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with  
 light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the  
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the  
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

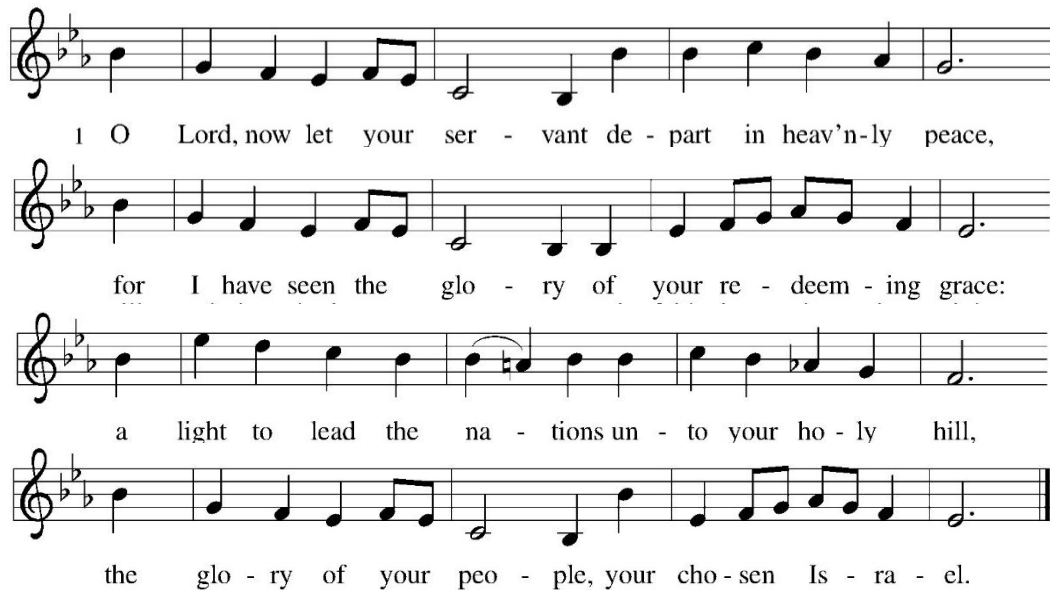
Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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## **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you, body, mind, and soul, now, and unto eternal life. **A: Amen**

## **\*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – “O Lord, Now Let Your Servant” (ELW 313)**



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis  
Music: KUORIANE, Finnish folk tune  
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## **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

L: Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **\*SENDING OF COMMUNION**

*The Pastor prays a prayer for members to bring communion to fellow Christian siblings who could not attend worship this morning.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*You may be seated.*

### **\*CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE**

### **\*BLESSING**

P: 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. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: "I Bind unto Myself Today"**

(ELW 450)

1 I bind un - to my - self to - day the strong name  
of the Trin - i - ty by in - vo - ca - tion  
of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.

2 I bind this day to me for - ev - er, by pow'r of  
3 I bind un - to my - self to - day . . . the vir - tues  
faith, Christ's in - car - na - tion, his bap - tism in the  
of the star - lit heav - en, the glo - rious sun's life -  
Jor - dan Riv - er, his cross of death for my sal - va - tion, his  
giv - ing ray, . . . the white - ness of the moon at e - ven, the  
burst - ing from the spic - ed tomb, his rid - ing  
flash - ing of the light - ning free, the whirl - ing  
up the heav'n - ly way, his com - ing at the  
wind's tem - pes - tuous shocks, the sta - ble earth, the  
day of doom, I bind un - to my - self to - day.  
deep salt sea, a - round the old e - ter - nal rocks.

4 Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,  
Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,

Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and strang-er.

5 I bind un-to my-self the name, the strong name of the

Trin-i-ty by in-vo-ca-tion of the same, the

Three in One and One in Three, of whom all na-ture has cre-

a-tion, e-ter-nal Fa-ther, Spir-it, Word. Praise to the

Lord of my sal-va-tion; sal-va-tion is of Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. Patrick, 372-466; para. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895  
 Music: ST. PATRICK'S BREAFASTPLATE, sts. 1-3, 5: Irish melody. DEIRDRE, st. 4: Irish melody

## **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

## Important Dates

Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>—Fellowship

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>—Holden Evening Prayer—6pm

Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>—Holden Evening Prayer—6pm

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>—Palm & Passion Sunday

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>—Commandment Thursday—7pm

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>—Good Friday—7pm

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>—The Great Vigil—7pm

Sunday, April 5—Sunrise Service—6:30AM?

Sunday, April 5—Easter Service—10AM



## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, March 18

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23 (5)

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

### Thursday, March 22

Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8—3:3

Revelation 10:1-11

Psalm 130

### Monday, March 19

Isaiah 59:9-19

Acts 9:1-20

Psalm 146

### Friday, March 23

Ezekiel 33:10-16

Revelation 11:15-19

Psalm 130

### Tuesday, March 20

Isaiah 42:14-21

Colossians 1:9-14

Psalm 146

### Saturday, March 25

Ezekiel 36:8-15

Luke 24:44-53

Psalm 130

### Wednesday, March 21

Isaiah 60:17-22

Matthew 9:27-34

Psalm 146



## SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister..... Pastor Paul Tomkiel  
Assisting Minister..... Lauren Tingle  
Musician.....Jacob Heller  
Sacristan..... Delorse Homan  
Reader.....Jeff Muthler

## ABOUT ST. PAUL

### PURPOSE

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

### MISSION

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

### CORE VALUES

Faith ♡ Compassion ♡ Generosity ♡ Community

## OUR BIBLE VERSES

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'- Acts 9:3,15

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Conestoga-Susquehannock people, where we gather. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

Find out more about the Conestoga-Susquehannock at [www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com](http://www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com)

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