# *Fífth Sunday in Lent Sunday, Apríl 6, 2025*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 215 N. Warren St. Orwigsburg, PA 570-366-2316

#### www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

### **GATHERING**

#### PRELUDE

"Lamb of God"

L. Larson

### **EXHORTATION**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to contend against all evil and resist everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to take up the disciplines of Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, charity and works of love.

#### CONFESSION

Let us now make our confession:

(Silence for self-reflection)

Almighty God,

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

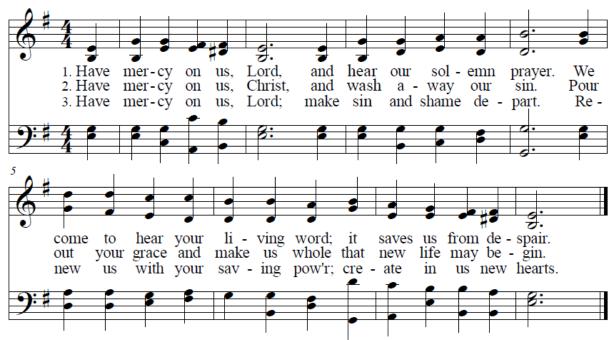
God does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things we do on this day may please him, that the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

GATHERING HYMN	"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"
	[See back of bulletin]

### 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



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## Word

### A READING FROM ISAIAH

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,

<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

- <sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
- <sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,

<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

(Isaiah 43:16-21)

#### Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 126: (Read responsively)**

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.
Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.
Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

### A READING FROM PHILIPPIANS

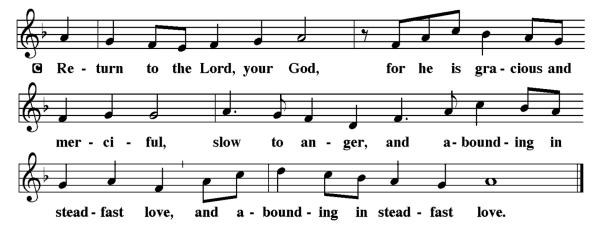
<sup>4b</sup> If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:4b-14)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



### GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." (John 12:1-8)

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to you, O Christ.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" [See back of bulletin]

### THE NICENE CREED (Read in Unison)

THE MICENE CREED (Read in Omson)		
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;		
by the power of the Holy Spirit		
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.		
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.		
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,		
He has spoken through the prophets.		
We believe in one holy catholic 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.		
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION		

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

### A brief silence.

Raise up leaders who treasure the traditions of the church yet can envision new ways of reaching out in love to a broken humanity. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Look with mercy upon your people. By your Holy Spirit, help us to prepare to renew our baptismal promises as we celebrate Easter. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Restore areas of the world which have been damaged or abused. Help us to preserve and protect all that you have created. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Reveal the foolishness and dangers of hatred and violence here on earth. Make a way for lasting peace and cooperation among all nations. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Send healing and wholeness to all who suffer in any way and comfort those who live amid war and destruction. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

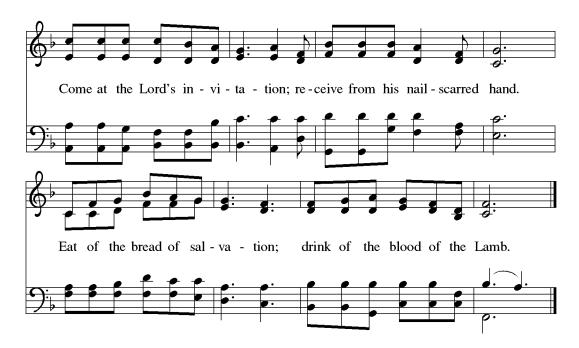
Help to better understand the lives of people who are often hidden from us. Broaden our understanding of our shared humanity and free us from racism and bigotry. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection. We give thanks for all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer**.

(*The pastor concludes*): Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, through Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.** 

### **OFFERING**





### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

O God our Redeemer, receive these gifts and the sacrifice of our lives. Refresh us with this food and drink and bring us newness of life for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also 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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should in all times and all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### SANCTUS



### **BLESSING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (Read in Unison)

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.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

#### O Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

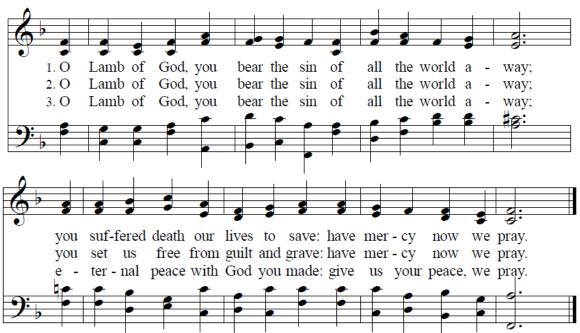
#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by <u>intinction</u>. You may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you (or your child) would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

If you are unable to come forward to receive the Sacrament, please raise your hand.

We will share the Sacrament with those on the pulpit side of the nave followed by those on the lectern side.

### AGNUS DEI



### COMMUNION HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" [See back of bulletin]

#### TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, your Son welcomed sinners and ate with them. We give you thanks for the forgiveness and grace we have received in this meal. Make us signs of your love, that all the world may know your mercy and lovingkindness, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### **Sending**

### BLESSING

Remember that you were created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen to be holy and beloved, and freed to serve your neighbor. May God bless you that you may be a blessing to others, in the name of the Father, the  $\pm$ Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN "Jesus, Keep Me near the Cross" [See back of bulletin]

### DISMISSAL

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

### POSTLUDE

"Voluntary in A Minor"

H. Purcell

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**Introduction to the Day:** Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

### LENTEN SOUP AND BREAD MEAL

Join us on Wednesday evening at 5 p.m. for a simple meal of soup and bread, together with fellowship and words of faith. A sign-up sheet to share soup or bread is in the gathering room. Family, friends, and neighbors are welcome! For more information call our Church Office: 570-366-2316.

### SERVING THIS SUNDAY (4/6/25) 8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; LECTOR & COMMUNION ASST.: Amy Dewald

### 10:30 AM

GREETER: Jill Krewson; USHER: Joanne Emerich; LECTOR: Elinda Lado COMMUNION ASST.: Deb Bolinsky ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Becky Smoot COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr and Glenda Bright

#### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (4/13/25) 8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; LECTOR & COMMUNION ASST.: Connie Teter

**10:30 AM** GREETER: Jill Krewson; USHER: Wayne Lutsey; LECTOR: Eric Eger COMMUNION ASST.: Doug Travor ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Becky Smoot COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle and Diane Brobst

Altar flowers are presented in honor of Lindsay's, Jayda's, and Lily's birthdays by Jeff and Cindy Ritschel.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Carl Long by Christine and Kevin Long.

**Chancel flowers** are presented in honor of Julia Kunkel's 98<sup>th</sup> birthday (April 5<sup>th</sup>) by Joanne and Jim Emerich.

### A CALL TO MORE FAITHFUL GIVING

Our church needs your support. Every donation, big or small, helps us gather new members, spread Christ's teachings, and serve our community. Your contributions keep our church running and aid those in need. Please consider increasing your giving to St. Paul's ministry.



Also consider the benefits of giving through Secure Plus.  $\rightarrow$ 

#### THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 6	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Adult Forum Worship with Holy Communion Sunday,	
Tuesday, April 8	1:00 PM	WELCA	
Wednesday, April 9	5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Lenten Soup & Bread Meal Bell Choir Chancel Choir	
Thursday, April 10	12 Noon	Crafters' Guild	
Friday, April 11	6:00-7:00 PM	St. Paul's leads work to fill boxes at the Food Pantry	
Saturday, April 12	8:45-11:00 AM	St. Paul's leads work to distribute boxes at the Food Pantry	
9:00 AM – NOON 5:30 PM		Earth Day Event Worship	
Sunday, April 13		PALM/PASSION SUNDAY Second Sunday	
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion	
	9:15 AM	Youth Sunday School	
	9 to 10:15 AM	Second Sunday Snacks and Fellowship	
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Children's Sunday School	
	NOON-2:00PM	Easter Egg-stravaganza Crafters' Guild Open House in the	
***	***	basement after each service	

#### EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

Our fourth annual **"Easter Egg-stravaganza"** will be a little different this year. It will take place on **Sunday, April 13, from 12 noon to 2 p.m.** following Sunday School. Children up to age 10 are welcome to join the fun and fellowship. Please join us in the church gathering room at any time during the event, to do crafts, play games, and enjoy snacks. This is a community event, so feel free to invite a friend to join in the fun! Sign-up sheets will be in the gathering room, closer to the date of the event.

### LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God.

### **HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

Our Palm/Passion services begin on Saturday, April 12 at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday, April 13 at 8 and 10:30 a.m. During these services, we will commemorate Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem and reflect on His suffering and death on the cross.

On Maundy Thursday, April 17, we will gather for worship at 7:00 p.m. This special service will focus on Jesus' command for His disciples to love one another and the events of the Last Supper. Holy Communion will be shared, and the altar will be ceremonially stripped.

For Good Friday on April 18, we will host a Tenebrae service, also known as a service of darkness, at 7:00 p.m. Together, we will reflect on Jesus' "Seven Words on the Cross" in a solemn and reflective atmosphere. The service will conclude in complete darkness and silence, symbolizing His entombment.

Finally, join us in celebration on Easter Sunday, April 20, for the Resurrection of Our Lord. Worship services will take place at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We will rejoice with joyful alleluias, share in the body and blood of our risen Savior, and loudly proclaim the blessed news: "Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!"

Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you for these special services!

### **RESERVE SPACE IN THE CHURCH?**

Reidler Hall and other spaces within the church are available for use by members, church groups, non-profit organizations, and others. To reserve a space, please visit our church office to pick up a copy of our "Rental Guidelines" and an "Application Form." Completed forms must be received by our office at least six weeks before the date of the event or activity. All applications will reviewed and require approval from Church Council.

#### GATHERING HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"



**STiC NEWS** 

Please see the Earth Day Event flyer for "Welcome to the Woods," theme of The Guardianship of Trees on Saturday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. And, if you have a favorite haunt where you would be willing to post your copy, please do!

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"



**A MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT!** 

Our Evangelism Committee loves sending cards to those who can't join us for worship. We regularly need updated information for military members and college students who are away from home. If you have new information or address changes, please contact any Evangelism Committee member or call the church office at 570-366-2316. Thank you for helping us stay connected!

### **CRAFTERS' GUILD NEWS**

On Sunday April 13, our Spring creations will be on display in the basement and available for purchase after the early and late services. The items will remain available through Mother's Day. Stop by to see our creativity "in bloom".

If you would like more information, please contact Kristin Durkee (804-380-9066) or Amy Dewald (570-449-4816).

#### **COMMUNION HYMN** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"



#### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers from our congregation are needed to help pack food boxes at the Orwigsburg Food Pantry (located at St. John's United Church of Christ) on Friday, April 11, at 6:00 p.m. Youth under the age of 18 are welcome to help. Volunteers are also needed to help distribute food boxes on Saturday, April 12, starting at 8:45 a.m. at the same location. Let's help those who need food in our community.

#### **OUR PASTOR & STAFF**

Reverend Michael T. Petresky 570-36	6-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. to 12 NOON

SENDING HYMN "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"



"SECOND SUNDAY" SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will be on Sunday, April 13! Children ages 1 through 6 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Young people aged 7 through 12 are invited to a youth group with Bible study and activities from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) swoodring86@hotmail.com.