



The Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, A+D 2025



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 4 – Page 203

Lutheran Service Book

Jesus Calls You to Repentance

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5). By this warning, the Lord would turn us away from wickedness and bring us to life in Himself. For He is patient with us, that we would not be cut down in our sin but live and bear fruit in Him. As He lives, the Lord has “no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live” (Ezek. 33:11). So the Scriptures have been “written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come” (1 Cor. 10:11), that we should not desire evil but trust in Christ. He alone is faithful, the Rock who feeds us with His “spiritual food” and pours out His “spiritual drink” (1 Cor. 10:3–4).

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation*LSB 203*

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins*LSB 203*

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Prayer for Forgiveness

- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 5:4–8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6

- P** For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
C **but the way of the wicked will perish.**
P For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
C **evil may not dwell with you.**
P The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;
C **you hate all evildoers.**
P You destroy those who speak lies;
C **the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**
P But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.
C **I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.**
P Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies;
C **make your way straight before me.**
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
P For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
C **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–20

A The Old Testament Reading for The Third Sunday in Lent is from the thirty-third chapter of the prophecy of Ezekiel.

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he

shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

A The Second Reading is from the tenth chapter of the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play."

⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Lenten Prayer Verse

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way?"

³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

⁶And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

748 I'm But a Stranger Here

Sermon

Rev Jason Zirbel
Grace Lutheran Church
Greenwood, Arkansas

Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.

Stand

806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the
 Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be-cause He's giv-en__ Je - sus
 Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, Give
 thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be-cause He's giv-en__
 Je-sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am
 strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," _____ Be-cause of
 what the Lord has done for us. And now let the
 weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am
 rich," _____ Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us.
 Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____

Text and tune: Henry Smith, 1952

Text and tune: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001510

Prayer of the Church

- P** . . . Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:
C **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.**

Concluding Collect

- P** Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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The Glad Spirit

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

March 23, 2025

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Steven Gercken

Brianne Giba, Family Genevieve, Victoria

Nicole Golembeck Family Lilliana

Chris & Tracy Gribbin, Family Oliver

Edward & Barbara Hoeksema, Jr., Family Blake, Emily

BIRTHDAYS

Nathaniel Conway, 3/26

CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Tracy Middleton, 3/23

Jeanette Ramirez, 3/23

Bill Sommer, 3/25

Ray Zander, 3/25

Michelle Michels, 3/26

Tracy Gribbin, 3/27

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Pray for Janice Abel, Sandy Bodza, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Pastor and Pam Collins, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Shirley Emerick, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Doris Leifert, Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren & Chris Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer, Ray Zander.

Serving in the Military – Austin Brandy, Jessica Calderon-Phillips, James Fluechtling, Dakota Gaut and Nathan Lopez.

Serving as First Responders – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

Rehab Care this past week – Sandy Bodza

Receiving Hospice this past week – Jay Carey

NEWS UPDATE

**READ THE
NEW
TESTAMENT
IN 40 DAYS**

- _ March 23, Acts 5-9
 - _ March 24, Acts 10-15
 - _ March 25, Acts 16-20
 - _ March 26, Acts 21-26
 - _ March 27, Acts 27 - Romans 4
 - _ March 28, Romans 5-10
 - _ March 29, Romans 11 - 1 Cor. 1
-



St. Paul Book Club will meet Friday April 25 at 10:00 am, to review *The Keeper of Happy Endings* by Barbara Davis. We always welcome new members. We enjoy fellowship and lunch following the discussion.

Christ For You the week of March 23rd on KFUE.org: On Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT) we wrap up the book of 1 Samuel and begin 2 Samuel! Tune in to Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we continue our study of Hebrews, covering chapters 7-9. Sharathon 2025 is next week! From April 3rd-5th, join us for special programming, fun giveaways, and a chance to make a difference by supporting the mission and ministry of KFUE Radio! To learn more, visit: kfue.org/sharathon.

The Week of March 23rd Book Of Ecclesiastes Bible Study... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on the Book of Ecclesiastes. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

“Think of how important we as human beings must be in the eyes of God, if He—as the almighty creator and Lord of the entire universe—was willing to take on human flesh and become one of us. God loves the human race so much He decided to become our brother.” Thomas P. Nass, CELC President – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

The Parable of the Fig Tree

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 13:6-9 (NIV).



U S B F E R T I L I Z E T T A
 Y Q N D O W N O W L U O V Z T
 B A R N T P H T C E S L I I R
 R U F L H A A O S A E U N M E
 Z E R A R R S L Y V Q W E A X
 J F U B E A J D H E A P Y K N
 S B I X E B Y O F T P L A T U
 P J T G T L V E S O I L R O L
 A W R Q P E J J A H T R D J P
 T L C G C U T F O R U P F K Z
 X R O F I N D Q I F S M O G S
 P Y E N E A I S V A E O F N Q
 M O S E E M G Q B Z L R H S L
 D A P L A N T E D N L X V J D
 K Z N L U L G S B O L U C W M

YEARS	THREE	LOOK	LEAVE	FRUIT
DOWN	FIND	VINEYARD	MAN	TOLD
PLANTED	USE	SOIL	ALONE	FIG
FERTILIZE	DIG	PARABLE	TREE	CUT

GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



March 12th Attendance 13

March 16th Attendance 18

Envelopes	\$811.00	Weekly Missions	\$30.00
Basket	50.00	Luth. Church Charity	45.00
Lent	240.00	Church Maint	10.00
General Fund	250.00	Social Ministry	145.00
Fellowship	18.00		
Budgeted Total	1,369.00	Non-budgeted Total	\$230.00
Offering Needed	1,423.00		
Short	\$-54.00		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today

8:30 am Sunday School
 9:30 am Worship Service
 10:30 am Coffee &...

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

9:30 am Lenten Worship Service
 10:30 am Lenten Brunch

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

8:30 am Sunday School
 9:30 am Worship Service
 10:30 am Coffee &...

SERVANT SCHEDULE

Sun, Mar 23, 9:30 AM

Sun, Mar 30, 9:30 AM

Pastor

Usher

Lay Reader

Norma Allen

Rev. Mark Zuehsow

Louis Sella

Tracy Middleton



Food Pantry



General Fund



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