

“Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper.”

During our service, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. If you are a visitor and are not a member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we encourage you to speak with Pastor Vossler or one of our elders before the service about what we believe concerning the Sacrament.



February 18, 2024

The First Sunday in Lent

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

2045 LYNN ST | SANFORD, MI 48657

Pastor: Christopher P. Vossler

Organist: Sara Glynn/Dishaw

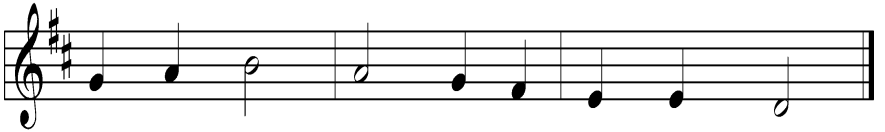
Hymn: 418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
 fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.
 skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
 ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*

and show him my sal- | vation.

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*

the Most High, who is my | refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*

no plague come | near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you*

to guard you in | all your ways.

On their hands they will | bear you up,*

lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the | adder;*

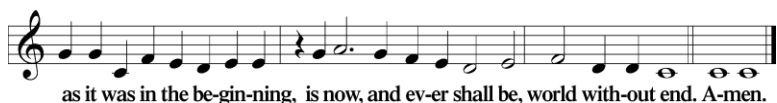
the young lion and the serpent you will trample |
underfoot..

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*

and show him my sal- | vation.



Kyrie

LSB 186



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

C **O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-18

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in

the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the

nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the
cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
**and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of
God.**

Epistle

James 1:12–18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand to Honor The Holy Gospel

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, 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
worshiped 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

Hymn:

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



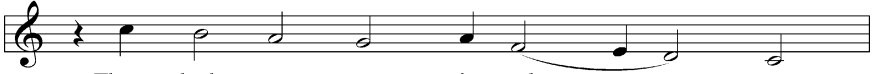
1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Goal: That the hearers would remain “steadfast under trial.”

I. Introduction

-

II. Life’s Trials

- What are some of the trials we face in this world?
- From where do these trials come?

III. Jesus’ Endurance

- How did Jesus endure the trials of this life?

IV. Christian Steadfastness

- How can we remain steadfast when beset by the difficulties of life in a sin-filled world?

V. Conclusion

-

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C 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 Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

Stand


Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament


Preface

LSB 194


P The Lord be with you.




C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

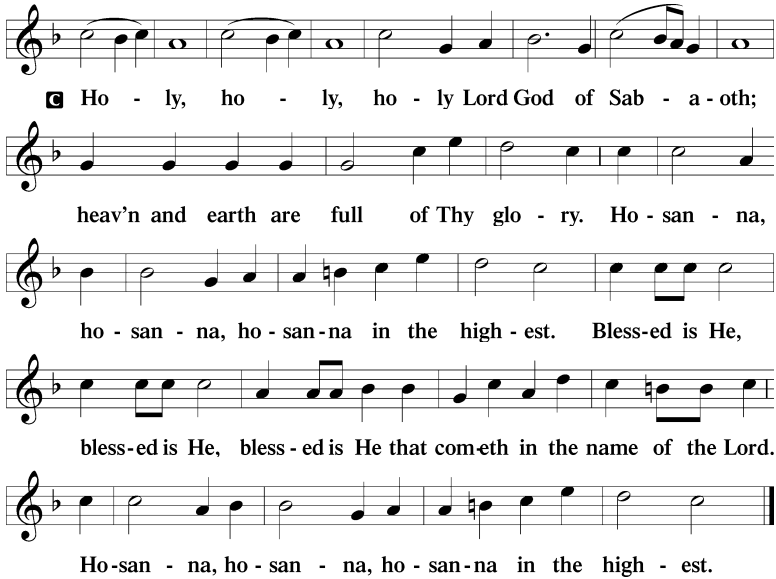


C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini

LSB 197



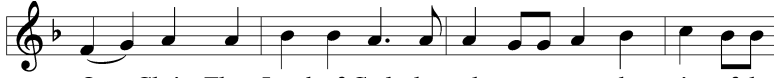
P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is God's gift to the Church. Through this gift we are fed with the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. When we gather together at God's table, we are also expressing our common faith and mutual commitment to the doctrine of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. (Attendance at the Lord's Supper is always a confession of that which we believe.) Because of the significance of the Sacrament and because the scriptures counsel us against its misuse (1 Corinthians 11:17-32), those who have not communed previously at St. Paul's are asked to speak with the pastor or an elder before communing

Distribution Hymn:

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



- 1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
- 2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
- 3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
- 4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
- 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swerv-ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Distribution Hymn:

430 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
 My dear Lord made away;
 A murderer they save,
 The Prince of Life they slay.
 Yet cheerful He

Continued next page>

To suffering goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.


6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

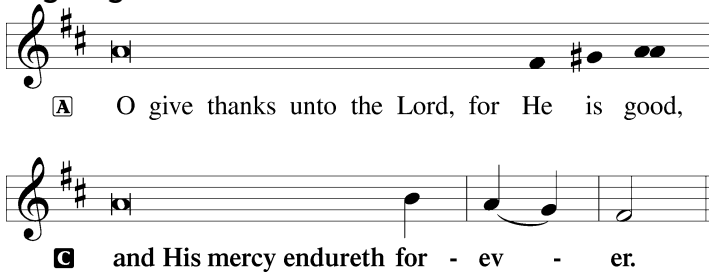
LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through

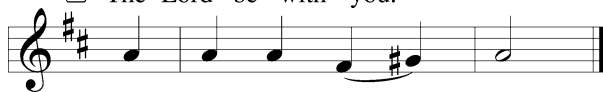
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



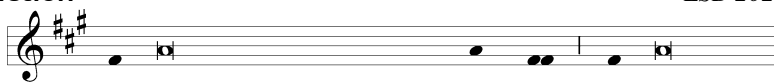
A Bless we the Lord.



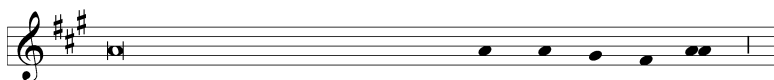
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

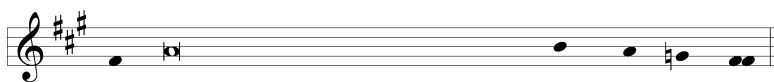
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn: 521 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken



1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, un - shak - en By the dev - il's
2 Mi - chael fought the heav'n - ly bat - tle, God - ly an - gels
3 Long on earth the bat - tle ra - ges, Since the ser - pent's
4 Je - sus came, this word ful - fill - ing, Tram - pled Sa - tan,



seeth - ing rage, Thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions;
by his side; Warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,
first de - ceit; Twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,
death de - fied; Bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,



Wins the strife from age to age; Con - quers sin and
Foiled the beast, so full of pride, Cast him earth - bound
Made for - bid - den fruit look sweet. Then the curse of
On the wretch - ed tree He died. Yet to life was



death for - ev - er; Slams them in their steel - y cage.
with his an - gels; Now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.
God was spo - ken: "You'll lie crushed be - neath His feet!"
raised vic - to - rious; By His life our life sup - plied.

Continued next page>

- 5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant
From his heav'nly perch on high,
As the word of Jesus' vict'ry
Floods the earth and fills the sky.
Wounded by a wound eternal
Now his judgment has drawn nigh!
- 6 Jesus, send Your angel legions
When the foe would us enslave.
Hold us fast when sin assaults us;
Come, then, Lord, Your people save.
Overthrow at last the dragon;
Send him to his fiery grave.

Dismissal for Sunday School

Dismissal for Youth Bible Study

P Go in Peace, serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Church Office: 989-687-2824
 E-Mail: stpaul Lutheran@tds.net |
www.stpaulsanford.org

WELCOME:

We join in welcoming our visitor's this morning. If you would please be sure to sign the guest book (Elders can direct you to the location), Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

SUNDAY: *Worship Service with Communion 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Bible Study*

MONDAY:

TUESDAY: *5pm Confirmation Class/7pm Lighthouse*

WEDNESDAY: *Ladies Aid 9am/Lighthouse 1pm/ Lenten Dinner 6pm/Lenten Worship 7pm/Choir 8pm*

THURSDAY: *Youth Ministry Board 6pm*

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY: *Women's Bible Study 9am/Band Rehearsal 4pm*

SUNDAY : *Worship Service Second week of Lent 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Bible Study/*

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 2/4/24

OFFERINGS Env / Plate	mom	Memorials	TOTAL	ATTENDANCE
\$5625/179	21	-	\$5825	72

Fellowship-Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship this morning for refreshments and conversation! Refreshments are provided each Sunday by members of the congregation. If you would like to provide snacks for fellowship, please sign up on the clipboard by the kitchen.

*Youth Movie Night-Saturday, March 9th @
6pm Pizza/popcorn/smore and movie
discussion. 😊*



For more information about youth group, Sunday School, youth bible study and events, please use the QR code to get to the form.

Prayer Request: *If you or someone you know are in need of prayers please call or email Edna Rottiers at 989-687-9687 / hughrottiers@gmail.com . Those with additional prayer request please complete a prayer slip and give to one of our Elders before the service or to one of the Ushers during the offering. Your prayers are important and our Lord does promise to answer*

Mission of the Month: In **February**, we are collecting donations for **Wellspring Lutheran Services**, a Christ-centered organization dedicated to helping families work through difficult life situations as well as providing housing options for seniors in need

Altar Guild representatives for February are Carolyn Sutton (631-3953) and Patty Billingsley (860-4024).



The flowers on the altar for our worship service this morning are provided by St. Paul Office in celebration of **The McDonald's new grandson, *Michael David McDonald.*** 😊

Would you like to beautify the altar with flowers for a worship service? The 2024 Altar Flower Sign-up is on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall. Sign up now and pay for your flowers in the offering plate. After the service, you can enjoy your flowers at home for as long as they last. Just remember to bring back the vase to reuse!

Congratulations to Gordon and Chelsea Gensel on the birth of Grant Gordon Gensel on Monday, February 12th. Grant is the grandson to Bernard and Patty Billingsley 😊

Blacktop Project-We are accepting donations to the Blacktop project as we work toward future upgrades.

Pastoral Care: Please contact the Pastor @ cell 973-303-8252, office 989-687-2209, or email stpaulrev@tds.net. The Church Office (989-687-2824) / cell (989 859-9300) email stpaul Lutheran@tds.net, or Deacon Don Barnard (989-751-7726) email: stpauldeacon@tds.net or esocidnator01@gmail.com if you or anyone you know are in need of a visit from the Pastor or Deacon

whether it's an illness, hospitalization, nursing home or shut-in. It is important to us that we receive these communications to plan a call or visitation. May God's blessings be upon you today and every day!



Wanted: VBS Coordinator for Summer 2024

Vacation Bible School is coming up on June 17th - 21st, and we are very excited for this opportunity to bless the youth of our congregation and community! Much of the ground

work has already been accomplished, but there is more to be done over the coming months. The Youth Ministry Board is looking for someone to join us and serve as VBS Coordinator for this year. Responsibilities include: attending monthly Youth Ministry Board meetings, organizing VBS week, coordinating volunteers, and overseeing the registration process. If you are willing to serve in this valuable role, please talk to Andrea McDonald or Pastor Vossler.

Pastor Hoogerhyde Bible Study is be on vacation through Easter

National Honor Society Can Drive: Help support Aaron, Kaitlin and Jace, by bringing in your recyclable beverage cans or just the tabs. There is a deposit collection bin at the lower level entrance.

Please be sure to lock up and turn down the lights when leaving Church.

#Up Coming Events#

February 21st **Wednesday Lent Dinner**
6pm/Worship Service 7pm

Youth Board Meeting Thursday, 2/22-all
high school age youth and their parents
are invited to attend the meeting @ 6pm

Youth Movie Night-Saturday, March 9th @
6pm Pizza/popcorn/smores and movie
discussion. 😊

Sanford Food Pantry: The current needs for the Food Pantry are **Hamburger, Tuna, Chicken Helper**. There are refillable canvas bags from the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry available on the food pantry table in the fellowship hall. The bags have a suggested list of items and instructions. You may take these bags home and place the purchased items in the bag and return it to the church. The bags will be delivered to the Sanford Food Pantry the last week of the month. The empty bags will be returned to the church to be used again. *Thank you for all of the items and monetary donations. Please remember that the food pantry does not accept expired or dietary food.*



Held every 3 years since 1980, **the LCMS Youth Gathering** provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God’s people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. *We encourage our Youth to share in the once in this lifetime opportunity to learn more about God’s love attending “Endure” 2025. To be held July 19-23, 2025 in New Orleans*

SERVING	This Week 2/18	Next Week 2/25
Flowers:	St Paul Office	Betty Szczepanski
Music:	Sara Glynn-Dishaw	Sara Glynn-Dishaw
Proclaimer:	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler
Fellowship Host	Ladies Aid Desserts	Julie VanKuiken & Jan O’Dell
Ushers	Gerianne Barnard & David McDonald	Gerianne Barnard & David McDonald
Acolytes	Deklan & Jace	Madison & Lucas
Greeters	Christy Martin	Jim & Margie Dittmer

Lenten Worship Services

“What Is a Christian?”

Have you ever been asked, “what is a Christian?” The simple Sunday School answer to this question certainly comes to mind: “A Christian is one who believes in Jesus as their Savior.” And while this answer does explain *whose* a Christian is and how one becomes a Christian, we can go so much deeper. A Christian is characterized by their faith in Jesus, but “you will recognize them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:16). The way we live shows us to be Christian. On the Sundays in Lent, Pastor Vossler will unpack the Christian life in five different ways: A Christian is Steadfast, Conciliatory, Zealous, Saved, and Humble.

“Hear Our Penitential Cry”

While most of our favorite psalms declare God’s glory and rejoice in His mighty deeds, not always are our prayers so joyous. Seven times, the psalmists turn to God in penitence, crying out for mercy because of their sinful actions. During our midweek worship services between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, we will be blessed by pastors of the Midland Circuit preaching on the Penitential Psalms to guide our own life of penitence. The Christian life is one of repentance: acknowledging our sins and turning from them toward God, the source of our forgiveness.

LENTEN Midweek SCHEDULE – 2024

February	21	Lent I
	28	Lent II
March	6	Lent III
	13	Lent IV
	20	Lent V

*Lenten Dinners @ 6pm & Services @ 7pm. February 21, 28 & March 6,
13, 20*

HOLY WEEK – 2024

March	24	Palm Sunday	9:30 am
	28	Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm
	29	Good Friday	1:00 pm
	31	Easter (Sunrise Svc)	7:00 am
		(Breakfast)	8:00 am
		(Celebration Svc)	9:30 am
April	6	Easter Concert	4:00 pm

Read the Bible in a Year!

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

For Christians – and especially for Lutherans – nothing is more important than God’s Word. God speaks to us through His Word, and we do well to listen to what He has to say to us. That is why regular devotions and prayer and Scripture reading are so important for our spiritual life.

It’s always a good time to start a plan to read the Bible! And in fact, you can read through the entire Bible in a year, with only 15-20 minutes per day. Are you worried that the Bible might be too much for you to read in a single year? There are resources that can help. One option that is available is on your smartphone: Download the YouVersion Bible App and look up the “Reformation Reading Plan,” which was developed by the Michigan District to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

If you don’t have a smartphone, you can follow this reading plan in the bulletin every week, along with suggested readings from Luther’s Small Catechism. Note that whatever day you start the reading plan in the app will be “Day 1,” so you may find yourself on a different day than what is in the bulletin.

Daily Readings:

Days 113-119	Reading	Catechism
Monday	Luke 13, Numbers 34, 35, 36	Reading God's Word?
Tuesday	Luke 14, Deuteronomy 1	What is Worship?
Wednesday	Luke 15, Deuteronomy 2, 3	Simple Prayer
Thursday	Luke 16, Deuteronomy 4, 5	Salvation Outline
Friday	Luke 17, Deuteronomy 6, 7, 8, 9	Luther's Preface
Saturday	Proverbs 8:12-21, Psalms 56, 57, 58, 59	Explanation of Luther's Seal
Sunday	Gen 17: 1-7, 15,16, Psalm 22: 23-31, Rom 5: 1-11, Mark 8: 27-38	Books of the Bible

Daily Devotion Resources:

Daily Prayers for Morning, Noon, Evening, Close of Day (LSB 294-298)/*Treasury of Daily Prayer*/Portals of Prayer

Prayer Requests:

- Youth in the Church, especially our Confirmands
- Our Shut-ins
- Pastors of our congregation and Synod, and for increase in the numbers of Seminary students for future Pastors