

**+++ THE GUIDE +++**  
**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-STRASBURG ILLINOIS**

**March 8, 2026**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

Pastor	Kene Whybrew	Secretary	Sue Bowers
Pastor's Cell	815-383-1148	Secretary HRS	M-W 4-7PM TH 12-4PM
Pastor's Home		Church Office	217-644-2661
Pastor's E-mail	chebrev@yahoo.com	E-mail	<b>stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com</b>
Pastor's Address	512 S Walnut St Strasburg	Address	511 S Walnut St Strasburg
Education Supt	Diane Jack	Website	stpaul-strasburg.com
Altar Flowers	Connie Wirth	YouTube	St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Organist	Muriel Merriman		Strasburg Illinois
Choir Director	Karen Rentfro	Pause for Peace	217-644-3124
Accompanist	Sheryl Vonderheide	Prayer Chain	217-821-3038
Greeter	Gary & Karen Kull		

**THIS WEEK WITH THE LORD**

SUN.            8:30 AM Communion Service  
                   9:30 AM SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S. College+  
                   5:30 PM Worship @ Grace

TUE.            9:00 AM Bible Study  
                   7:00 PM LFL @ Grace

WED.           10:30 AM Lent Service @ Grace  
                   2:30 PM Social Hall Communion  
                   6:30 PM Lent Service @ St. Paul's  
                   7-8 PM WDS

THURS.        8:30 AM Blanket Making

SUN.            8:30 AM Worship Service-Choir sings  
                   9:30 AM SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S. College+  
                   5:30 PM Worship Service @ Grace

**March 1 8:30: N/A Year Ago: N/A Sunday School: 40**

**Welcome** As we spring forward into a new season, may we also step into the fresh grace God provides each day. Though we may have lost an hour of sleep, we gain time together in His presence—a reminder that His mercies are new every morning. If you are a *visitor*, we invite you to worship with us again and to please fill out the visitor connection card listing your information on both sides and depositing the card in the box in the narthex.

**Open House** You are warmly invited to an Open House, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-4:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, Shumway in honor of Rev. Steven and Esther Becker as they celebrate 40 years of God's provision and blessings in their marriage. Desserts and drinks will be provided. The link to RSVP is <https://forms.gle/askyZAMZxppWPXg69>.

**Lutheran Witness** The March edition of the Lutheran Witness is available in the narthex.

**Easter Breakfast** If you would like to donate to the Easter Breakfast, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

**Palm Sunday** The Sunday School children will parade in before church on Palm Sunday. Children can meet Autumn McCormick in the choir/cry room off the narthex before church. They will parade in during the first hymn or processional.

## THE LORD'S WORK

CURRENT OFFERINGS	\$ TO MEET YEARLY BUDGET	\$ RECEIVED	\$ DIFFERENCE
March 1	\$ 4,191.00	\$ 5,611.05	\$ 1,420.05
year-to-date	36,719.00	\$ 33,084.05	\$ -3,634.95
<b><u>Synod-Offerings</u></b>			
March 1	\$ 481.00	\$ 1,870.00	\$ 1,389.00
year-to-date	\$ 4,329.00	\$ 5,405.00	\$ 1,076.00
<b>TRINITY GOAL-\$10,000</b>		Total to Date \$730.00	
Building \$1300 Sem Student \$140 LYF \$125 Trinity \$140 Rev Gordan Alex \$150			
Cradle Roll \$100 \$For Missions \$89			

**March 1 \$ 8,040.05**

**March 1 \$ 89.00**

**March 3 \$ 611.00 (Lent)**

**March 5 \$ 785.00 (ACH)**

3/17 9:00 AM Morning Bible Study  
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
 3/18 10:30 AM Lent Service @ Grace  
 6:30 PM Lent Service @ St. Paul's  
 7-8 PM WDS

**Shoe Boxes:** The items we are collecting during the month of March are socks and underwear in children's sizes 2 through 18. Thank you for helping.

### **Lenten Schedule/Theme (Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus)**

Grace -10:30 AM (With Communion), St. Paul – 6:30 PM

**March 11<sup>th</sup>** The Good News of a God Who Passes Over us in Mercy (Exodus 12:1-14)

18<sup>th</sup> The Good News of a God Who Makes a Way for Us (Exodus 14:5-31)

25<sup>th</sup> The Good News of a God Who Sustains on Our Journey (Exodus 16:1-18, 35)

**Congratulations** Blessings to Luke and Kalei Rincker on the birth of their daughter, Iyla Ann Rincker, born on February 9, 2026. Grandparents are Otto and Lisa Rincker and Julie Buenker and Mike Buenker. God's blessings to Iyla and her family.

**Baptism** William Carter White and Rylee Madelyn White were baptized on Saturday, March 7, 2026. Their sponsor is Zach Weber. Will and Rylee are the twins of Zachary and Kelsey White. Grandparents are Steve and Sharon Weber.

**Easter Sunday** Celebrate the Risen Savior! Communion Service at 8:30AM followed by continental breakfast at 9:30AM in the social hall. There will be an egg hunt for ages 0-6<sup>th</sup> grade at 10 AM in the backyard. All are welcome!! Free will donation to benefit the Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box ministry.

**Sympathy** Please keep the family of Mildred Rincker in your thoughts and prayers. Mildred passed away on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Funeral service will be at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, Monday, March 9, 2026 at 11:00 AM. Visitation from 9-11am before the service. Burial will be in the Grace Cemetery, Strasburg. Rev. Kene Whybrew is officiating.

**March for Life** The Illinois March for Life is March 19<sup>th</sup> in Springfield at the State Capital. Rally at 1:00pm and march at 2:00pm. Buses reserved at no cost. Contact Dale Wetherell at 217.259.4728.



### **ANNIVERSARIES**

10-Jacob\* & Shalyn Tabbert

### **BIRTHDAYS**

8-Bryson Batson; Roger Kull;  
Kiefer Reel  
9-Virginia Vogel  
10-Steven Polk  
11-Johnna Schultz; Yvonne Pfeiffer;  
Ross McCormick  
13-Rusty\* Clifton; Barrett Beltz  
14-Janice Moomaw; Veronica Prosser

### **HOUSEHOLDS OF THE WEEK**

Donna Pfeiffer, Michael Pfeiffer, Yvonne Pfeiffer, Jeremy Pieper, Kathy Pieper, Richard Reel, Rich & Keri Reel, Dean & Karen Rentfro

### **PRAYER**

Dianna Gibson      John Wittenberg  
Nick Hanfland      Clay Tabbert  
Frances York        Wayne Wirth  
Nick Oller

### **LIMITED MOBILITY**

Ramona Radloff (Shelby Rehab & Healthcare )  
Chris Storm (Lutheran Care Center RM#31)  
Beulah Ulmer (The Manor-Shelbyville)  
Robert Stremming  
Imogene Lading – Villas of Holly Brook  
Rosemary Sporleder-Brookstone Mattoon  
Doris Stremming – Willowbrook, Effingham  
Margaret Swank – Willowbrook Effingham

### **FRIENDS & FAMILY** **(non-members)**

Trevor Roy (accident, Grace Vonderheide friend)  
Ken Daily (Karen Pfeiffer's father) stroke  
Walker Warden (cancer)  
Christie Dust ( Howard & Kay's daughter) (Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis)

### **Adopted Seminary Students 2025-26**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Year Student**

**Joshua Gerken (Wife Rachel, son Callan)  
5418 Brighton Dr.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825**

**2025-26 Vicar assignment to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Eldora, Iowa  
Hunter Kinnison (Wife Naomi)  
1105 Washington St.  
Eldora, IA 50627**

**Benjamin Wagner  
801 Seminary Place  
St. Louis, MO 63105**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent – Setting Three

#### **Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

LSB 761

- 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure:  
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
  
- 2 Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.
  
- 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;  
Simply to Thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to Thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.
  
- 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78 Text: Public domain

*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 T 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**Introit**

Psalm 84:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

C ***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

**Kyrie**

LSB 186

C ***Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.***

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C ***And with thy spirit.***

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.***

## Old Testament Reading

Exodus 17:1–7

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

Romans 5:1–8

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

John 4:5–26

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

C ***Glory be to Thee, O Lord.***

## The Gospel is Read

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C ***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.**

### **May God Bestow on Us His Grace**

LSB 824

- 1 May God bestow on us His grace,  
With blessings rich provide us;  
And may the brightness of His face  
To life eternal guide us,  
That we His saving health may know,  
His gracious will and pleasure,  
And also to the nations show  
Christ's riches without measure  
And unto God convert them.
  
- 2 Thine over all shall be the praise  
And thanks of ev'ry nation;  
And all the world with joy shall raise  
The voice of exultation.  
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,  
Nor suffer sin to flourish;  
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word  
Their souls to feed and nourish,  
In righteous paths to keep them.

- D 3 O let the people praise Thy worth,  
 In all good works increasing;  
 The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,  
 Thy Word is rich in blessing.  
 May God the Father, God the Son,  
 And God the Spirit bless us!  
 Let all the world praise Him alone,  
 Let solemn awe possess us.  
 Now let our hearts say, "Amen!"

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.  
 Text: Public domain

**Sermon** John 4:5-26 "I Am He"

**Offertory**

LSB 192

- C ***Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
 Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
 Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
 Amen.***

**Prayer of the Church**

**Preface**

LSB 194

- P The Lord be with you.  
 C ***And with thy spirit.***  
 P Lift up your hearts.  
 C ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***  
 P Let us give thanks unto 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

- C ***Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.***

## 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 always.  
C ***Amen.***

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198

- C ***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.***

## Distribution

**Glory Be to Jesus**

- 1 Glory be to Jesus,  
Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood  
From His sacred veins!
- 2 Grace and life eternal  
In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion,  
Infinitely kind!
- 3 Blest through endless ages  
Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment  
Did the world redeem!
- 4 Abel's blood for vengeance  
Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus  
For our pardon cries.
- 5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

**Not All the Blood of Beasts**

- 1 Not all the blood of beasts  
 On Jewish altars slain  
 Could give the guilty conscience peace  
 Or wash away the stain.
- 2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,  
 Takes all our sins away;  
 A sacrifice of nobler name  
 And richer blood than they.
- 3 My faith would lay its hand  
 On that dear head of Thine,  
 While as a penitent I stand,  
 And there confess my sin.
- 4 My soul looks back to see  
 The burden Thou didst bear  
 When hanging on the cursèd tree;  
 I know my guilt was there.
- 5 Believing, we rejoice  
 To see the curse remove;  
 We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice  
 And sing His bleeding love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
 Text: Public domain

**Jesus Sinners Doth Receive**

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
 Oh, may all this saying ponder  
 Who in sin's delusions live  
 And from God and heaven wander!  
 Here is hope for all who grieve:  
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,  
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;  
Here our ills have perfect healing.  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray  
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;  
Weary souls that lost their way  
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh  
In His arms that they may live:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756  
Text: Public domain

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C ***Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
C ***and His mercy endureth forever.***

P 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 ***Amen.***

P The Lord be with you.

C ***And with thy spirit.***

## Benedicamus

LSB 202

P 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 gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
- C ***Amen, amen, amen.***

## **On My Heart Imprint Your Image**

LSB 422

- 1 On my heart imprint Your image,  
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures  
Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be:  
Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation,  
And my glory and salvation!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.  
Text: Public domain

Next Week's Readings – Isaiah 42:14-21, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

This Week's Memory Verse – John 4:23 "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him."

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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