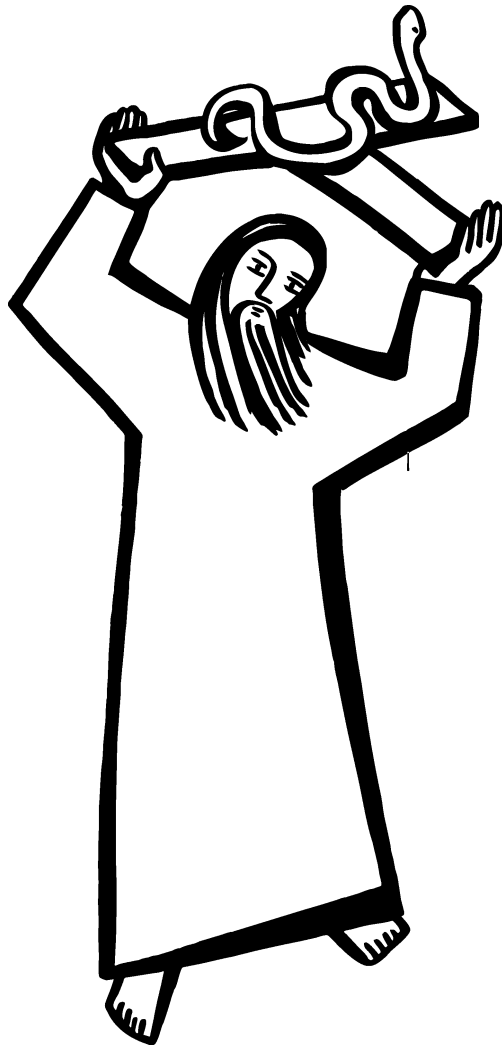


# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



March 10, 2024

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## SUNDAY SERVICES

8:12am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave  
9:00am | Choir Practice  
9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School,  
Confirmation and Adult Forum  
10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave  
and Online  
11:30am | Coffee Hour

**LIVESTREAMING** – Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Arlington Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

## WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for Weekly Update newsletter by going to our website at [www.stpaularlington.org](http://www.stpaularlington.org) and clicking on SUBSCRIBE.

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE

### Midweek Services with Supper - Wednesdays 6:30pm

During the season of Lent, we will gather together on Wednesday evenings for fellowship and Holden Evening Prayer. Our theme for these midweek gatherings is Lament. Together, we will read examples of lament in scripture and reflect on the ways lament intersects with our own lives and faith. These lessons and reflections will then be shared through The Weekly for those that are unable to attend but would like to follow along. Join us at 6:30 pm for a meal and fellowship, followed by worship at 7:15 pm.

March 13th: Individual Lament Psalm 13

March 20th: Communal Lament Psalm 44:1-10, 13, 17-26

## Serving the community today are:

Jennifer Warr Parker and Taryn Walsh, *Altar Guild*

Felix and Simon Spakovszky, *Acolytes*

Dan Ries, *Lector*

Peter Hedlund, *Deacon*

Peter and Maile Hedlund, *Usher*

Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast*

Peter and Hollie Schmidt, *Coffee Guild*

*As we prepare for God's presence in worship, please be aware that some prefer to be quiet at this time.  
When the instruction for standing \* appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.  
At the ✠, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.  
The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
who looks upon us in compassion,  
forgives our sin,  
and heals our lives.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Have mercy, O God,  
**against you, you alone,**  
**we have sinned.**  
**In your compassion,**  
**cleanse us from our sin**  
**and take away our guilt.**  
**Create in us a new heart**  
**and give us a steadfast spirit.**

**Do not cast us away,**  
**but fill us with your Holy Spirit**  
**and restore your joy within us.**

**Amen.**

As tender as parent to child,  
so deep is God's compassion for you.  
As high as heaven is above earth,  
so vast is God's love for you.  
As far as east is from west,  
so far God removes your sin from you,  
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.  
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.  
**Blessed be God forever.**

\* GATHERING HYMN

"Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

ELW 848

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and  
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and  
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to  
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to  
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

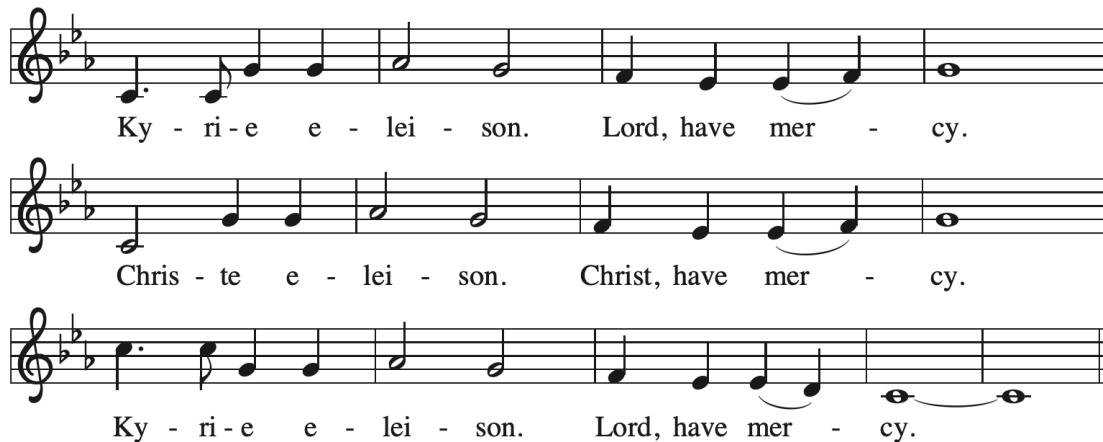
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

\* 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

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4–9

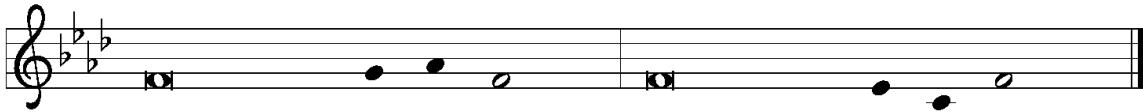
*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

**F**rom Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*The psalm is sung responsively, with the congregation singing the bold verses.*



Give thanks to the Lord, for the <sup>1</sup> Lord is good,  
for God's mercy en- <sup>1</sup> dures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the <sup>1</sup> Lord proclaim**

**that God redeemed them from the hand <sup>1</sup> of the foe,**  
gathering them in <sup>1</sup> from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and <sup>1</sup> from the south.

**Some were fools and took re- <sup>1</sup> bellious paths;**  
**through their sins they <sup>1</sup> were afflicted.**

They loathed all man- <sup>1</sup> ner of food  
and drew near <sup>1</sup> to death's door.

**Then in their trouble they cried <sup>1</sup> to the Lord**  
**and you delivered them from <sup>1</sup> their distress.**

You sent forth your <sup>1</sup> word and healed them  
and rescued them <sup>1</sup> from the grave.

**Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your <sup>1</sup> steadfast love**  
**and your wonderful works <sup>1</sup> for all people.**

Let them offer sacrifices <sup>1</sup> of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with <sup>1</sup> shouts of joy.

## SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1–10

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

**Y**ou were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has

made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (10:30 *only*)



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

\* GOSPEL

John 3:14–21

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**J**esus said: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Vicar Katie Linthicum

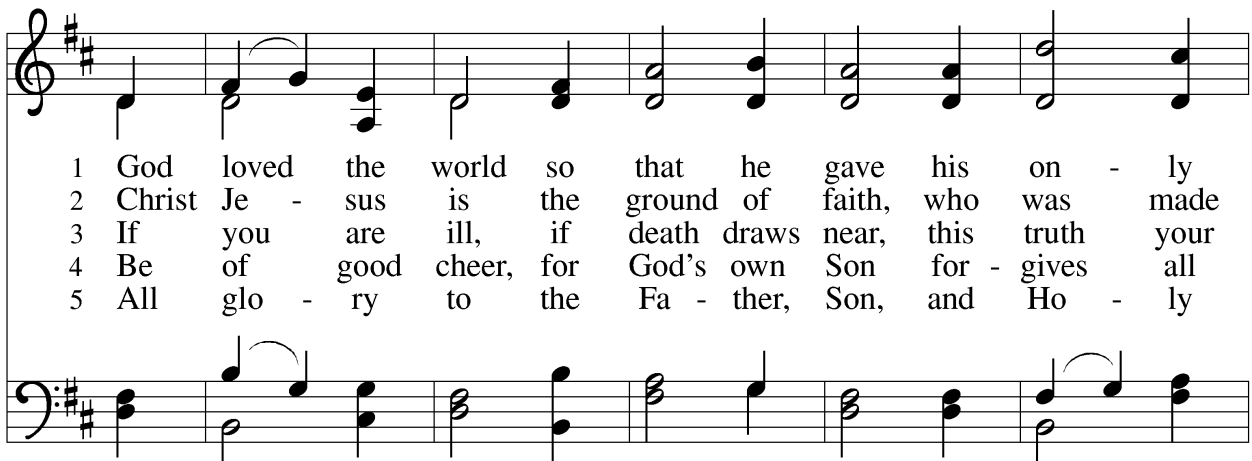
SERMON

Vicar Katie Linthicum

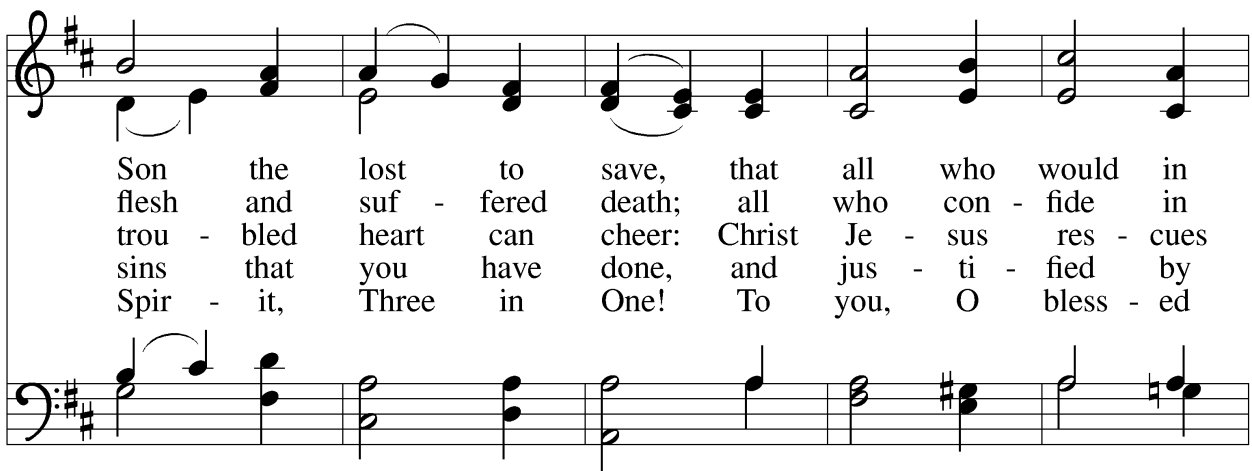
\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"God Loved the World"

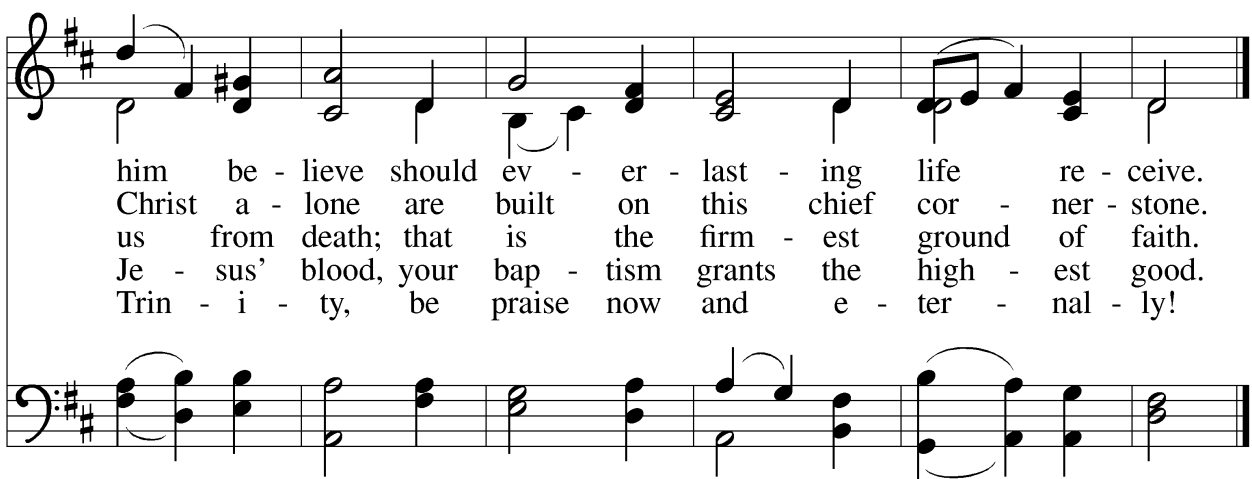
ELW 323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
 Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.



## \* APOSTLES CREED

In response to the gospel, let us confess the faith of the church.

**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 into hell. 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

*The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.*

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land, especially we pray for Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, and Russia. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, especially Dan, Heather, Jeffrey, Lynn, Meredith, Owen, and Susan. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died as well as all the saints that have gone before us, especially Perpetua and Felicity. We are confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

\* PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## MEAL

### OFFERING

You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code:



### ANTHEM

What Wondrous Love Is This?

Appalachian folk hymn

Tune: Wondrous Love from Southern Harmony, 1835

Arranged by Patti Drennan

What wondrous love is this,  
O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the  
Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul,  
for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down beneath God's  
righteous frown,  
Christ lay aside his crown for my soul, for  
my soul.  
Christ lay aside his crown for my soul

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will  
sing,  
to God and to the Lamb I will sing.  
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great  
"I am"  
while millions join the theme.  
I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme I will sing.

And when from death I am free, I'll sing on,  
I'll sing on,  
and when from death I am free, I'll sing on,  
and on.  
And when from death I am free I'll sing and  
joyful be,  
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.  
I'll sing on. I'll sing on!  
I'll sing on! Sing on and on!

\* OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

\* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

O God triune, how majestic  
 is your name in all the earth.  
 Over the eons your merciful might  
 evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.  
 Here by your wisdom  
 are both life and death,  
 growth and decay,  
 the nest and the hunt,  
 sunshine and storm,  
 darkness and light.  
 Sustained by these wonders,  
 we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:  
 The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.  
In Christ you bring life from death;  
we remember his cross,  
we laud his resurrection.  
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.  
Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.  
Receiving this mystery,  
we mortals sing our song:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,  
so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table,  
we your children unite in this song:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds,  
you uphold the living,  
you embrace the dead.  
Send forth your Spirit  
and renew the face of the earth.  
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Give us a future that trusts in you  
and cares for your earth.  
Empowered by your promises,  
we rise from our deaths  
to praise you again:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and amen.  
Amen, and amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Leader:



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.

All:



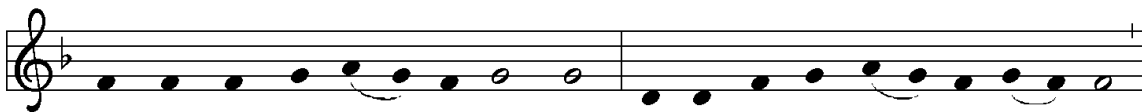
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the bread and wine. Individual communion kits are available in the trays located in the center of the sanctuary.*



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 HYMN (*at 10:30 only*)

"By Grace We Have Been Saved"

ACS 1006

*Refrain*



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the  
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the  
3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,  
still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,  
nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



*Refrain*

young or old, just lis - ten to the song.  
pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.  
there is hope, and love will take you home.

Text: Jonathan Rundman, b. 1971

Music: BY GRACE, Nathan Houge, b. 1977, and Jonathan Rundman

\* TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen.**



\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

\* BLESSING

The peace of God,  
which surpasses all understanding,  
keep your hearts and your minds  
in ✠ Christ Jesus.

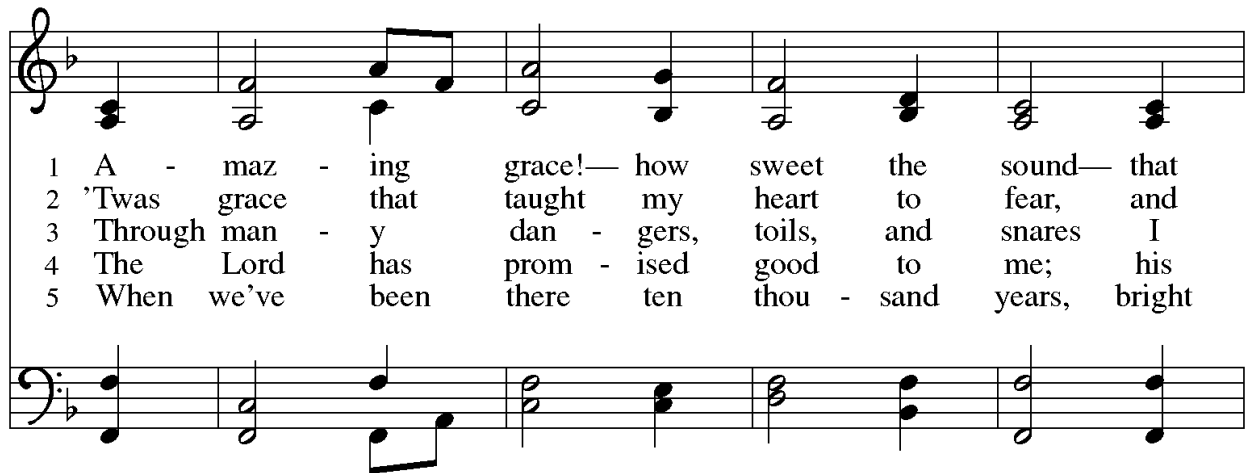
**Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

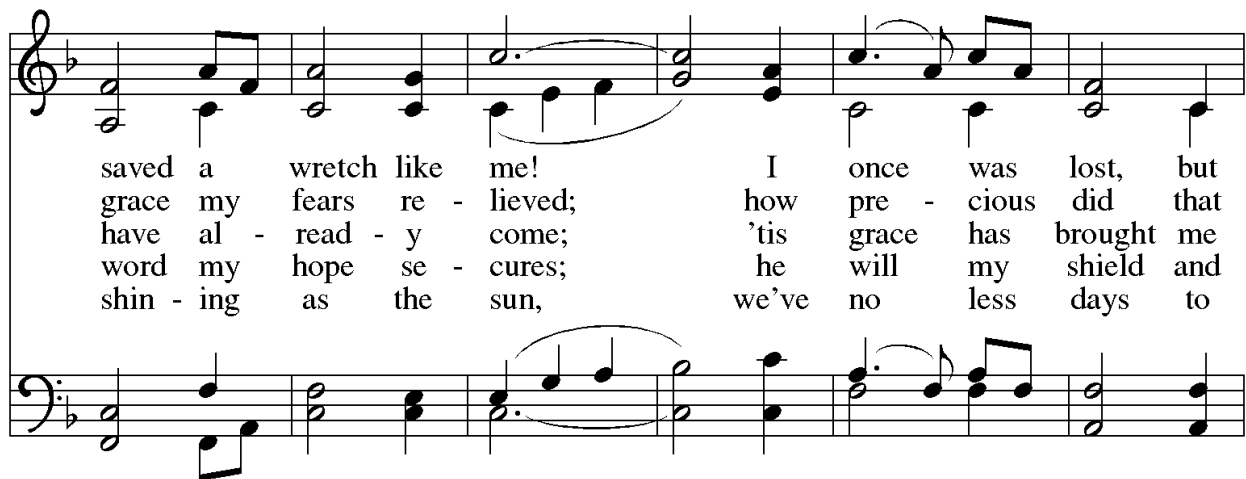
\* SENDING HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was bound but now I'm free.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

\* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS and  
UPCOMING HAPPENINGS  
*at* **SAINT PAUL**



**FOOD IN LENT!**

St. Paul members are dedicated contributors to Arlington EATS....can we do even better in the season of Lent? If each family brings one item during Lent, it would increase our donation.

**Requested items for March are: Gluten Free Items: cereal, snacks, pasta, mac & cheese, baking mixes/pancake mix. Regular Spotlight Items for February are: cereal, crackers, granola bars/cereal bars, dish soap.** Keep in mind that many patrons do not have cars and carry their groceries so no oversized items, small and regular size is best!

**CYF (CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES) UPDATE**

- St. Paul will be having a **youth run worship service** that is inspired by Calumet (our Synod's summer camp) on April 7, at the 10:30 service. All our youth are welcome to participate, whether you have attended Calumet or not. Please let us know if you are interested in helping, by RSVP'ing here:

<https://forms.gle/CCFBDkChTqfctT1x7>



- CYF is hosting is volunteering at **Cradles to Crayons**, an organization that provides new and gently used items to children in foster care. We will be helping to sort and organize items. This is open to families or individuals who want to join us, however, you must be over the age of 5 to participate. March 16, 10:00-12:00. Please RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/PYAAaxZjrhdRzRV37>



- Contact Sarah Carter to talk about how you might help teaching our children in Sunday School at [stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com).

**UPCOMING ADULT FORUM TOPICS | Sundays in Lent beginning February 18**

Witness at the Cross. We will be studying the Crucifixion, both as an event and as the central point in our theology. Books are available from Pastor Liz.



# SAINT PAUL

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

929 Concord Turnpike  
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476  
[www.stpaularlington.org](http://www.stpaularlington.org) | 781-646-7773

### Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*  
The Reverend Liz Senft, *Pastoral Associate*  
Katie Linthicum, *Vicar*  
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*  
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*  
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and  
Families Director*  
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*  
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

### Church Council and Officers

Elizabeth Heichler, *President*  
Monique Airasian, *Vice-President*  
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*  
Kerri Frick, *Secretary*  
Norma Ofsthun, *Financial Officer*  
Mark Olson, *Financial Officer*  
Kristen Anderson  
Eric Carlson  
Peter Hedlund  
Kevin Kreutter  
Bob Sniffen  
Sandy Walker  
Taryn Walsh



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

