

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



March 3, 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 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 6th: Laments from the Depths Psalm 88

March 13th: Individual Lament Psalm 13

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

Serving the community today are:

Marie Breitenbach and Kelli Oliver, *Altar Guild*

Beatrix Carter and Owen Carter, *Acolytes*

Peter Hedlund, *Lector*

Peter Hedlund, *Deacon*

Matt Carter, *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

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

ELW 645

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

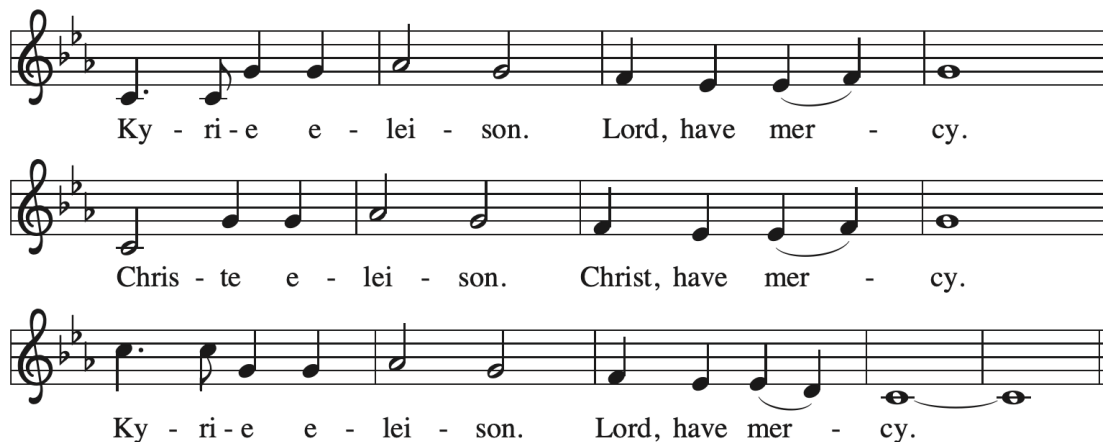
help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

* 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

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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

Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

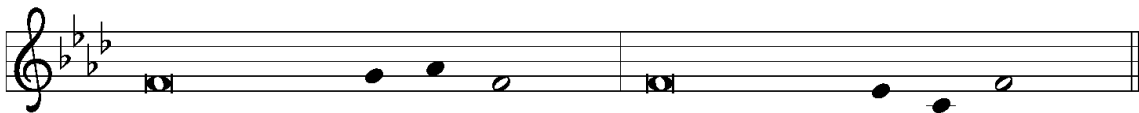
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

PSALM

Psalm 19

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



The heavens declare the glo-¹ ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its¹ maker's handiwork.

One day tells its tale¹ to another,
and one night imparts knowledge¹ to another.

Although they have no¹ words or language,
and their voices¹ are not heard,

their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends¹ of the world,
where God has pitched a tent¹ for the sun.

It comes forth like a bridegroom out¹ of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to¹ run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of¹ it again;
nothing is hidden from its¹ burning heat.

The teaching of the Lord is perfect and re-¹ vives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to¹ the simple.

The statutes of the Lord are just and re-¹ joice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light¹ to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and en-¹ dures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous¹ altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than¹ much fine gold,

sweeter far than honey, than honey ¹ in the comb.

By them also is your ser- ¹ vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is ¹ great reward.

Who can detect one's ¹ own offenses?

Cleanse me from my ¹ secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion ¹ over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a ¹ great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable ¹ in your sight,

O Lord, my strength and ¹ my redeemer.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Prayers The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Liz Senft

SERMON

Pastor Liz Senft

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Canticle of the Turning"

ELW 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

* 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

The Old Rugged Cross

Words and music by George Bennard (1873-1958)

Arranged by Mark Hayes

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the
dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by
the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory
above
To bear it to dark Calvary.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home
far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

* 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:



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 - gainst 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*)

“Holy God, Holy and Glorious”

ELW 637

1 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and glo - ri - ous,
2 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and pow - er - ful,
3 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and beau - ti - ful,
4 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and on - ly wise,
5 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and liv - ing one,
glo - ry most sub - lime, you come as one a - mong us
pow - er with - out peer, you bend to us in weak - ness;
beau - ty un - sur - passed, you are de - spised, re - ject - ed;
wis - dom of great price, you choose the way of fol - ly;
life that nev - er ends, you show your love by dy - ing,
in - to hu - man time, and we be - hold your glo - ry.
emp - tied, you draw near, and we be - hold your pow - er.
scorned, you hold us fast, and we be - hold your beau - ty.
God the cru - ci - fied, and we be - hold your wis - dom.
dy - ing for your friends, and we be - hold you liv - ing.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: NELSON, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

* 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

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW 705

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS
at **SAINT PAUL**



EASTER FLOWERS TODAY! Orders needed by March 3rd, today

Please get your flower orders in over the next few weeks. Forms are in the Upper Narthex. Pick from lilies, hyacinth, daffodils and mums, ranging from \$6.50 -\$11.

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/PYAAaxZjrhRzRV37>



- Contact Sarah Carter to talk about how you might help teaching our children in Sunday School at 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 | 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

