

# TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



February 15, 2026

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are happy you have joined us for worship today. Wherever you are on your journey with or toward God, you are welcome here—you are a blessing to this assembly. We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

Lutherans believe, teach, and confess that in, with, and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. All who are drawn in faith are welcome to join in this confession and receive the Sacrament.

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. With this service bulletin you can follow and participate in this morning's liturgy.

**New to St. Paul?** If you have questions or want more information, please fill out a newcomer form with the QR code at the right. Questions about transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, membership, or transferring from one of the other Christian traditions, may be directed to the Church Office at 781-646-7773 or [parishadmin@stpaularlington.org](mailto:parishadmin@stpaularlington.org).



## SUNDAY SERVICE

8:15am | Holy Communion

9:30am | Dimanche Gras potluck breakfast

10:30am | Holy Communion & livestreamed

11:30am | Coffee Hour in Goodman Fellowship Hall

## 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.

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY:

Jennifer Parker, Taryn Walsh & Kim Fechtel, *Altar Guild*  
Simon and Felix D.S., *Acolytes*

Peter Hedlund, *Lector*

Peter Schmidt, *Cantor*

Taryn Walsh, *Deacon*

Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, *Ushers*

Hollie Schmidt & Mat Carter, *Livestream Broadcast Team*

Peter & Hollie Schmidt & Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild*

**About Today's Cover Art** The Rev. Cara B. Hochhalter is a United Church of Christ (UCC) minister. She received her Masters of Divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, where she studied the intersections of art, theology and justice.

The images in her book, *A Challenging Peace in the Life and Stories of Jesus* were created through the simple print-making process of carving out a block, applying ink and pulling a print. Cara says, "The interaction of light and dark is important in each image as we cannot have one without the other. The dark defines the light, and vice versa. I find this to be theological as we look to the whole—the light and the dark, the joy and the despair, the peace and the conflict—all under an umbrella of Divine Love that yearns for wholeness."

Hochhalter, Cara B.. Transfiguration, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*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

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Lloyd Larson

### WELCOME

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

### \* GATHERING HYMN


Shine Jesus, Shine

ELW 681

Verses / Estrofas




1. Lord,	the light	of your love	is shin - ing,	In the
2. Lord,	I come	to your awe - some	pres - ence,	From the
3. As	we gaze	on your king - ly	bright - ness,	So our
<hr/>				
1. Dios,	la luz	de tu a - mor	bri - llan - do es - tá;	en el
2. A	tu san - ta	pre - sen - cia	ven - go;	de la
3. Con -	tem - plan - do	tu faz	bri - llan - te,	nues - tros



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the  
 shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By the blood I may  
 fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from  
 me - dio de las ti - nie - blas, Cris - to, e - res la  
 som - bra a tu luz ra - dian - te, pue - do en - trar a tra -  
 ros - tros dan tu i - ma - gen; trans - for - ma - dos de



world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now  
 en - ter your bright-ness; Search me, try me, con - sume all my  
 glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your  
 luz de es - te mun - do, tu ver - dad re - ve - la - da nos  
 vés de la san - gre; prué - ba - me y con - su - me mi os -  
 glo - ria en glo - ria, nues - tras vi - das re - fle - jan tu his -



bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
 dark - ness: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
 sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
 li - bra. Bri - lla en mí. Bri - lla en mí.  
 cu - ri - dad. Bri - lla en mí. Bri - lla en mí.  
 to - ria. Bri - lla en mí. Bri - lla en mí.


Refrain / Estribillo



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.  
 Bri - lla, Je - sús, re - fle - jan - do la luz del Pa - dre;



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,  
 Es - pí - ri - tu, ar - de en nues - tro ser. Flu - yan do - quier



flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,  
 rí - os de com - pa - sión y gra - cia; man - da po - der



Lord, and let there be light!  
 y que ven - ga la luz.

Last time / Última vez

\* 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.**

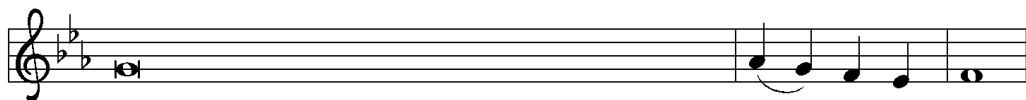
KYRIE (*sung at 10:30*)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



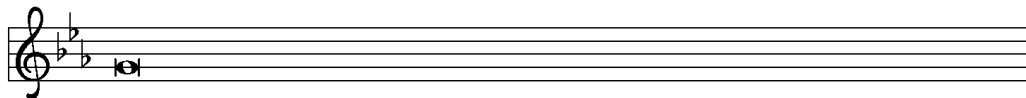
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



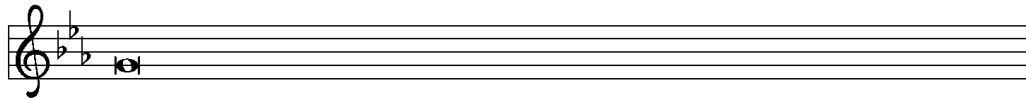
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



\* HYMN OF PRAISE (10:30 only)

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



#### \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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 24:12-18

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (*sung at 10:30*)

Psalm 2



Why are the nations <sup>1</sup> in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter <sup>1</sup> empty threats?

**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes <sup>1</sup> plot together,  
against the Lord and against the <sup>1</sup> Lord's anointed?**

"Let us break their <sup>1</sup> yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their <sup>1</sup> bonds from us."

**God whose throne is in heav- <sup>1</sup> en is laughing;  
the Lord holds them <sup>1</sup> in derision.**

Then in wrath God <sup>1</sup> speaks to them,  
and in rage fills <sup>1</sup> them with terror.

**"As for me, I have anoint- <sup>1</sup> ed my king  
upon Zion, my <sup>1</sup> holy mountain."**

Let me announce the decree <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- <sup>1</sup> gotten you.

**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for <sup>1</sup> your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for <sup>1</sup> your possession.**

You shall crush them with an <sup>1</sup> iron rod  
and shatter them like a <sup>1</sup> piece of pottery."

**And now, you <sup>1</sup> kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers <sup>1</sup> of the earth.**

Submit to the <sup>1</sup> Lord with fear,  
and with trembling <sup>1</sup> bow in worship;

**lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden <sup>1</sup> blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take ref- <sup>1</sup> uge in God!**

SECOND READING (*10:30 only*)

2 Peter 1:16-21

A reading from Second Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying,



"This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**\* GOSPEL**

Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND SERMON

Pastor Don Larsen

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

How Good, Lord, To Be Here

ELW 315

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.  
Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

\*NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. 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.*

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve especially Bobby, Dan, Diane, George, Jim, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, Roberta, and Susan. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

*Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

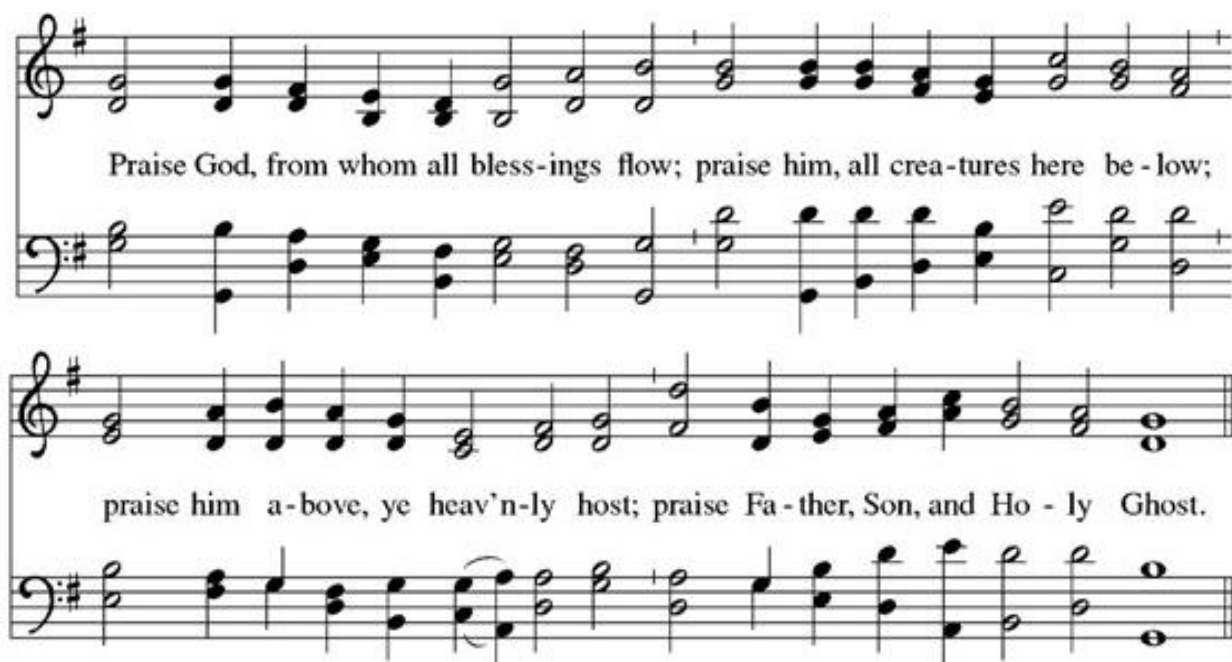
MUSIC DURING THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

## MEAL

**\*OFFERING SONG**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

ELW 884



The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the bass line is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The score is divided into two systems, each with a Treble and Bass staff. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

**OFFERING**

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

*You may also make an offering by placing a gift in the offering plate, which is in the narthex.*



### \* OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### \* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

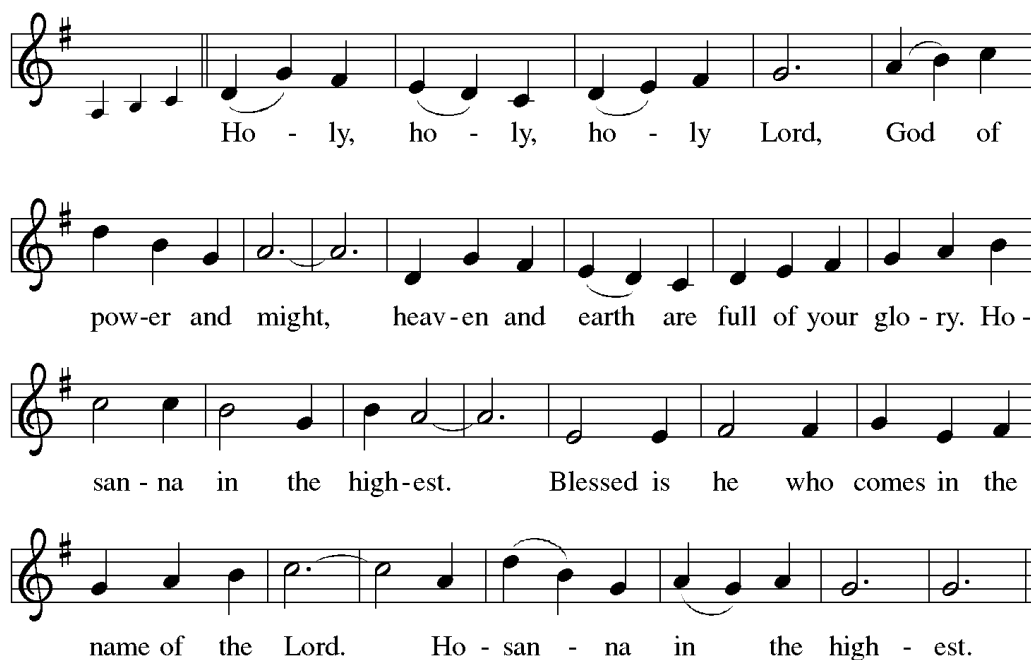
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them 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, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of eternal life. 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-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory as we celebrate the mystery of faith  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this  
heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy  
Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

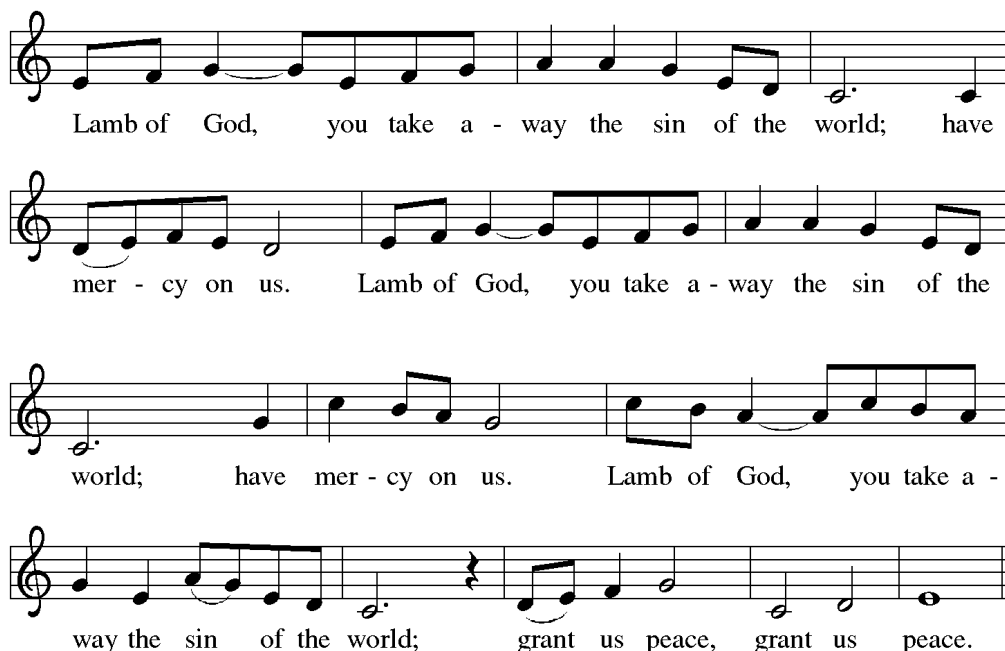
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**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.**

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.*

*Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.*



# COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 only)

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838



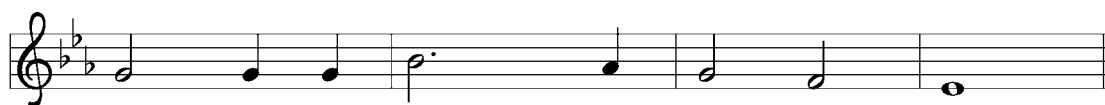
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## \*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

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

# SENDING

## \*BENEDICTION

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  
 † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \* SENDING HYMN

Farewell to Alleluia

Robert Buckley Farley

**Antiphon:** Alleluia, alleluia. Enclose and seal up the word,  
*(Choir alone)* alleluia, alleluia. Let it remain in the secret of your heart,  
 alleluia, alleluia, until the appointed time.  
 You shall say it with great joy when that day comes.  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Hymn:**



<i>Choir</i> 1. Al - le - lu - ia,	song of glad - ness,	Voice of joy that
<i>Choir &amp; Cong.</i> 2. Al - le - lu - ia	thou re-sound - est,	True Je - ru - sa -
<i>Choir &amp; Cong.</i> 3. Al - le - lu - ia	can - not al - ways	Be our song while
<i>Choir &amp; Cong.</i> 4. There-fore in our	hymns we pray thee	Grant us, bless - ed



can - not die;	Al - le - lu - ia	is the an - them
lem and free;	Al - le - lu - ia,	joy - ful moth - er,
here be - low;	"Al - le - lu - ia"	our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty,	At the last to	keep thine Eas - ter



Ev - er dear to	choirs on high;	In the house of
All thy chil - dren	sing with thee;	But by Ba - by -
Make us for a	while fore - go;	For the so - lemn
With thy faith - ful	saints on high;	There to thee for -



God a - bid - ing	Thus they sing	e - ter - nal - ly.
lon's sad wa - ters	Mourn - ing ex -	iles now are we.
time is com - ing	When our tears	for sin must flow.
ev - er sing - ing	Al - le - lu - ia	joy - ful - ly.

**Text:** Antiphon: Ambrosian Rite, medieval Milan  
 Hymn: 11th century Latin, tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.  
**Music:** Setting Robert Buckley Farlee, Hymn tune: *Praise, My Soul*, John Goss. 1800-1880



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Toccata on Deo Gratias

Richard Keys Biggs (1886-1962)

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

### ***DIMANCHE GRAS (Fat Sunday) Breakfast | February 15***

Please join everyone for Dimanche Gras or Fat Sunday Breakfast during the learning hour (9:30-10:30) on February 15th in Goodman Fellowship Hall. Wear your mardi gras gear and come with something tasty to share as we have a meal together before the beginning of Lent. We will be making pancakes!

Here's an opportunity to connect over a meal and spend time together.

### **THEOLOGY ON TAP IN FEBRUARY | February 15<sup>th</sup> at 4PM**

Pancakes for breakfast and a good beer, with or without alcohol, in the afternoon. We get together at *Mighty Squirrel Brewing Company* (411 Waverley Oaks Road in Waltham) at 4:00PM around a question once posed to Jesus: who is my neighbor? What is the interplay in our lives between reflection on such a question and living into the question with action? Come and share good conversation.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY | February 18 at 7PM**

Lent begins with a solemn call to prayer, fasting and repentance as we begin the journey through ashes to Easter. The spare, powerful liturgy of Ash Wednesday begins at 7:00PM. Make space in your life to receive both a sign of your mortality and a foretaste of the feast to come.

### **HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER AND SOUP SUPPERS | Wednesdays in Lent**

Beginning on February 25, we gather for midweek Lenten prayer on five successive Wednesdays. At 6PM, we share a simple meal of soup and conversation. At 7PM, we sing Holden Evening Prayer in the sanctuary.

During these services, we will consider portions of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and comments on the Sermon by Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his book *Discipleship*.

### **MUSIC WITH FRIENDS CONCERT | Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 5 pm.**

Featuring a varied program of music by J.S. Bach, Igor Stravinsky, Vaughan Williams, and others performed by Charles Blandy (tenor), Joan Ellersick (viola) and Tom Berryman (piano). This benefit concert is free and open to all. Attendees will be invited to support *Lamplight Women's Literacy*, [www.lamplightliteracy.org](http://www.lamplightliteracy.org), a nonprofit organization that provides educational and workforce development programs to low-income immigrant workers seeking to advance their career goals.

## ARLINGTON EATS | February needs

The first school vacation lunch distribution of the year will occur in February so many of our February requests will support that program. Anything that comes in after this distribution can be used for April school vacation. February Spotlight Items:

- Granola bars (especially MadeGood, Kind Bars)
- Snack packs (especially Goldfish, Pirate's Booty)
- Boxed mac n cheese (Kraft, Goodles)
- Baked beans
- Coconut milk
- Soy sauce
- Dish soap
- Baby wipes

## ST. PAUL BIBLE STUDY | Thursday Evenings, 7-8pm by Zoom

All are invited to join our bible study! We will gather on Thursday evenings on Zoom from 7-8pm. Each week, we will study the upcoming Sunday's lectionary texts, which are the bible readings we hear in worship. To access the readings and Zoom link, please see St. Paul's Weekly Update email. If you are not a subscriber, you can sign up on our website or email Pastor Larsen for the Bible Study Zoom link <stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com>.

## SPRING POTLUCK EVENTS

The Community meals that we have been sharing have been really lovely, and we want to make sure that everyone can mark their calendars for our upcoming times.

- February 15:** 9:30am "Fat Sunday" Breakfast. Bring a dish to share as we celebrate before our Ash Wednesday.
- March 7:** 5:00-6:00 Musical Performance  
6:00 Community Potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall
- April 11:** 6:00 Community Potluck
- May 2:** 6:00 Community Potluck

## THE COMING WEEK and BEYOND AT ST. PAUL

Sunday, February 15	8:15am & 10:30am 9:00am	Service of Holy Communion Fat Sunday breakfast between the services
Wednesday, February 18	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, February 12	7:30pm	Bible study on zoom
Sunday, February 22	8:15am & 10:30am 9:00am 9:30am 11:30am	Service of Holy Communion Choir practice All educational ministries Coffee Hour



## Lamplight Women's Literacy

Women's Literacy, [www.lamplightliteracy.org](http://www.lamplightliteracy.org), is a faith-based, Arlington, nonprofit that provides adult education and workforce development programs to low-income, immigrant adults. Our mission is to partner with individuals of limited incomes, encouraging them to envision ambitious futures, and responding with tailored educational programs that support their goals.

Lamplight students come from over 19 different countries and work primarily in childcare, cleaning, construction, patient care, and delivery job sectors. All programs are offered free of charge.

How we help:

- English as a Second Language (ESOL) program offering three levels of English instruction, four evenings a week, at Arlington Housing Authority and Arlington EATS
- Healthcare Careers Pathways program preparing CNAs and entry level healthcare workers for success on the TEAS nursing school entrance exam in English and math
- Individualized resume writing, interview prep, job search support, and college advising
- Community resource connections

St. Paul connections: Lamplight Women's Literacy was founded in 2020 by St. Paul member Lisa Chiulli Lay. Additionally, St. Paul member Tom Berryman, is a valued Lamplight volunteer assisting in the ESOL program. Feel free to ask either of them about the work.

Despite challenging times, Lamplight students model what it means to stay hopeful. They remain patient with the future, flexible in their thinking, and diligent to make the most of whatever opportunity today holds. We invite you to be hopeful, too, and partner with us in the following ways.

How you can help:

- Pray- Lamplight was created to share Jesus' love for people by working for their good in practical ways as our faith calls us to do. We depend on the Holy Spirit to guide and enable this work.
- Donate- Lamplight runs on a small budget (31K in FY25) relative to the size of its operations. Consequently, all donations have an outsized impact on increasing organizational capacity.
- Volunteer- Lamplight needs skilled volunteers to support all aspects of its operations. Please complete a volunteer interest form on our website to start that conversation.
- Join us- Saturday, March 7th, at 5pm here at St. Paul's for a free benefit concert, Music with Friends, organized by St. Paul member and Lamplight volunteer, Tom Berryman and his wife Joan Ellersick.



# SAINT PAUL

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

[www.stpaularlington.org](http://www.stpaularlington.org) | 781-646-7773

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### Church Council and Officers

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