



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

7:00p Service of Worship

**Ash Wednesday | February 18, 2026**

May God's grace continue to  
overflow to and through you.



## Assisting In Worship

### **Assisting Minister**

JoAnn Jordan

### **Reader**

JoAnn Jordan

### **Acolyte**

Gail Seyfarth

### **Sound**

Mike Scherr

### **Camera Operator**

Sue Scherr

### **Screen Operator**

Mike Scherr

### **Ushers**

Judy Roberts &  
Kathie Snyder

### **Greeter**

Hank Roberts

### **Church Security**

TBD

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church!

We hope you will use this bulletin during the week to have a song to sing, prayers to pray and give comfort, whether you are worshipping in person or from home on your electronic devices.

Although not all of us are physically together to worship, our Lord is still with us. We give thanks for those who attend in-person and the technology that allows us to share the bulletin and the worship service on the website.

St. Paul has a Community Prayer Cross located outside near the road. You are welcome to leave a prayer request there or in the box when you enter, and it will be placed on the cross.

Important community ministries of St. Paul include the Tuesday Community Meal, Saturday Food Pantry, and the Early Childhood Learning Center. Your financial gift makes a difference for Christ and His kingdom and enables St. Paul to be *the community church that cares*. It can be made by online giving, on Sunday morning, mailed to the church, or dropped off during normal office hours - Monday-Friday • 9a-12noon.

*May God bless you and give you peace!*

# Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude ~** “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” –  
Spiritual, Arr by Albert Zabel - Fonda Davies

## **Scripture ~ Psalm 51**

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Let us pray, **Response:** Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Ministry in Music

“We Remember” ~ Joel Raney – St. Paul Singers

### Scripture ~ Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

*Because of the coming Day of the Lord, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God’s power to save.*

<sup>1</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near— <sup>2</sup>a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. <sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. <sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? <sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

Word of God. Word of Life. **Response: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture ~ 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

<sup>20b</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Response: Thanks be to God.**

## Lenten Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Gospel** ~ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Response: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>16</sup>“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

<sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **Response: Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon** ~ Pastor Ashley Nicolls

# Hymn - God Loved the World



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.

## Invitation to Lent

Pastor: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## Confession of Sin

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

*(silence for reflection)*

Pastor: Most holy and merciful God,

**Response: we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

Pastor: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**Response: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Pastor: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Response: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

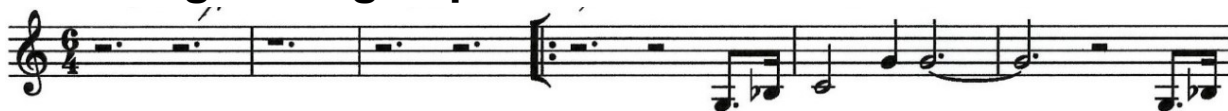
## Imposition of Ashes

Pastor: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Response: Amen.**

Pastor: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

### Song During Imposition of Ashes ~ *From the Dust*



The musical notation is written on a single staff in 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of several measures, including a repeat sign. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

1. From the dust we came, - - - to the  
2. From the dust we came, - - - to the

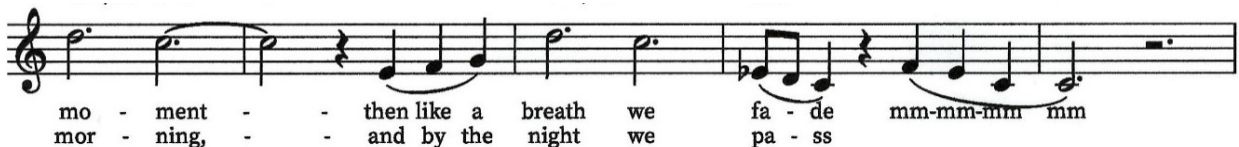




dust we sha-ll re - turn      From the dust we came, - - - to the dust we sha-ll re -  
 dust we sha-ll re - turn      From the dust we came, - - - to the dust we sha-ll re -



turn God e-ver - las - ting,      age un-to age the same We are a  
 turn God e-ver - las - ting,      we are cut down the grass Seeds in the



mo - ment - - then like a breath we fa - de mm-mm-mm mm  
 mor - ning, - - and by the night we pa - ss



mm-mm-mm - mm      mm-mm-mm - mm      mm-mm-mm



27  $\text{C}$   $\text{C}$   $\text{Cm/Eb}$   $\text{F}$   $\text{C}$   
 mm mm O - Lord, have mer - cy - - -



- - - O - - Lord, have mer - - cy - - -



- - - O - - Lord, have mer - - cy - - -

Music and Lyrics by  
 Paul Zach and Kate Bluett

## Prayer after Imposition of Ashes

Pastor: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**Response:** that we may show forth your glory in the world.

Pastor: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

**Response:** bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Pastor: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**Response:** Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Assisting Minister: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*(pause for silence)*

Assisting Minister: Guide your church, O God.

**Response:** Accompany all Christians in this season of repentance, and renew our faith in the riches of grace you give to us in baptism.

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Heal this earth, O God.

**Response:** Satisfy the needs of every parched place, every diverse ecosystem, every suffering creature. Though all return to dust, grant beauty and purpose to each living thing.

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Restore the nations, O God.

**Response:** Let your healing spring up quickly across the world. Give all in authority the will to loose the bonds of injustice and let any who are oppressed go free.

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Deliver your people, O God.

**Response:** Comfort any whose hearts are rent by grief, uphold any who are sick, bring food to those who hunger, and give housing to all without shelter.

Assisting Minister: Be especially with those we name now aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)*

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Bless this assembly, O God.

**Response:** Reconcile us to one another and to you. Strengthen our resolve to fast from evil, open our hands in sharing, and quicken our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Hold us forever, O God.

**Response:** We thank you for all who now know their treasure in heaven, and for all who on earth proclaimed your abounding, steadfast love.

Assisting Minister: Hear us O God, **Response:** Your mercy is great.

Assisting Minister: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Response:** Amen.

## The Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**Response:** And also with you.

## Offering

*(The collection plates will be brought forward at this time. Offering plates can still be found at the back of the sanctuary if you did not place your offering in the plates when you entered. Online giving at [www.stpaulsarasota.org](http://www.stpaulsarasota.org) is also available.)*

## Offering Prayer

Assisting Minister: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Response:** Amen.

## Spiritual Communion Prayer

Pastor: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## Holy Communion

*(Those who wish to partake of Holy Communion in your seats,  
please lift your elements for blessing and consecration).*

Pastor: 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Response: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

**Response: 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.**

## Invitation to Communion

Pastor: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: Those who wish to remain at their seats to partake of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine/grape juice may do so now. The body and blood of Christ is given and shed for you. Take and eat. Take and drink. Those who wish to come forward to the altar may do so at this time.

# Communion Music ~ Beautiful Things



1 All this pain; I won - der if I'll  
 2 All this earth; . . . could all that I'll  
 3 All a - round, . . . hope is that is  
 spring - ing



ev - er find my way. I won - der if my  
 lost ev - er be found? . . . Could a gar - den  
 up from this old ground. . . Out of cha - os,



life could real - ly change at all.  
 come up from this ground at all?  
 life is be - ing found in you.



You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti - ful things out of the dust.



You make beau - ti - ful things, you make beau-ti -



Text: Michael Gungor, b. 1960, and Lisa Gungor, b. 1982  
Music: Michael Gungor and Lisa Gungor  
Text and music © 2009 worshipguitar.com/loops, admin, CapitalCMGPublishing.com

BEAUTIFUL THINGS  
[regular]

## Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and forever. **Response: Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Assisting Minister: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Response: Amen.**

## Concluding Prayer

Pastor: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Response: Amen.**

## Blessing

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Response: Amen.**

## Sending Song ~ *Savior When in Dust to You*

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;  
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,  
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,  
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,

when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;  
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,  
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-tur-ing scorn,  
by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,

oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,  
by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,  
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,  
oh, from earth to heav'n re-stored, might-y, re-as-cend-ed Lord,



bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 turn, oh, turn a fa - v'ring eye; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.  
 Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

## Dismissal

Pastor: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

Children: And all God's children say,

**Response: Amen.**

## Leave in Silence

## St. Paul Mission Statement

As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we are called through baptism to proclaim and bear witness to God's reconciling grace in Jesus Christ to all so that by joyfully sharing God's Word and encouraging each other to service for the sake of others, our lives together make a difference for Christ and His kingdom.

Please remember in your prayers...



All those serving in the U.S. Military, especially Gage Fournier. The homeless in our neighborhood, our city, our nation and the world. The Florida-Bahamas Synod Office of the Bishop Staff: Bishop Pedro, Assisting Ministers to the Bishop Pastors Carlos, Derek, Nicole, and Rob, Specialists Kim, Bill, & Brittney, Support Staff Tina, Yuliet, & Ileana.  
SURE – Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity. Community Meal and Food Pantry guests.  
Prayers upon the HOPE Community Prayer Cross. The Arlington Park Neighborhood.

<b>Members</b> Manny Acevedo Earleen Ashbrook Beetle/Miller Family Dorothy Boller Susan Burmaster Missy Craig Sue Fisher Joann Flanigan Bob Fong JoAnn Jordan Valerie Nicolls Nancy Parmakian James Paulsson Colleen Ryan Betty Smowton Sandy Tull <b>Homebound Members</b> Donna Casala Evelyn Gulliksen Lindy Lindemann Virginia McQuaig Michael Reiter Doris Schlotterback Carole Wilson <b>Friends and Family</b> Alice – friend of JoAnn Jordan Brad – brother of Cindy Paxton Debbie – friend of Scherrs Donnie – community meal guest Ed – friend of Sandy Choquette Jeff – community meal guest Mark – friend of M & D Hillerich MJ – friend of Ron Zimmerman Ryan – community meal guest Sharon – friend of Jane Schubert T.J and family. – community meal guest	Sandi Acevedo – sister-in-law of Acevedo Jesus Alegria – niece-in-law of Sandy Tull Reyna Alegria – niece-in-law of Sandy Tull Kareem Ali – friend of Fred Melton Clinton Allen – friend of Jim Paulsson Laura Anderson – niece of Roberts Sheryl Brandes – sister-in-law of Sue Scherr Buete and Pearson family– family of Brian McCulley Caroline Burmaster – sister-in-law of Susan Burmaster Todd Couch – son of Sandy Choquette Mike Cunningham- friend of H. Roberts Fonda Davies – Director of Music Ministries David Eller – friend of Carolyn Mele John and Joy Emanuelli – friends of Roberts Gladys Faraone – friend of H. Roberts Tony Felicetti – brother of Irene Felicetti Bill & Vickie Hall – family of Fonda Davies Niklaus Heisler – great-grandson of Irene Felicetti Katy Hernandev – niece of M. Acevedo Pr. John Hilficker – friend of Conrad Hellwege, Jr. Nicole Ketter – friend of Susan Burmaster Kate Kretschmann- family of L. Lindemann	Karen Kugler – friend of Marty Hillerich Jesse Lugo – brother of Jose Lugo David McCall – brother of J. Roberts Marsha McKinney- former member Becky Nobles – friend of Lindy Lindemann Linda and Jim Norris – family of Doris Schlotterback Karen Paulsson – sister of J. Paulsson Manny Ribas – friend of Cindy Schlotterback Anita Rose – friend of Irene Felicetti Claude Russell – uncle of T. Bateman Brian and Ken Schlotterback—sons of Doris Schlotterback Haley Schlotterback – granddaughter-in-law of Doris Schlotterback. Bill Schroeder – friend of Conrad Hellwege, Jr. Bethany Smith – daughter of B&B Smith Joyce Swartzbaugh – Former Member Natalie Smowton Boxx – great-granddaughter of Betty Smowton Noel Scott Studenwalt – nephew of B&B Smith Bill Sweeney – grandson of Marilyn and George Hutfilz Dan Torrence – friend of K. Snyder David Van Ness – brother of Missy Craig Elaine & Mark Vanderweight- friends of Jim Paulsson Andrea Waltje – friend of Irene Felicetti Curtis Weckwerth – cousin of Rich Weckwerth John and Janet Welther – family of Ethel Hamilton
---	--	--

## Announcements

**Sunday is the Annual Meeting!** Come hear all that St. Paul has accomplished in 2025 and the plans for 2026. It's right after worship. It's the only meeting of the year that people can share anything they want. Voting members please stay so we have a quorum.

**Photo Directory Time!** Sign up today if you haven't already. The last day of picture taking is February 23. If you want to submit a photo instead, please see PrAshley or Tracy.

**Bible Study on Living Out the Lord's Prayer** and meal will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Thursdays from 5:15-6:15p. Please sign up in the narthex.

**Nehemiah Action!** Join the other Sarasota congregations who are a part of SURE (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity) at the annual gathering to encourage officials to support mental health accessibility to our community. March 9 at 6:30. Location First Congregational Church. We hope to have 30 people from St. Paul attend.

**Maundy Thursday worship** on April 2 at 7p.

**Good Friday worship** on April 3 at 7p.

**Kid's Easter Celebration** on Saturday, April 4 1:30-3:30p. Sign-ups are coming soon for helping with the event.

**Easter Sunday** April 5 at 9:30 with butterfly release after worship.

**Holy Humor Sunday** April 12. This year's theme is Christmas in Easter. Come join in singing Christmas carols with Easter lyrics.

**Symphony Salvage Blue Bin!** Keep cleaning out your closets. If items don't fit in the bin safely, bring items to the Fellowship Hall on Sundays or to the office during the week. Everything is accepted except large furniture and large appliances.

**Prayer Zoom – Talking with God!** Join the prayer ministry. Thursdays at 3pm. Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81662784525?pwd=QSt4TGNSR2F3L0ovUDJ3SVdWbjRYUT09>

**DIRECTIONS:**  
Find and circle the  
vocabulary words  
in the grid. Look  
for them in all  
directions including  
backwards and  
diagonally.

# Ash Wednesday

## Word Search

ABSTAIN  
ALMSGIVING  
ASH WEDNESDAY  
ASHES  
BLESS  
CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH  
CROSS  
DESERT  
DUST



EASTER	PALM SUNDAY
FASTING	PENITENCE
FOREHEAD	PRAYER
FORTY DAYS	PURPLE
JESUS	REPENTANCE
LENT	SACRIFICE
MASS	SHROVE TUESDAY
MORTALITY	TEMPTATION

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

*and Early Childhood Learning Center*

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
and the Florida-Bahamas Synod, established 1955  
2256 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota, Florida 34239  
Phone: 941.955.6479 Fax: 941.955.8600 ECLC Phone: 941.955.6480  
Website: [www.StPaulSarasota.org](http://www.StPaulSarasota.org)

The Rev. Ashley Nicolls, Pastor – [PrAshley1010@gmail.com](mailto:PrAshley1010@gmail.com)  
Tracy Bateman, Parish Administrator – [stpaul-admin@verizon.net](mailto:stpaul-admin@verizon.net)  
Fonda Davies, Director of Music Ministries— [fondadavies6@gmail.com](mailto:fondadavies6@gmail.com)  
Lisa McLean, ECLC Director--[StPaul-eclc@verizon.net](mailto:StPaul-eclc@verizon.net)  
Iven Ayad - ECLC Assisting Minister Director--[StPaul-eclc@verizon.net](mailto:StPaul-eclc@verizon.net)  
The Rev. Don Hillerich, D.D. - Pastor Emeritus – [djhillerich@yahoo.com](mailto:djhillerich@yahoo.com)

## Executive Committee

JoAnn Jordan, President     Judy Roberts, Vice President  
George Hutfilz, Treasurer     Bob Lariviere, Secretary

## Congregation Council

Irene Felicetti  
George Hutfilz  
JoAnn Jordan

Bob Lariviere  
Pr. Ashley Nicolls  
Nancy Parmakian

Judy Roberts  
Mike Scherr  
Esther Smith



Church Copyright License #2262644  
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24141  
One License # A-727949