

*"I have come*  
seeking fruit  
on this **fig tree** ..."

Luke 13:7, ESV



# *Repent and bear fruit*

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS

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Third Sunday in Lent..... March 20, 2022

The *Gospel*, our text this week, actually precedes last week's Gospel, Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem (Lk 13:31–35). In that lesson, Jesus faced confrontations over the message about repentance and perishing that He preached at the beginning of chapter 13, this week's Gospel. This week's hard words will often bring opposition, but their purpose is that sinners repent, be forgiven, and thus be restored.

There is a Cry Room available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

Children Leaving the Sanctuary: This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. Thank you

*The Lord's Supper* is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and

blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

### **OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US**

Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose “e-tithing” by having a weekly deposit to St Paul’s from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

**Bell Choir**    Go To Dark Gethsemene

**Hymn 420**    Christ, the Life of All the Living

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*P* In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*C* **Amen.**

*P* Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*P* Our help is in the name of the Lord,

*C* **who made heaven and earth.**

*P* I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

*C* **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*P* O almighty God, merciful Father,

*C* **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

*P* Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*C* **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit

Psalm 1:6 & Psalm 5:4-8

*P* For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

*C* **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

*P* For You are not a God who delights in wickedness;

*C* **evil may not dwell with You.**

*P* The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes;

*C* **You hate all evildoers.**

*P* You destroy those who speak lies;

*C* **the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

*P* But I, through the abundance of Your steadfast love, will enter Your house.

*C* **I will bow down toward Your holy temple in the fear of**

**You.**

*P* Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;

*C* **make Your way straight before me.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*P* For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

*C* **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Kyrie**

LSB 186



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

Lent 3

*P* The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

*P* Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–20

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

<sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

☐ Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (half), A4 (half), G4 (whole). Below the staff is a square box containing the lyrics 'Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.' aligned with the notes.

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

<sup>2</sup>And He answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and

killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And He told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



### **Apostles' Creed**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn 561** The Tree of Life

**Sermon Text**

Luke 13:1-9

**Sermon** "Turn to Life"



- I. Jesus calls not just the “greatest” sinners, but all of us \_\_\_\_\_.
- II. To all those who do repent, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. Jesus teaches that repentance unto life \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hymn 538** Praise Be to Christ

**Prayers**

**Lord’s Prayer** LSB 162

*P* Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*C* **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn 596** All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

**Confirmation of Heaven Marie Hicks**

**Benedicamus** LSB 202

*P* Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction** LSB 202

*P* The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Hymn 919** Abide, O Dearest Jesus

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book  
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House.

**Today’s altar flowers** are given to the glory of the Lord by Larry  
and Tammy Britt in thanksgiving for Heaven’s confirmation.

**Altar guild is accepting donations for Easter lilies.** Place in the  
offering box marked “flowers,” or give to any attendant. There was a  
price increase. Any amount is welcome. Thank you.

**WE ARE IN NEED** of visitors for our shut-ins for the months of May,  
June, and July. We visit about 15 home bound members each month. If  
you can help, PLEASE call Ellen Tjernagel

**Midweek Lenten Dessert Sign-up List** is on the “Check It Out”  
board by the school secretary’s office. We need your help, please!!

**Wednesday Lenten Service, March 23, 2022**

- Witness to Christ: Peter
- Lenten meal at 6:00
- Lenten Service at 7:00

**Calendar of Events**

**TODAY: ..... March 20, 2022**  
Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am  
Worship Service.....9:30 am  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation ..... after Church  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation..... 12:00 pm  
Adult Basketball in Gym..... 3:00 pm  
Bell Choir Practice..... 5:00 pm

**MON:**

Board Meetings..... 7:00 pm

**TUES:**

Pastor at The Whitlock..... 10:30 am

Lay Ministry Meeting..... 6:30 pm

Prayer Circle..... 7:00 pm

**WED:**

Men’s Bible Study..... 9:30 am

Day School Chapel..... 11:00 am

Lenten Meal..... 6:00 pm

Lenten Service..... 7:00 pm

**THURS:**

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study.....9:30 am

Preschool Chapel..... 9:30 am

**NEXT SUNDAY:.....March 27, 2022**

Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am

Worship Service with Communion..... 9:30 am

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation .....after Church

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation..... 12:00 pm

Bell Choir Practice..... 5:00 pm

Adult Choir Practice..... 6:00 pm

**Adult Basketball** – Join us today from 3 to 5 pm in the gym.

**Special offerings for the School roof** – Replacement of the school roof was approved by the voters at the special voters’ meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>. We have \$36,00 available in special funds to be used but an additional \$18,000 is needed to complete the project. If anyone feels lead to donate, we ask that you please put it in a separate envelope marked **School Roof**. Thank you.

**Women’s Retreat 2022** is this coming weekend. Spend time taking an “intentional pause” with other followers of Christ learning, worshiping, laughing, and connecting with other women during Lutherhaven’s annual Women’s Retreat on March 25-27, 2022. Let God’s Word lead and empower you for the year ahead. Check out [www.lutherhaven.org](http://www.lutherhaven.org) for more details and to register.

**Final call to register for the April 3rd luncheon** following Sunday worship. All are invited. Luncheon is sponsored by St. Paul's Board of Stewardship and the LCEF Foundation. Andy Behrmann of the Foundation will present how we are born for blessing and how to establish plans now to bless our families and favorite ministries after our passing. Join us for this free, no obligation event. Please RSVP no later than this Friday, March 25th to the Church Office. Questions may be directed to Jim Tinkey, Lori Haug, Mel Schutz or Brian Denk.

**LWML, Monday, April 11 at 7:00 pm:** Taste of Passover Seder Foods. All are invited to this special time to remember and experience what our Lord has done for us. We will need a count for food preparation so **please** indicate a number of those attending on the forms available near the offering box in the Narthex.

**Meals on Wheels Door Offering:** We will have a door offering for Meals on Wheels to help alleviate the price increases for the meals. This is sponsored by Public Relations and Evangelism and approved by the Board of Stewardship. Thank you for your compassion!

**Church secretary email** – If you need to contact the church office through email you can either send it to my personal email : [janmiller@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:janmiller@stpaulsbremen.org) or the church email : [church@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:church@stpaulsbremen.org) I will be checking both.

**Budget info:** Operating budget fund balance as of March 17, 2022: \$114,700. This amount represents over 7 weeks of normal day-to-day expenses of the Church and School ministries.

**Dear Members of St. Paul's,** the Board of Evangelism asks you to please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us during our Holy Week services! You can use the card inserted in today's bulletin if you like. It includes the dates and times of activities and also the church address.

**He is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

**Join other men in Christian fellowship** on April 21-24 at Lakeview Villages in Seymour, IN as we explore the topic of “Tyranny and Resistance” with Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz. How does the Bible describe tyranny? We’ll look at biblical and historical examples of tyranny and resistance to better understand our world and God’s calling on our lives. Get away and enjoy God’s great creation, eat like a king at our hog roast, join in good-natured brotherly competition and much more. Registration deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Visit [www.mensgathering.us](http://www.mensgathering.us) for info and registration.

**Mark Your Calendars for April 22**, the 27th PTL Showcase of Fine Arts and Crafts, 7:00 p.m. in the Bethany Room. This year we will again include art and craft items from members of the congregation as well as school families. Entry packets are in the rack in the narthex.

**Support the Right to Life** by attending the **Plymouth Legacy of Life Banquet**, Tuesday, April 12, at 6 pm at Christos Banquet Hall. You will be encouraged and motivated by the speakers, as well as have an opportunity to support the pro-life movement in north central Indiana. Jim and Linda Tinkey are hosting a table at the event and tickets are \$20.00. More details on speakers are available at [nci4life.org](http://nci4life.org).

**Registration for Summer Camp** at Camp Lutherhaven is now open! Remember to register early if you have a special date in mind because the weeks fill up fast. Please check out the Youth Board for more information.

**Do you know** any young man who would make a great pastor? How about someone who would be a great Lutheran school teacher, deaconess or DCE? Jesus gives His church people who work full time in service to the Gospel. He told us to pray for such workers. The LCMS continues to pray, and has begun *Set Apart to Serve (SAS)*, an intentional effort to encourage young people to consider church work as their career. Your opinion can help improve *SAS*. Please fill out a brief survey at [lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey](http://lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey) by March 15, and let us know how you think *SAS* can be beneficial to your congregation. Thank you.

## Youth News

### **Easter Sunrise Service (April 17<sup>th</sup>) – Youth in Grades 4-8:**

Practices for the Easter Sunrise Service are planned on the following dates and will last approximately an hour. Our presentation of the glorious Easter Gospel will be different than past years – it is imperative that children committed to participating attend these practices.

- **Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> after church**
- **Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> after church**
- **Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> – time to be determined**

If you have any questions, please speak with Andy Wildauer.

## School Corner

Thank you to all who helped with the open house this last week! It was nice to meet with some new families and have fun with our current students. Please continue to advertise our preschool and elementary/middle school to family and friends! We are enrolling for 2022-23 now.

In conjunction with enrollment, please consider donating to our SGO. The SGO provides scholarships to roughly 36% of our students, and helps make a Christian education affordable. It also assists the church and school financially. As an added benefit to donors, you would receive a 50% tax credit and a possible tax deduction. You may visit [www.lutheransgo.org](http://www.lutheransgo.org) or pick up a donor form from the tract rack to donate.

Families who qualify for SGO may apply for the upcoming school year starting April 15th. Those applications are available from the school office.

**Spring Play Help Needed** We are looking for a few good people . . . to help with scenery, props, the sound system, and filming for our spring play May 6<sup>th</sup>! If you have skills you'd like to

use, please see Jennifer Harman. No experience necessary, just willing service!

Thank you always for your support!

To God be all the glory!

Mark Wildauer

**Servants for Today's Worship**

Pastor: Rev. Neil Wonnacott

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Mark Matejka & Kurt Nielsen  
Acolyte: Karli Miller  
Elder: Mike Gumz

**Servants for Next Sunday Worship March 27, 2022**

Pastor: Rev. Neil Wonnacott  
Organist: Anita Eichinger  
Ushers: Todd Haug & Jim Mitchell  
Acolyte: Molly Harman  
Elder: Rod Schroeder  
Communion Assistant: Lewis Haug