

“but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
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The Lenten battle against sin is intensifying. Last Sunday Jesus spoke to Nicodemus in John 3 about God loving the world. Here in chapter 4, that declaration is made more concrete with the people of Samaria, who were traditionally rejected by the Jews. The readings for this Sunday contrast the grumbling and unbelief of the people of Israel when they need water (*Old Testament Reading*) over against the living water, which Jesus gives the Samaritan woman who becomes very eager to receive it (*Gospel*). We welcome everyone to God’s House.

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.

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

In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” We welcome children and all the joy and little chatter that comes with them. If for any reason you want to take your little one out, there is a Nursery (Cry Room) available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

Opening Hymn 826 "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying"

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19b)*

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.

(Hebrews 10:22)

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** *(Psalm 124:8)*

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

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *(Psalm 32:5)*

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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

C **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 84:1-4; antiphon v. 5

P Blessèd are those whose strength is in You,

C **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

P How lovely is Your dwelling place,

C **O LORD of hosts!**

- P** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;
C **my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.**
P Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,
C **at Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**
P Blessèd are those who dwell in Your house,
C **ever singing Your praise!**
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 Blessèd are those whose strength is in You,
C **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Kyrie ~ *Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)*

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

- P** The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*

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

Exodus 17:1–7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

P O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

C **the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

P who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

C **and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Epistle

Romans 5:1–8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though

perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—⁸but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 4:5–26

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.



C Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

⁵Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as He was from His journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." ⁸(For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do You get that living water? ¹²Are You greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but You say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship."

²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when

neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ). When He comes, He will tell us all things.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 543 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

Sermon Text

John 4:5–26 (27–30, 39–42)

Sermon "The Lord Is Among Us, Giving Living Water"

1. To the Samaritan woman, Jesus seems like _____

_____ .

2. In some ways, we, too, think Jesus is like _____

_____ .

3. Jesus reveals Himself to the woman as _____

_____ .

4. In fact, we recognize Him as _____ .

Offertory (*Psalm 51:10-12*)

LSB 192

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayers

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

(Colossians 3:1)



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

(Psalm 136)



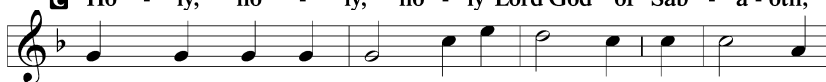
C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy* (*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*) *LSB 195*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



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

Lord's Prayer (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

LSB 179

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.**

The Words of Our Lord (*1 Corinthians 11:23-25*)

LSB 197

Pax Domini ~ *Peace of the Lord* (*John 20:19*)

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei ~ *Lamb of God* (*John 1:29*)

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

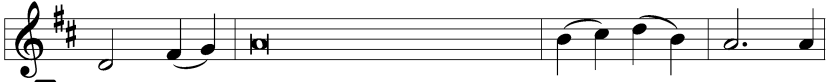
Hymn 634 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"

Hymn 627 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"

Hymn 623 "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

Hymn 629 "What Is This Bread"

Nunc Dimittis ~ *Song of Simeon* (Luke 2:29-32) LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



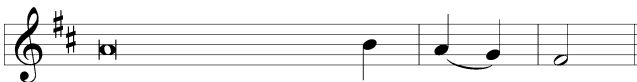
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving (*Psalms 107:1*) LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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.

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus ~ *Let Us Bless* (Psalm 103:1)

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

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 ✠ give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn 609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Calendar of Events

TODAY:..... March 12, 2023

Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am
 Worship Service with communion..... 9:30 am
 7th Grade PUBLIC School Confirmation After Church
 Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm
 Adult Choir Rehearsal..... 6:00 pm

MON:

TUES:

WED:

Day School Chapel 8:05 am
 Lenten Meal-Grilled Cheese, Tomato & Other Soups, Salad..... 6:00 pm
 Lenten Worship Service..... 7:00 pm

THURS:

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study 9:30 am

FRI:

Preschool Chapel 9:30 am
 Euchre Party..... 7:00-9:00 pm

SAT:

Women Reading GOD’S Word in Community 11:00 am-12:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: March 19, 2023

Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am
 Worship Service..... 9:30 am
 Special Voter’ Meeting After Church
 7th Grade PUBLIC School Confirmation After Church
 Adult Basketball..... 2:00-4:00 pm
 Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm
 Adult Choir Rehearsal..... 6:00 pm

Women Needed ~ You need only attend. You don’t have to read or comment. There isn’t a Bible study booklet with questions. It is a group of women gathering together and reading GOD’s Word out loud and together. GOD promises His Word will not return to Him void and we are holding Him to His promises. Join other women on Saturday at 11:00 am in the Jerusalem room. We will never go longer than 12:30 and will adjourn before 12:30 when needed. For more information call Kelly Sienicki.

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

That we see Jesus not as being like everyone else but as the Living Water who shares humanity with us and in the “plain water” of Holy Baptism brings eternal life.

For Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores and Pastor Micah Wildauer and their work in foreign missions.

For our country and her leaders.

For the Lord’s guidance in calling a new Administrative Pastor.

That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today.

For those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. May the Lord comfort them with His grace and healing.

That Jesus would shine in the hearts of all Christians throughout the world who face the struggles of war and persecution as they stand up for their risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

On March 27, at 7:00 p.m., in the Bethany Room, the LWML program will be presented by Marilyn Gumz, Kelly Sienicki, Angie Hughes, & Joanna Fox, as they share some “highlights” of their trip to the Holy Land. Open to the congregation. Light refreshments will be served afterward.

Special Voters’ Meeting immediately following the service on March 19, 2023, for the sole purpose of formally placing a call for Jamie Rogers and adjusting her pay to meet the guidelines for a called teacher. Jamie has been a member of St. Paul’s and a contract teacher for our 4th and 5th grade classroom since 2020. She has recently completed her Colloquy. After the call has been completed, a date will be set to have her formal installation as a Called Lutheran School Teacher during a regular church service. Participation by all voting members of St. Paul’s is greatly encouraged and appreciated.

The 2023 Plymouth Legacy of Life Banquet will be held Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at the Christos Banquet Center in Plymouth. Keynote speaker will be Mike Fichter, CEO of Indiana Right to Life. Mike is an outstanding speaker and strong proponent of the pro-life cause. Jim and Linda Tinkey will host a table for St. Paul’s members and would love to have you join them. Tickets are \$ 25 payable to RTL of NCI. Doors open at 6 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm. See Jim or Linda to reserve a spot at their table or for any further details.

Spring is fast approaching and Board of Evangelism will be delivering Welcome bags in the Bremen community for the first time this year on Monday, March 20 starting at 5:00 pm in the Bethany Room. With this in mind we are asking for your prayers that we touch families with Jesus! We also ask you to mark your calendars for the 20th and come help pack bags and be on a team to deliver bags if you can. Lastly we are asking for donations of bottled water, single use drink mixes, mechanical pencils, sticky notes, cheese and cracker snacks and microwave popcorn. There is a table in the Narthex for donations. Thank you to all our knitters and crocheters who have been busy this winter making dishcloths for the bags and to all who have donated yarn! We will continue making dishcloths for future bags! Questions? Call Deb Burcham.

YOUTH NEWS

BREMEN BAGS (Formerly Blessings in a Backpack): Thank you to all of the Youth and adults who volunteered their time this past Tuesday on behalf of the Bremen Bags program. We packed hundreds of individual bags with various food items that will be distributed throughout the Bremen community in the weeks ahead, up to and including Spring Break in early April. May God bless this endeavor and the people impacted, and may He also be with those who help coordinate this service on a regular basis.

St. Paul's EGG-CITING EASTER PARTY! – Children (ages Pre-K–Grade 3), enjoy a morning of Easter fun and activities on Saturday, March 25, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.! Bring along a basket for the Easter Egg Hunt and meet in the gymnasium.

The Bd. of Christian Education would appreciate donations of “mini” candies to help fill over 1000 eggs for Easter Egg Hunt. Please place candy contributions in designated box in the church Narthex. **THANK YOU!**

SCHOOL CORNER

St. Paul's Lutheran is now a Choice School, starting with the 2023-24 school year! This means that we can provide our students with Choice Scholarships, and help make the Christian education they receive here more affordable. We are hard at work preparing for the changes this brings, but we are excited and hope this helps promote growth in the school. Thank you for your support!

Speaking of growth, the Preschool/Kindergarten Round-Up is on March 21st, 5:00-7:00pm. If you know anyone looking for a Christian-based education for Preschool through 8th Grade, please encourage them to contact us and attend the Round-Up. **YOU are our best advertisements!**

We have completed the February Reading Challenge with 300+ points over the goal! **Our top readers were:** Kindergarten- Elijah VanDeKeere, 1st Grade- Weston Leeper, 2nd- Ellie Laidig, 3rd- Wyatt Wildauer, 4th- Josie Wildauer, 5th- Kellan Guse, 6th- Abby Wildauer, 7th- Gavin Hundt, and 8th- Izzy Wildauer. Congratulations to all our students for a great job!

We are planning the spring musical already! If you can help with props, scenery, or especially recording, please let me know. Rehearsals for the students have started.

Please remember giving to the SGO!

We have provided SGO scholarships for 33 students this school year, thanks to your generous donations. **This has not only helped with their tuition this year, but also gives them the ability to qualify for a Choice scholarship for 2023-24.** As Kindergarteners cannot apply for Choice, we will be using SGO scholarships to assist with tuition and qualify them for Choice for the following years. **Please continue to give, and remember you will receive a tax credit and deduction for your donations!**

You can find several (easy) ways to donate at www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and **NOW electronic giving!** Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction. These scholarships make a big difference for our families.

We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.