



The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, A+D 2026



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 3 – Page 184

Lutheran Service Book

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. “For his righteousness’ sake,” He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns “the darkness before them into light” (Is. 42:16) because He is “the light of the world” (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh “while it is day,” until that night “when no one can work” (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though “at one time you were darkness,” now “you are light in the Lord” (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to “awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead” (Eph. 5:14).

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

551 When to Our World the Savior Came

Stand

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

184

- 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.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- 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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- 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.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

C for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

C that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

C he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

P And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

C I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

C for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

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

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading*Isaiah 42:14–21*

A The Old Testament Reading for The Fourth Sunday in Lent is from the forty-second chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;

I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
"You are our gods."

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8–14

A The Second Reading is from the fifth chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the

Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel

John 9:1–41

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."

²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."

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 worshipped 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C 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 -



Sit

Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Responsive Form

P ... Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Full)

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

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

196

P 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



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Sit

Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.

Silent Prayer Just Before Communing: *Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Silent Prayer Just After Communing: *Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

841 O Son of God, in Galilee

Stand

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

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

200

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

B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A 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.

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A 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 ✠ give you peace.



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

918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

March 15, 2026

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Norma Allen
Andrew Bahm
Dave Bloom
Dean Bloom
Sandy Bodza



CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Gene Wiltjer, 3/17

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Pray for Sandy Bodza, Sondra Budde, Pastor Collins, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Shirley Emerick, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Bill Sommer, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren & Chris Van Mynen, Jean and Gene Wiltjer, Ray & Madelaine Zander.

Serving in the Military – Austin Brandy, Dakoda Gaut and Nathan Lopez.

Serving as First Responders – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Harrison & Arianna Cromey, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND

WEBSITES



SPLCMS.ORG



THE GLAD SPIRIT

NEWS UPDATE

We'd love to see you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at www.facebook.com/splcms/videos. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at www.splcms.org/worship.

There is a new sign-up sheet for the fellowship hour; it is located on the bulletin board by the kitchen across from the food table. Please look at it and sign up for a sweet treat for a Sunday.



St. Paul Book Club will meet on Wednesday April 8th at 10:00 am, to review *The Ritual Bath* by Faye Kellerman. We always welcome new members. We enjoy fellowship and lunch following the discussion.

Christ For You the week of March 15th on KFUE.org: On Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT), tune in as we pick up our study of Genesis with chapter 29! Tune in for Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we continue our study of the book of Numbers. This week, we'll be picking up with chapter 22. Don't forget to join us for Concord Matters (3/21 at 10 a.m. CT)! We'll be continuing our study of the Sacrament of the Altar as laid out in Luther's Large Catechism. How often should we be receiving the Lord's Supper? Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app!

The Week of March 15th Explaining Lutheranism to Non-Lutherans... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to a series of interviews with Dr. Jordan Cooper, author of the new book "Lutheranism for Non-Lutherans," at issuesetc.org/nonlutherans.

"Never will a time come when the most marvelous recent invention is as marvelous as a newborn baby." Carl Sandburg – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Jesus Heals a Blind Man

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. John 9:7 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 9:1-34 (NIV).



S R E X T B S D W O R L D W T
 R B P N H D E I A M B I R T H
 I P R C E V R W G V X V S O L
 L O P N I T D B R H V L R D Q
 B K N E H U P O O L T I G E U
 E I C G B A K M V X P G M L Z
 S E I S L F A E P K A H W H E
 R N I G I Q I O W A R T Y M V
 F C Q D N D H Z S X E O O L P
 X O U H D D G T I A N H T T K
 L M P Z E Q K R L E T C R G C
 P I W E W A S H O Z S S P I T
 C C F E N W K J A U Q R O R Y
 P Q D E U E K E M Q N B S H O
 T N E Y E S D S E L A D M Z Z

BLIND
 WORLD
 HOME
 SILOAM

EYES
 SINNED
 MUD
 PARENTS

SPIT
 SIGHT
 LIFE
 RECEIVED

POOL
 NIGHT
 OPENED
 BIRTH

WASH
 BORN
 LIGHT
 GROUND

GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

March 4th Attendance 20

March 8th Attendance 21, 19 Communed, 2 Online



Envelopes	\$642.00	Weekly Missions	\$25.00
Basket	155.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
Lent Envelops	238.00	Church Maint	10.00
Fellowship	65.00	Social Ministry	150.00
General Fund	175.00		
Budgeted Total	<u>1,275.00</u>	Non-budgeted Total	<u>\$195.00</u>
Offering Needed	<u>1,342.00</u>		
Short	<u>\$-67.00</u>		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	9:30 am	Lenten Worship Service
	10:30 am	Lenten Breakfast
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...

SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Mar 15, 9:30 AM	Sun, Mar 22, 9:30 AM
Pastor	Dr. Steven Simon	Dr. Steven Simon
Lay Reader	Tracy Middleton	Norma Allen

Let's Discuss

ZOOM ROOM

MONDAY – FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

Portals of Prayer 8:00am to 8:15am

Lutheran Hour 8:00pm to 8:15pm

For the Link:

Call or Text Church Cell: 312-533-1896

Email: letsdiscuss@splcms.org

