



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
508 North Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476

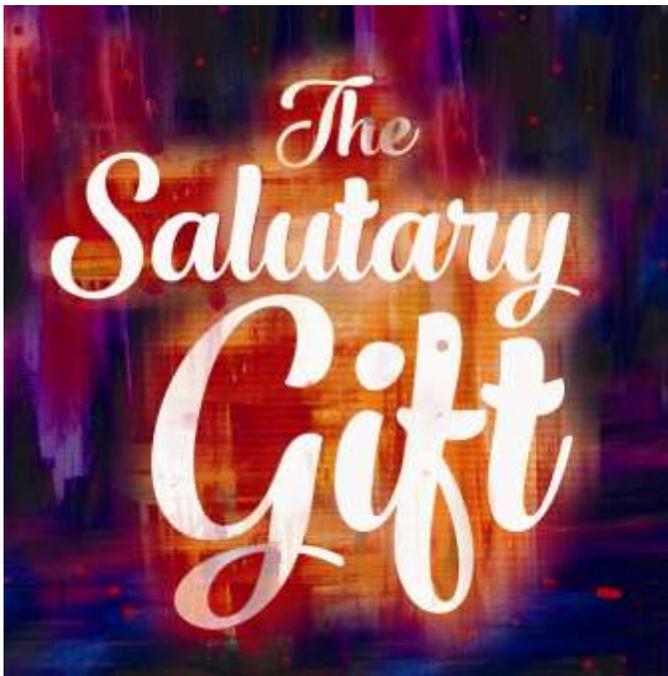
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The Glad Spirit

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

February – March 2017



"It is truly good, right, and *salutory* . . ." That word, *salutory* has echoed in the church's liturgy for centuries. *Salutory*, not only indicates that it is good and worthwhile that we eat and drink Christ's Body and Blood, but that it is also good and worthwhile that Christ makes the gift to us of His blessings. During our Sundays in Lent we

focus on **The Salutory Gift** Christ has given, examining a number of the Biblical perspectives of how The Sacrament is truly *salutory* for each of us.

Life-Giving Fruit

Genesis 3:1-15; Revelation 22:1-5, Mark 1:9-13
First Sunday in Lent - March 5, 2017

Bread From Heaven

Exodus 16:1-15; John 6:27-35, 48-51
Second Sunday in Lent - March 12, 2017

Healing Medicine

Isaiah 52:13-53:5; Luke 10:25-37
Third Sunday in Lent - March 19, 2017

Blest Communion

1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Acts 2:42-47
Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 26, 2017

Rest For The Weary

Exodus 31:12-18; Matthew 11:27-12:8
Fifth Sunday in Lent - April 2, 2017

Nuptial Feast

Isaiah 61:10-62:5; Matthew 22:1-14
Palm Sunday - April 9, 2017

Covenant Meal

Exodus 24:3-11; Hebrews 9:11-22; Matthew 26:17-30

Maundy Thursday - April 13, 2017

Feast of Victory

Acts 10:34-43; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10
Easter Sunday - April 16, 2017

“It is truly good, 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 . . .”



Have You Told God, You're



Some words seem to be used less frequently. For instance, the word, LAMENT. That word has not gone out of date. Scripture makes use of it, and encourages us to be "lamenting" people. "Lament" means to have total, deep sorrow over the things we regret. In fact, some of the Psalms of the Old Testament are labeled "Psalms of Lament."

During our mid-week worship services this Lenten Season, we will focus on some of the "Psalms of Lament," as we ponder a question, **Have You Told God, "You're sorry?"**

Wrapped in the Bosom of God

Psalm 51

Ash Wednesday - March 1, 2017

Profoundly Terrified But Profoundly Comforted

Palm 6

Second Wednesday in Lent - March 8, 2017

Reaping Justification By Faith

Psalm 77

Third Wednesday in Lent - March 15, 2017

Law, Sin, and Death

Psalm 90

Fourth Wednesday in Lent - March 22, 2017

Praying Against the Enemies

Psalm 94

Fifth Wednesday in Lent - March 29, 2017

Soaring Above Distress

Psalm 118

Sixth Wednesday in Lent - April 5, 2017



“NOT MY PRESIDENT”

Let's face it, America is greatly divided. Our nation just came through a tumultuous election followed by an inaugural, over which some folks became quite vocal. Some have marched in the streets. Some have ranted in the media and on Facebook. Our nation stands greatly divided at the present time.

Behind the division remain a vast number of issues, jobs, the economy, healthcare, military, immigration, pipelines, terrorism, individual rights, freedom of speech, etc. and etc. Reasonable people can have differing positions and viewpoints. Taking disagreements to the point of extreme protest and even violence is another matter. A serious matter at that. So what's wrong with celebrities and marchers in the street yelling, “NOT MY PRESIDENT?”

As Christians, we must reject that claim. I maintain that whoever is President of the United States at any given point in time is really “GOD'S PRESIDENT.” Our God, not only creates life. He also preserves life. Part of His preservation is that He works through people to create government and other aspects of society.

He works through people to put into positions of leadership those individuals He and He alone wants in office. This holds true for every level of government in any country or jurisdiction around the world.

Yes, God does put into positions of power people who are good, capable, responsible, leaders. They are regarded as quite effective. He also allows people who are corrupt and greatly inept at times. Worldwide, we have also seen dictators, tyrants, and bullies hold positions of leadership. God has His reasons for allowing leaders to emerge and rule the affairs of mankind. We may not always know or understand His reasons. Recall the words God spoke through the prophet Isaiah: ⁸ *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.* ⁹ *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my Ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.* – Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV) God works through people to put into positions of power the leaders He wants at any given time. As Christians, we may approve and we may disapprove of our leaders, their actions, and their policies, but they remain our leaders. In fact, they are God's leaders.

In the New Testament, St. Paul gives us pertinent instruction as to how we should respect all our leaders: *Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.* ² *Therefore whoever resists the authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.* – Romans 13:1-2 (ESV) Feel free to disagree with the President and other leaders, but refrain from saying “**NOT MY PRESIDENT,**” for whoever our President may be, he is “**GOD'S PRESIDENT.**”

Remember also to pray for the President as well. We have further encouragement from St. Paul: *First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.* – 1 Timothy 2:1-2 (ESV). It is God's will that you and I constantly lift our President and all leaders up in prayer before the throne of grace. We do this in our corporate prayer in our worship services but we ought to do it in our personal, individual and family prayers.

From the time that I served as Vicar at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Webster City, Iowa, I have led congregations of people in prayers for Presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton, the younger Bush, and Obama. I will continue to lift up President Trump as well. It is my God-given duty. I pray for The Lord's wisdom, guidance, and blessing on him, his decisions, and his actions for the good of the welfare of us all. This is my prayer at the altar and in my personal prayers.

May you pray for the President as well. He is after all, “**GOD'S PRESIDENT.**”

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Wahl



Adult
Fellowship

I am the Bread of Life



March 5, 2017

Dig out those recipes and fire up those bread machines for what's become our annual

Bread Sunday.



Depending on costs and ticket sales we are currently exploring the possibilities of a **Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner**
 Keep this date open
Saturday March 11, 2017 @ 5pm
 Watch for details



Fly the Flags

As Christians living in this great land that The Lord has given, we are indeed patriotic. We love our land and freedom and we pray that God will continually bless our nation with His good gifts and presence. But, does the community know how patriotic we are?

We are undertaking an effort to show the community our patriotism by placing a number of American flags in our front lawn for about a week to two weeks surrounding the Memorial Day holiday. Think how impressive that would

be to have our lawn area decorated with flags for everyone to see. Think how impressive it would be as the Thornton Memorial Day parade files past St. Paul to see all the flags. We can become known in our community as the church that flies the flags.

How many flags do we need to fill our lawn? We want to start with 500. These are flags measuring 12X18 inches on 30 inch sticks. They are big enough to be seen boldly and high enough to not touch the ground. They cost a bit less than \$1.00 each.

We are asking the folks of St. Paul to prayerfully consider making an additional offering for this project. When we obtain \$500 we will get the project underway. Please give this your attention.



\$188.26

What's with \$188.26? That is how much money our congregation has earned through the Amazon Smile program. When each of us makes St. Paul the charity we support on the Amazon Smile page, a few pennies (1/2 of 1%) goes to St. Paul's treasury each time we make a purchase. It's not much money at all from each individual purchase, however pennies do add up. In the roughly two years we have been in the program, those pennies have totaled \$188.26, enough to pay a bill or maybe two.

If you are not in the program, go to smile.amazon.com and sign up. Encourage your friends, neighbors, and family members to sign up as well. When you shop online, Shop Amazon Smile



St. Paul welcomes back into membership, Mr. Jay Carey as a full communicant member. He is

a former member of our congregation who is coming back to receive the blessings of Christ with all of us. We heartily welcome Jay.



St. Paul congregation has received Maureen Gierucki into full membership by Profession of Faith. Maureen was baptized and confirmed as a Lutheran earlier in life and has decided to come back to her roots and renew her Lutheran faith. We welcome Maureen and delight that she has returned.



St. Paul recently received into full membership, Mrs. Robert (Cathy) Gastreich by Profession of Faith. Cathy comes to us from Redeemer Lutheran Church (ELCA) of South Holland. We welcome her to our midst.



Marlin D. Carr, a long-time member of our congregation entered eternity on January 16, 2017 at the age of 74. Pastor Wahl officiated at a Divine Service on January 21 from St. Paul's altar. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Diana, and sons Christopher and Nicholas. We mourn with them in their grief but rejoice with them in the wonderful resurrection promises of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life . . ." (Revelation 2:10 ESV)

Mr. David E. Hager (age 78) of our congregation entered eternity on December 6, 2016. David was a gentleman who was one with us in faith, though he never attended a service in our church building. David had a number of physical disabilities which hindered him from participating in many aspects of life. Pastor Wahl baptized him in Christ in a Nursing Home service ten years ago. He was served by our congregation by prayers, visitations, and watching recorded services. Pastor Wahl officiated at a service of Christian burial on December 10, 2016. "Jesus said . . ., "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live . . ." (John 11:25 ESV)

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
September - May

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Harold Wahl, Pastor
508 N. Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476
Voice & Fax (708) 877-6564

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Church Office Hours
9 to Noon Monday thru Friday.

Bulletin Deadline
Thursday by 10 a.m.

Contact the church office to submit
personal testimonials about what God
has done for you. Or original art that is
inspirational or humorous to the artist.

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Chairman	Bill Sommer
Vice Chairman	David Bloom
Recording Sec.	Tracy Middleton
Financial Sec.	Robert Brandy
Treasurer	Chris Carr
Elder	Ed Hoeksema Steven Michels Henry Sella Jack Swan Brian Wiltjer Jerry Wiltjer
Trustee	Dean Bloom Jerry Smith

Stewardship

Evangelism Debi Brandy

Social Ministry Norma Allen
Sandy Budde

S. S. Super. Kathy Dejonowski

Asnt. Super. Dana Krieger

Adult Director

Youth Director

February

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Tiffany Reichert | 19 Jayme Jarden |
| 2 Emily Hudson | Mike Pfeifer |
| 4 Connie Jeka | 20 Harold Wahl |
| Bill Middleton | 21 Sarah Nixon |
| 8 Jenna Wiltjer | 23 Joshua Baumgart |
| 12 Ed Baumgart | Zachary Tatgenhorst |
| Sondra Budde | 24 Brandi Baker |
| 13 Lisa Sheridan | 26 Robert Hall |
| 14 William Rich Jr. | 27 Jack Swan |
| 15 Dean Bloom | Nicole Wiltjer |
| 17 Cindy Eastman | 28 Earl Bloom |
| 18 Richard Niemann | |



Wish These Friends a
"Happy Birthday!"

March

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 4 Kymberly Krass | 16 Irv Roberts |
| 5 Marlin Carr | 20 Steve Kipley |
| Denise Riordan | 22 Karen Diekelman |
| 10 Wendy Gibson | 26 Nathaniel Conway |
| 11 Sally Heiwig | 27 Dorothy Graves |
| Emily Hoeksema | 30 Aiden Conway |
| 12 Rikki Chiattello | Dakoda Gaut |
| 13 Nicholas DeCamp | |

Wisdom from a past president

We have staked the whole of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.

—James Madison

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00pm Confirmation Class	2	3	4
5 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	6	7 7:30pm Elders Meeting	8 6:00pm Confirmation Class	9 7:00pm Book Club	10	11 9:00am Trustee Work Day
12 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service 1:00pm Parish Hall	13 7:00pm Council Meeting	14	15 6:00pm Confirmation Class	16	17	18
19 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	20	21	22 6:00pm Confirmation Class	23	24	25
26 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	27	28				

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30am Ash Wednesday Morning Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Lenten Potluck Dinner 7:30pm Ash Wednesday	2	3	4
5 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	6	7 7:30pm Elders Meeting	8 9:30am Lenten Morning Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Lenten Potluck Dinner 7:30pm Lenten Worship	9 7:00pm Book Club	10	11 9:00am Trustee Work Day
12 2:00am Begin Daylight Savings Time 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	13 7:00pm Council Meeting	14	15 9:30am Lenten Morning Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Lenten Potluck Dinner 7:30pm Lenten Worship	16	17	18 2:30pm Lively Wedding 3:00pm Brian Lively Wedding
19 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	20	21	22 9:30am Lenten Morning Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Lenten Potluck Dinner 7:30pm Lenten Worship	23	24	25
26 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	27	28	29 9:30am Lenten Morning Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Lenten Potluck Dinner 7:30pm Lenten Worship	30	31	