



Our Lenten Journey will be a series entitled **"Words That Last Forever"** which we will follow each Wednesday during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday.

Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025 7:00PM, at St. Paul's (No Soup and Sandwich)

Lenten Midweek Worship—7PM at St. Paul's (Soup & Sandwich @6PM)

Sunday, March 16th Worship will be at Bethel @ 11:15, with Pastor Terri Driver-Bishop presiding.

Holy Week

Wednesday - A blended Choir Service entitled **"Not My Will, But Yours"** @ Bethel 7:00PM (Soup and sandwich at 6pm)

Maundy Thursday - 7:00PM at ST. Paul's

Good Friday - Noon at Bethel and 7:00PM at St. Paul's

Easter Sunday - 9AM Worship at St. Paul's, 11:15AM Worship at Bethel

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Phil Beck
 Lector.....Louise Shipley and Trish Valcarcel
 Organist.....Jeff Gentry
 Ushers.....Sunday School
 Acolyte.....Camden Plog & Annabelle Bush

Staff

Minister:202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Pastor Phil Beck
 Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Joann Valainis
 Music CoordinatorJeff Gentry
 Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
 Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
 SextonLarry Beard
 Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
 Property Coordinator.....
 Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney



**Ash Wednesday
 March 5, 2025**

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service—7:00 p.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org>



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Sheila Kahler
 Vice-President—Lauren McCloskey
 Treasurer—Patty Rimel
 Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

Ash Wednesday

FORGIVE!

Opening Hymn

With words that last forever you speak in richest grace,
Lord Jesus Christ, my Savior, upon your cross disgraced.

With open ears I listen, with open mind believe,

With open heart embrace you: I, Lord, your words receive.

“Forgiveness” granted sinners, and “Paradise, today!”

“Behold your son, your mother!” to family you say.

The air is split with anguish in your “Forsaken” cry,

As “Thirsty,” work “Accomplished,” in “Father’s hands” you die.

Pray, sanctify the silence with which I contemplate

Your boundless love for sinners, your sacrifice so great,

Till at the tomb I waken to your new word for me:

These words, not last, but lasting, shall ring eternally!

P Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

C **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

P The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

C **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

C **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

P “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

C **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

P “The word that goes forth from my mouth shall not return to me empty,” says the Lord. “It shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

1 C **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

*P May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

*Post Communion Prayer:

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace. Your Father has, indeed, forgiven you. Amen.

Hymn

Our Savior speaks; may we
Give heed to ev’ry word,
And grace be given faithfully
To trust what we have heard.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW, p.152)

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***The Preface:**

P "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

***(ELW, p. 153) Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

***Words of Institution:**

P 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 in 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 in 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.

C **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Amen**

Lord's Prayer

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 Imposition of Ashes

From Dust you came and to Dust you shall return

Prayer of the Day

P O God of forgiveness, you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Create clean hearts in us, we pray. Cleanse us from our sin, that our joy may be complete. Then we will live in your light. Then these ashen souls will be ignited with your forgiving grace. Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Joel 2:12-19

Psalm

Psalm 51:1-12

P Be merciful to me, O God, because of your constant love. Because of your great mercy wipe away my sins!

C **Wash away all my evil and make me clean from my sin!**

P I recognize my faults; I am always conscious of my sins.

C **I have sinned against you—only you—and done what you consider evil.**

P So you are right in judging me; you are justified in condemning me.

C **I have been evil from the day I was born; from the time I was conceived, I have been sinful.**

P Sincerity and truth are what you require; fill my mind with your wisdom.

C **Remove my sin, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**

P Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness; and though you have crushed me and broken me, I will be happy once again.

C **Close your eyes to my sins and wipe out all my evil.**

P Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me.

C **Do not banish me from your presence; do not take your holy spirit away from me.**

P Give me again the joy that comes from your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

Second Reading

1 John 1:4-9

Hymn

Our Savior speaks in love,
From deepest agony.
Oh, hear the message from above;
His great compassion see.

Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Hymn

Our Savior speaks in grace
With words of mercy true:
“Forgive them, Father,” thus he prays;
“They know not what they do.”

Sermon,

“FORGIVE”

“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” —Luke 23:34

Hymn of the Day

Jesus, in your dying woes,
Even as your life-blood flows,
Craving pardon for our foes:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Savior, for our pardon sue
When our sins your pangs renew,
For we know not what we do:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Oh, may we, who mercy need,
Be like you in heart and deed,
When with wrongs our spirits bleed:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Offering

Prayers:

P Since we have a High Priest who has gone before us, by whom we have access to the throne of grace, drawing near with full confidence let us join in fervent prayer:

C **Forgive us, Father, and show us what to do.**

P That the Church of Jesus Christ may be a place where the Gospel is both spoken and enacted, proclaimed in word and deed, let us join in fervent prayer:

C **Forgive us, Father, and show us what to do.**

P That the citizens of our nations, and our leaders, may acknowledge wrong where it exists and may work diligently to remove its causes and correct the problems it has wrought, let us join in fervent prayer:

C **Forgive us, Father, and show us what to do.**

P That God’s redeeming health may be made manifest, especially among those who have been abused or neglected, harmed or hindered, stricken or saddened, forbidden or forsaken, let us join in fervent prayer:

C **Forgive us, Father, and show us what to do.**

P And that we who must return to dust may not despair in our mortality, but may be given grace in Jesus Christ to rise again to everlasting life, let us join in fervent prayer:

C **Forgive us, Father, and show us what to do. Amen.**