




**St. Paul's**  
 Missouri Synod Lutheran

**Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 15, 2026**

**Welcome!**

**Service Setting Four Hymnal - LSB 203**

*Bold face type – read by the Congregation*

**Opening Hymn - 849**

**Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

*Please Stand*

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

**Invocation**

**Exhortation** LSB 203

*Please Kneel/Sit*

**Confession of Sins** LSB 203

**Absolution**

*Please Stand*

**Introit** Psalm 27:4–6;  
antiphon: Ps 25:15

My eyes are ever toward the Lord,  
**for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

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

**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.**

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

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

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;

**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.  
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.**  
My eyes are ever toward the Lord,  
**for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

**Kyrie** LSB 204

**Salutation and Collect of the Day** LSB 205

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.  
**Amen.**

*Please be Seated*

**Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 42:14–21

<sup>14</sup>For 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.  
<sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills,  
and dry up all their vegetation;  
I will turn the rivers into islands,  
and dry up the pools.  
<sup>16</sup>And 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.  
<sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame,  
who trust in carved idols,  
who say to metal images,  
“You are our gods.”  
<sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf,  
and look, you blind, that you may see!  
<sup>19</sup>Who 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?  
<sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not  
observe them;  
his ears are open, but he does not hear.  
<sup>21</sup>The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness’  
sake,  
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual**

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,  
**the founder and perfecter of our faith,**  
who for the joy that was set before him  
endured the cross, despising the shame,  
**and is seated at the right hand of the  
throne of God.**

**Epistle**

Ephesians 5:8–14

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now  
you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of  
light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is  
good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern  
what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in  
the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead  
expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak  
of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when  
anything is exposed by the light, it becomes  
visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is  
light. Therefore it says,

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

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand*

**Verse**

Psalms 36:9

**With you is the fountain of life; in your light  
do we see light.**

## Holy Gospel

John 9:1–7,  
13–17, 34–39

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

### Glory to You, O Lord.

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

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So 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.” <sup>16</sup>Some 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. <sup>17</sup>So 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.” . . .

<sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ.

## The Third Article of the Creed and Its Meaning Luther's Small Catechism

### Sanctification

**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.**

### What does this mean?

**I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

**In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.**

**On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**

**This is most certainly true.**

*Please be Seated*

### **Children's Message**

### **Sermon Hymn - 913 - O Holy Spirit, Enter In**

#### **Sermon**

*Please Stand*

#### **Prayer of the Church**

#### **Lord's Prayer**                      LSB 209

**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.**

*Please be Seated*

### **Offering**

*Please Stand*

### **Offering Prayer**

Closing Prayer

**Benedicamus**                      LSB 212

### **Benediction**

### **Closing Prayer**

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, heavenly Father, by the blessed light of Your divine Word You have led us to the knowledge of Your Son. Grant us the grace of Your Holy Spirit that we may ever walk in the light of Your truth and, rejoicing with sure confidence in Christ, our Savior, be brought unto everlasting salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen**

### **Closing Hymn - 744- Amazing Grace**

Acknowledgments

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## Church Events

**Meet with Pastor Josh** - Sign-up sheet in narthex

**Youth Activities** - Please contact Liz Stackhouse 570-833-5971

### New Bible Study

Join us Wednesdays during Lent for a '**Back to the Basics**' Bible Study as we look at what we believe as Christians and why we believe it. We will use Luther's Small Catechism to review and discuss the Six Chief Parts of the Christian faith. We also learn how our prayer life can be shaped by knowing the basics of the Christian faith.

### Council Meeting

April 13 - 4 pm

## Prayer Concerns

**Willy Forba** - Praise for successful surgery and continued recovery

**Ashley Forba** - Ongoing health issues

**Mary Ellen Mills** - Eye issues

**Janet Finn** - Continued mobility issues

**Elaine Decker** - Ongoing health issues

**Vladimir and Marie Dutko** - Healing and well-being - Marina Yarasavage's parents

**Keith Mitchell's father** - Kendall Health issues

**All those in the armed forces, including Kyle Stackhouse**

**All those suffering due to natural disasters**

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**Please join us for Sunday services at 10 am**

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**570-836-2301** (call/text)  
5672 SR 6, Tunkhannock, PA 18657

**Pastor Josh** - pastorjosh@stpaulslutheranpa.org

Website - [stpaulslutheranpa.org](http://stpaulslutheranpa.org)

### Sermons are posted here:

[youtube.com/@StPaulsLutheranTunkhannock/streams](https://youtube.com/@StPaulsLutheranTunkhannock/streams)

**Offering** - Monthly offering needs are \$10,888.75

February offering total \$13,575

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### Business cards and bookmarks are available for everyone to use!

Please pick-up a handful and give them out to invite friends and neighbors to church.

Blessed Jesus, let me find a cover  
in Your appeasing wounds.  
Though my sins rise to heaven,  
Your merits soar above them,  
though unrighteousness weighs  
me down to hell,  
Your righteousness exalts me  
to Your throne.

All things in me call for my  
rejection, all things in You  
plead for my acceptance.

Grant me to hear Your voice assuring  
me, that You have been made sin  
for me that I might be righteous  
in You, that my grievous sins,  
my manifold sins, are all forgiven,  
buried in the ocean of Your  
concealing blood.

A Puritan Prayer

## March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Bible Study 5 pm	5	6	7
8 Communion	9 Council Meeting 4 pm	10	11 Bible Study 5 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Bible Study 5 pm	19	20	21
22 Communion	23	24	25 Bible Study 5 pm	26	27	28
29 Communion Palm Sunday	30	31				

## April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No Study	2 Maundy Thursday 7pm service	3 Good Friday 7 pm	4
5 Easter Communion	6	7	8 Bible Study 5 pm	9	10	11
12	13 Council Meeting 4 pm	14	15	16	17	18
19 Communion	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## Those Who Serve

Date	Reader	Ushers	Acolyte
Mar 15	Pete W	Bill Y & Keith M	Nate J
Mar 22	Diane T	Willy F & Jack W	Kayla S
Mar 29	Nancy P	Don S & Keith M	Nate J
April 5	Donna W	Bill Y & Don S	Nate J
April 12	Karen M	Kevin D & Keith M	Kayla S

## Birthdays

March 4	Jack Pencek
March 21	Ella Tyler
March 25	Rebekah Durland
March 28	Jerry Decker

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## Officers for St. Paul's Church 2026

President	Becky Durland	570-836-4532
Secretary	Elizabeth Stackhouse	570-833-5971
Treasurer	Regina Forba	570-836-6173
Financial Secretary	Linda Wozniak	570-380-3880

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### Elders

Willy Forba	570-836-6173
Paul De Groat	570-290-9626
Kevin Durland	570-836-4532
Gene Adams	570-833-4616
Pete Waldenberger	570-278-9211

### Endowment Committee

Kevin Durland	570-836-4532
Bill Yarasavage	570-690-0879
Keith Mitchell	570-934-2314
Nancy Loch	570-965-2042

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## Board Council Members

Church Properties	Donna Waldenberger	570-278-9211
Christian Education	Regina Forba	570-836-6173
Evangelism	Diane Turrell	570-665-1369
Fellowship	Marina Yarasavage	570-690-0871
Youth Services	Elizabeth Stackhouse	570-833-5971