

# *Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church*



## **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

316 South Mountain Blvd.,  
Mountain Top, PA  
February 28, 2021  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

Rev. Michele D. Kaufman

Church: 570-474-6616

Schyler Kelsch-Organist

Cell: 570-881-2371

**\*PLEASE TUNE TO RADIO STATION: 98.3**

**Prelude and Quiet Meditation**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**

*"O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"*

**O Lord, throughout these forty days  
you prayed and kept the fast;  
inspire repentance for our sin,  
and free us from our past.**

**You strove with Satan, and you won;  
your faithfulness endured;  
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust  
in God's eternal word.**

**Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed  
and fixed your mind above;  
so teach us to deny ourselves  
that we may know God's love.**

**Be with us through this season, Lord,  
and all our earthly days,  
that when the final Easter dawns,  
we join in heaven's praise.**

### **\*Opening Dialogue**

P: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

**C: to the house of the God of Jacob.**

P: That he may teach us his ways;

**C: that we may walk in his paths.**

P: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,

**C: and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**

P: The Lord will be our everlasting light,

**C: and our God will be our glory.**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Fountain of living water,

**C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Prayer of the Day**

### **The Lenten Wreath**

### **Reflection & Prayer**

*"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*

**With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.**

### **THE WORD**

#### **The First Reading**

**Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

#### **The Psalm**

**22:23-31**

*The Psalm is read responsively*

23 You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

**24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live forever!**

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.**

29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

**30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,**  
31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

**The Second Reading**

**Romans 4:13-25**

**Lenten Verse**

*"Return to the Lord"*

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**The Holy Gospel Announcement**

**Mark 8:31-38**

*C: Glory to you, O Lord.*

**The Gospel Response**

*C: Praise to you, O Christ.*

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day**

*"What Feast of Love"*

**What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?**

**What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?**

**This, this is Christ the King,  
the bread come down from heaven.**

**Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!**

**What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?**

What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given.

What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

#### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

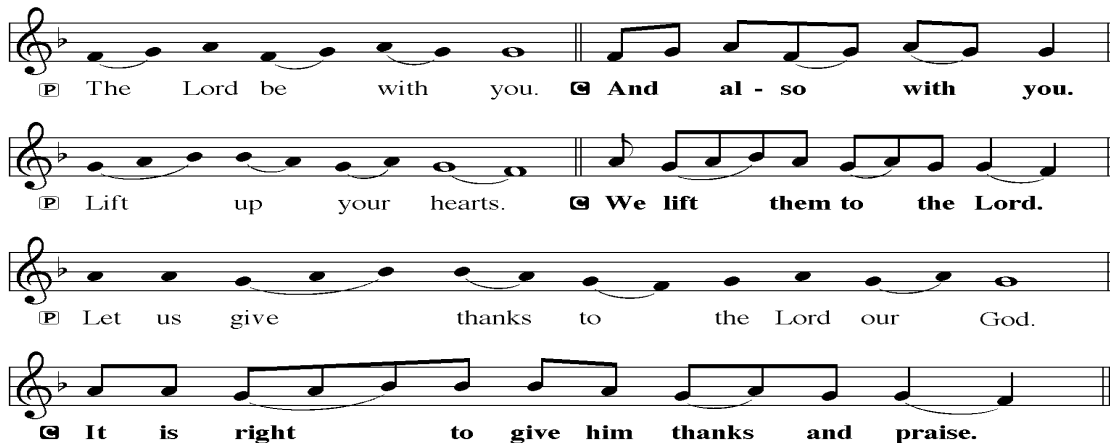
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **The Prayers**

## The Sharing of the Peace

*(Please share the peace with those in the car with you, wave to your neighbor's car or let everyone know you're here by honking your horn!)*

## The Great Thanksgiving



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## The Words of Institution

### The 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 Distribution

*(If you are baptized and believe in the presence of Christ, you are invited to join us.  
Please follow Pastor's instructions)*

### The Blessing & Benediction

### The Closing Hymn

*"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"*  
Jerusalem, my happy home,  
When shall I come to thee?  
When shall my sorrows have an end?

Your joys when shall I see?

O happy harbor of the saints,  
O sweet and pleasant soil!  
In you no sorrow may be found,  
No grief, no care, no toil.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks  
Continually are green;  
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs  
As nowhere else are seen.

There trees forevermore bear fruit  
And evermore do spring;  
There evermore the angels sit  
And evermore do sing!

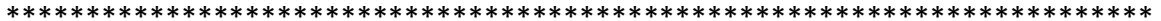
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
God grant that I may see  
Thine endless joy, and of the same  
Partaker ever be!

**Postlude**



**SUNDAY WORSHIP IS THE CALL OF GOD TO BRING SPECIAL HONOR TO HIS NAME.**

**WELCOME TO THE "FAMILY OF BELIEVERS".** In the name of Christ Jesus our Lord,  
**welcome to St. Paul's this morning.** May your experience of worship and fellowship  
with us refresh and ready you for the coming week.



**PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:** DJ Bianco, Franck Bielecki, Kari Stewart Bonczewski, Austin Bowman, Lois Burge, Claire Daley, Jim Doxsey, Al Drum, Florence Drum, John Durham, Monica Hayward, Marion Hildebrand, Joyce Hocko, Mary Beth Innamorati, Craig Jacobs, Alice Kershinski, Matthew Kostelec, Todd & Daphne Kretz, Janice Krzywicki, Andy Macko, Barbara Macko, Amy Maher, Dale Major, Jon Martineau, Andrea Martz, Dolores Marzocco, Wayne Mast, Mary Alice McCloskey, Shari Meister, Paulette Mirilovich, Cheryl Myers, Andrew Richner, Virginia (Ginger) Rinehimer, Steven Reeves, Michele Reed, Cathy Ruitter, Bob Rushworth, Andrew Ruth, Dale Scott, Lois Scott, Carl Schultz, Joe Seymour, Robert F. Shultz, Ralph Smolenak, Leona Stemrich, Bonnie Tomcho,

Matthew Walker, Charlotte Weiss, granddaughter of Paul & Karen Ann Kowalczyk, Karen Wise, Audrey Wysowski, Marian Zawilski

**IN ADDITION TO THOSE HAVING HEALTH PROBLEMS WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR ALL THE MEN, AND WOMEN WHO ARE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES.** Matthew Hewson, Wayne Kaufman, Richard Mester, Patrick Murphy, Brandon Passman, Anthony Porrecha, Jr., Christian Yurkanin.

**-FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR CONGREGATION, OUR SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE DRIVE IN SERVICES AT 9AM & 11AM. CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR FEBRUARY WILL BE 3-7PM ON WEDNESDAYS.**

**-FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR THE CHURCH SECRETARY, OR CONTACT PASTOR KAUFMAN AT 570-443-0832. \*WE HAVE SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE OFFERED TO ASSIST THOSE IN NEED.**

**-GIVING STATEMENTS 2020 ARE PRINTED AND IN YOUR MAILBOXES.**

**-SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE: FOR STUDENTS IN 7TH & 8TH GRADE, ZOOM MEETINGS TAKE PLACE SUNDAYS AT 1PM. PLEASE EMAIL MARK KASTER: MARK.KASTER@WILKES.EDU**

**-LENTEN SERVICES WILL BE AT 11:00 A.M. EVERY WEDNESDAY IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS ARE REQUIRED. VIDEOTAPED SERVICES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO PREFER VIA FACEBOOK AND OUR WEBPAGE.**

**-DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, WE WILL BE COLLECTING FOR MICHAELNE'S MISSION. MICHAELNE'S MISSION IS WORKING WITH THE GROWING HOMELESS POPULATION IN THE WILKES-BARRE AREA. THEY ARE REQUESTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: BACK PACKS/ DRAWSTRING BAGS, SWEATSHIRTS, BOOTS/SHOES, SOCKS, COATS, GLOVES, MASKS, BLANKETS, HAND SANITIZER, \$5 GIFT CARDS FOR MCDONALDS, \$5 GIFT CARDS FOR TURKEY HILL, CANDY & SNACKS... \*WE WILL CONTINUE TO COLLECT THROUGHOUT THE MONTH.**

**- LENTEN DEVOTIONS ARE BEING POSTED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE DAILY. HARD COPIES ARE AVAILABLE OR IF YOU PREFER, THEY CAN BE EMAILED TO YOU DIRECTLY. CONTACT PASTOR IF INTERESTED.**

**-WHEN WARM WEATHER RETURNS, WE PLAN TO SOLICIT BIDS TO REPLACE THE PARISH HALL ROOF. WE WOULD LIKE TO ESTABLISH A ROOF FUND. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO THE CAUSE!**

**-HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR YOUR COVID VACCINE YET? ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE? WE WOULD LIKE TO HELP. SEVERAL MEMBERS ARE WILLING TO ASSIST YOU. CONTACT PASTOR KAUFMAN OR CALL LISA NAPERSKY (570) 709-1165, HELEN DAVIS (570) 991-7064 OR SUSAN ACKERMAN (570) 751-3169 WHO ARE WILLING TO WORK WITH YOU.**

**-FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES- CLASSES WILL BE FORMING FOR THOSE IN 2ND GRADE OR OLDER WHO HAVE YET TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTION FOR 1ST HOLY COMMUNION. BECAUSE OF COVID, WE WILL HOLD OFF AND COMPLETE CLASSES IN MAY WHEN THE SERVICE CAN BE HELD OUTDOORS AND FAMILY AND FRIENDS CAN GATHER WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND CELEBRATE. \*PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR KAUFMAN IF YOU HAVE A CHILD ELIGIBLE.**

**-IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN....WE WILL BE SELLING LEDA'S DELICIOUS EASTER EGGS. PRICE HAS NOT CHANGED, THEY WILL STILL BE \$1.25 EACH. ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE ST. PAUL'S YOUTH GROUP AS WE CONTINUE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE YOUTH TRIP TO MINNESOTA IN 2022. ALL ORDERS MUST BE IN TO ME BY MARCH 14TH AND WILL BE DELIVERED BY MARCH 28TH (PALM SUNDAY) PAYMENT DUE WHEN DELIVERED. PLEASE NOTE I WILL BE ABLE TO MEET WITH ANYONE FOR PORCH DROP OFFS AND YOU CAN PICK UP AT MY HOUSE AS WELL AS I WILL BE GETTING PERIODIC DELIVERIES STARTING THIS WEEK. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ME SELLING OUT OF THE BACK OF MY CAR AFTER 1ST AND BEFORE 2ND SERVICE DEPENDING ON WEATHER AND AVAILABILITY SO LOOK FOR THAT. ORDER FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN BULLETINS & USHER BOOTH, YOU CAN DROP YOUR ORDER FORMS INTO THE OFFERING BUCKET. CALL OR MESSAGE TERRY SCOTT WITH ANY QUESTIONS 570-855-5813 OR 570-868-7368**



**-PLEASE NOTE: THE FOOD BANK CONTINUES TO DISTRIBUTE FOOD TO CLIENTS EVERY FRIDAY USING SAFE DISTANCE PRACTICES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE CHURCH, PLEASE DO SO ON FRIDAYS 9AM-NOON. DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, AND APPRECIATED.**