

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

15733 Dover Road
Upperco, Maryland 21155

February 21, 2021
First Sunday in Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn #625 "Come, We That Love the Lord" (Verses 1 & 4)

**Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.**



**Then let our songs abound,
and ev'ry tear be dry;
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high.
We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.**

Contributors: Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, refrain. Music: Robert Lowry. Public Domain.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

A Reading from Genesis.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22
A Reading from 1 Peter.

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

The Gospel from Mark.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "A Promise in Fractured Light"

Hymn #772 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
to know and do his will!**

**Order my footsteps by your word
and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord,
but keep my conscience clear.**

**Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
a stricter watch to keep;
and should I e'er forget your way,
restore your wand'ring sheep.**

**Make me to walk in your commands,
'tis a delightful road;
nor let my head or heart or hands
offend against my God.**

Contributors: Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870. Public Domain.

Prayers of the Church

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Even in the wilderness you are with us. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer especially those whose names we speak aloud (*pause for quiet prayer*), in our hearts (*again pause...*) and those whose names fill the list of ongoing prayer concerns of this community of faith; that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace, let us pray. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern (*especially*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

Sending Hymn #550 "On What Has Now Been Sown"

**On what has now been sown
your blessing Lord, bestow;
the pow'r is yours alone
to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
And yours alone shall be the praise!**

**To you our wants are known,
from you are all our pow'rs;
accept what is your own
and pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive
and to your word a blessing give.**

**Oh, grant that each of us,
now met before you here,
may meet together thus
when you and yours appear,
and follow you to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!**

Contributors: Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.Music: John Darwall, 1731–1789. Public Domain.

Sending



Please keep the following individuals in your prayers

Members: Mark, Calvin, Hazel, Jen, Maidie, Vivian, Colton, Bud, Carolyn & John, Carliana, Shriver, Andy, Hannah, Denise, Glenys, Matthew, Nadine, Peter, Moore family, Neuheisel family, Gene, Katie, and all homebound members.

Family & Friends: Jerry, Bernie & Chris, Nunan Family, Mike, Darlene, Frank, Erin, Kary, Jim & Barbara, Kevin, Jack & Elinor, Liz, Heidi, Peggy, Laura, Bruce & Jamie, Karen, Caroline, Sonia, Addison, Ashlee, Maverick, Pat, Wade, Carla, Florence, Andrea & Cotey, Evan, Ayva, Family & friends of Clyde on his death, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

CHURCH NEWS

TODAY, SUNDAY, February 21st – First Sunday in Lent

Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#)

Sunday School via Zoom at 10:30am

[Mar-Lu-Ridge Virtual Bishops' Reception Reservation](#). Reception starts 5pm.

Confirmation Class will be held by Zoom at 7:00pm

Easter Lily Orders are being taken – see flyer below, - mail in by March 7th

MONDAY, February 22nd

Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser for Youth – Orders due by tomorrow, [Click Here](#).

WEDNESDAY, February 24th, 7:00pm

Lenten Soup Pick-up – 5-6pm, contact Mary Neuheisel schedule a different time

Lenten Bible Study via Zoom at 7:00pm

SUNDAY, February 28th - Second Sunday in Lent

Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#)

Coffee & Conversation at 10:00am

Confirmation Class will be held by Zoom at 7:00pm

Easter Lily Orders are being taken – see flyer below, - mail in by March 7th

WEDNESDAY, March 3rd, 7:00pm

Lenten Soup Pick-up – 5-6pm, contact Mary Neuheisel schedule a different time

Lenten Bible Study via Zoom at 7:00pm



Encore Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#)

WEDNESDAY, February 24th, 7:00pm

Lent Bible Study (Zoom) Mark 14:3-6, 8

A Woman anoints Jesus at house of Simon the Leper & the disciples react.

WEDNESDAY, March 3rd, 7:00pm

Lent Bible Study (Zoom) Mark 14:10-11

Judas goes to betray Jesus.

WEDNESDAY, March 10th, 7:00pm

Lent Bible Study (Zoom) Mark 14:13-15 and 14:22-24

Jesus seems to know where they will find Room for Passover,

Last Supper & Communion.

WEDNESDAY, March 17th, 7:00pm

in Lent Bible Study (Zoom) Mark 14:32, 44-46

In Gethsemane they laid hands on Him.

WEDNESDAY, March 24th, 7:00pm

Lent Bible Study (Lent) Mar 24 Mark 14:55-56, 61-64

High priests ask... "Why do we still need witnesses?"

OFFERING

[Donate online via Tithe.ly](#)

[2nd Offering - NESAP](#)

Send offering by mail:

15773 Dover Road

Upperco, MD 21155



ATTENDANCE

Online Video Attendance

February 14th - 46 views

Ash Wednesday – 43 views



SUNDAY, March 28th

Palm Sunday

April 1st Maundy Thursday

Virtual Service Last Supper & Gethsemane - John's account

April 2nd Good Friday

Mark 15:1-2, 6, 8

At the Praetorian Pilate asks, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus replies, "You say so."

SUNDAY, April 4th

Easter Sunday

YOUTH FUNRAISER



Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser for Gathering Youth

The Gathering Youth* are selling Gertrude Hawk Chocolates for Easter. Our fundraising has been non-existent because of COVID.

Sales run through February 22nd and delivery will be the week of March 22nd.

There are multiple ordering & delivery options:

- Order online and have delivered to St Paul's (free delivery)
- Order online and have order delivered to your home (Shipping fees apply)
- Order online and have the order delivered as a gift to someone (Shipping fees apply)
- Order using paper order form (free delivery)

The link to our online ordering:

https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/fundraisingproducts/index/index/organization_id/118409/seller_id/1

If you would like a catalog and paper order form please contact Sandy Baber and she will get one to you.



* **ELCA Youth Gathering** - Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. *St Paul's has at least 10 youth eligible for the 2022 Gathering.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT

This year the Sunday school is asking everyone to help us with our Lenten project.

We are hoping to deliver hard boiled, decorated Easter eggs to needy families in our community.

Those interested will need to boil and dye/ decorate 1 dozen eggs (or more if you want), and get them to the church. Place the decorated eggs in their original carton, and put the date boiled on the carton. You may also include your family name if desired. Since boiled eggs have a short shelf life, we are asking the eggs not to be boiled any sooner than March 25.



Delivery dates to the church will be Saturday March 27th from 11am - 1pm, and Sunday March 28th from 2p – 4pm.

Please contact Susan Fleming for more information or to arrange egg pickup if you are unable to get them to the church.



Let us start to think ahead to Easter!

Please indicate the number of lilies, make check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mail checks to the church (15773 Dover Rd, Upperco MD 21155) by

March 7th – Thank you!

_____ 4-6 bloom Lily (\$10.50) - total price _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Please print and fill out the form or
write on a piece of paper the number of lilies you would like, your memorial and who it
is given by then
mail to the church with your check by March 7th.

St Paul's Lutheran Church
15779 Dover Road
Upperco, MD 21155
Attn: Easter Lily Order

If you have any questions, please contact Jayme Folfas
or the church office at office@stpaulsupperco.org.