

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ FEBRUARY 18, 2024



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325

"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Knowing that we are held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in the snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let pain grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”

#319

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

Let us pray.....**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, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Genesis 9:8 - 17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and 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. ¹¹I 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.” ¹²God 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: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶When 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.” ¹⁷God 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.

Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18 - 22

¹⁸Christ 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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. ²¹And 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, ²²who 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.

Children's Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann



Children's Sermon

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

“Return to the Lord”

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Gospel

Mark 1:9 - 15

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

#517

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering

Offertory

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

#186

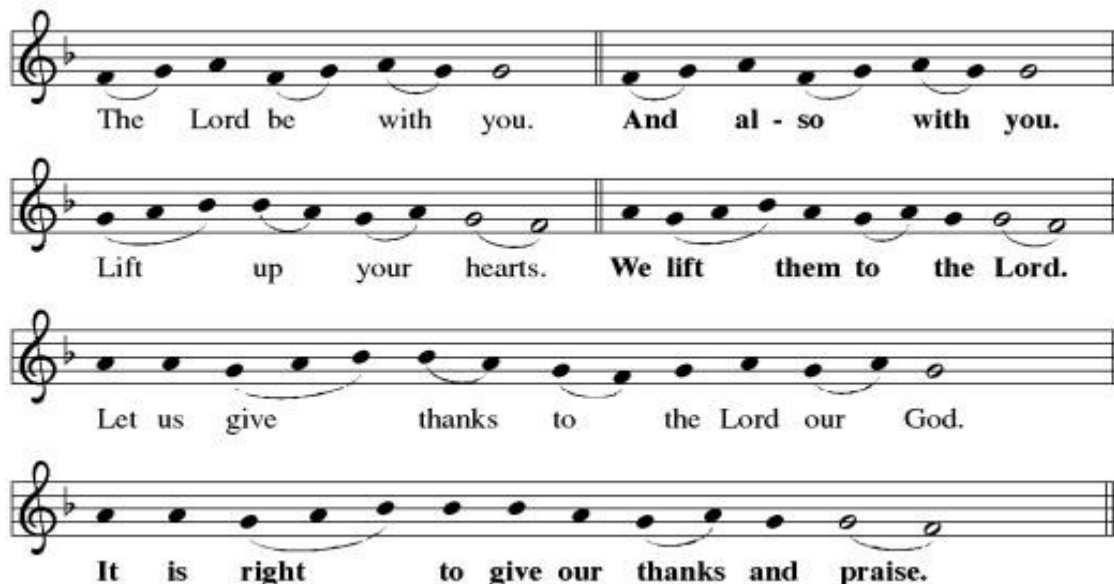
please stand in body or spirit

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with the promise of grace and mercy. We pray this in your name. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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

HOLY COMMUNION

by Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”

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“Jesus, Still Lead On”

#624

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

#325

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

#545

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

“REMEMBERING GOD’S PROMISES”



Welcome: Lent has begun: a time for both walking with Jesus toward the cross and being strengthened in our faith and knowledge of God. Welcome to worship and to the Lenten journey.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, Dewey Jobe, Jon Beckman, Judy Smith, Paul Kelly, Gene Beckman, Renee Weller, Gordon Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Bill Talbot (friend of Connie Gerken), Faith Hoovendick, Sharon Shull, Don Gibbs, Melvin Oelrichs (grandpa of Nicholas Dieckman), Art Heimsoth, Dorothy Brown (mother of Bob Brown), Joe Campbell (brother of Aureta Craighead), Cliff Eckhoff, Averi Kroenke, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Donna Allen (mother of Adrienn Dieckman), Ken Jenson (friend of Connie Gerken), Cora Lee Fuchs (mother of Greg Bredehoeft and grandmother of Angela Alcorn), Jamie Simon, Dena Sikoutris, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Annie Bright, Kiley Simon (friend of Jenna Nash), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Bill Hampton, and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Marie Viebrock & Florence VonHolten: *GSCC*. Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms*. Sally Viebrock: *E. W. Thompson Center*

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe and Cpt. Joseph Strathman.



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the **Need Prayer?** prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.

Circle: The Esther Circle will meet in the home of Rhonda Schlesselman on Monday, **February 19th** at 7:00 pm. The Study will be Session four (pgs. 34-39) Commandments 7-10.



LBPS: Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **February 20th** and Wednesday, **February 21st** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.

Newsletter: The Sunbeam Committee will meet on Wednesday, **February 21st** at 3:30pm.



Mid-Week Service: Throughout the upcoming season of Lent, we encourage you to carve out a bit of time for worship. Midweek Lenten Services will be held on Wednesdays, starting at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Other Lent activities include breakfast at 7:30am and Simple Supper at 6:00pm. See you there!



Simple Supper: "Simple" Supper will be held prior to each Lenten Service beginning on Wednesday, **February 21st**. Serving will begin at 5:45 p.m. The menu for this upcoming "simple" supper is chili with hot dogs and/or chili dogs and, the ever favorite, fish chowder! Come join your church family for supper in the Fellowship Hall.



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **February 22nd** from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.

Chili Cookoff: It is time for another Chili Cookoff! Following service on Sunday, **March 10th**, the Luther League would like to invite you to submit your favorite chili, soups, or baked goods. We will have a friendly competition to decide who makes the best dish! For the chili and soup, please bring one crockpot full of your best chili or soup. For the baked goods, please create smaller portions so that more people can try your recipe and vote. A hotdog and chili lunch will be served for a free will offering.



Swim Party



Thank You: The St. Paul's Luther League would like to invite the League members (8th-college) and the Junior Lutherans (PreK-7th) to the Heckart Community Center in Sedalia for an afternoon of swimming from 3-5 pm on Sunday, **March 24th**. The Luther League would like to thank the Junior Lutherans for the past several years of help in the church fair stand! Parents are welcome to swim as well. Watch the Junior Lutheran Facebook group for the link to register your child if you have never been there before.

Education Scholarship: Annually, the Central States Women of the ELCA, award scholarships to female members of an ELCA congregation, who are seeking post high school education. It is a one-year non renewable scholarship. Applications for the scholarship may be found at the ushers' stands. For any questions, see Janice. The date for submitting your application has been extended to Monday, **April 15, 2024**.



~ * ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ * ~

A Plan: The City of Cole Camp is working on creating a new comprehensive plan. This is a plan that is meant to provide a vision for the future of our community and a roadmap for how to get there. Whether you live here, worship here, work here, or just visit, we want your input! On Thursday, **February 22**, there will be a Cole Camp Comprehensive Plan Forum from 5:00-8:00 pm at Wine, Antiques & More. Stop by during that time, hear a little bit about the work being done, and most importantly share your opinion on things like housing, transportation/mobility around town, parks & recreation, employment opportunities, city services, infrastructure, and more. We are grateful for your input!



Benefit Dinner: The Seniors of North Benton County will be having a dinner at St. Paul's on Sunday, **February 25th** to raise money to repair the parking lot at the Cole Camp Senior Center. Serving will be from 11:00am until 1:00pm. The menu will be meatloaf, posh potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, dessert and drink. This is free will offering. Thank you for your support.

Old Time Breakfast: The Cole Camp Museum is sponsoring an "All you can eat, Old Time Breakfast". It will be on Saturday, **March 9th** from 6:30am until 9:30am. It will be held at the Cole Camp Senior Center. The menu will be sausage, biscuits & gravy, head cheese, fried potatoes, scrambled eggs, corn bread, coffee, milk and orange juice.



Christian Outreach: The Christian Outreach Thrift Store in Lincoln is in need of volunteers! Christian Outreach is a non-profit organization, not connected to any one particular church or denomination, that distributes all the money it raises among many organizations throughout Benton County. After a winter break they will resume their normal hours of 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. They welcome volunteers who can offer as few or as many hours as they'd like. If you are interested in possibly volunteering, please speak with Pastor Stephen to receive contact information.

MID-WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

1st week of Lent.....	February 21st
2nd week of Lent.....	February 28th
3rd week of Lent.....	March 6th
4th week of Lent.....	March 13th
5th week of Lent.....	March 20th

Services at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall



Palm Sunday.....	March 24th at 10:00am	Procession of Palms
Maundy Thursday.....	March 28th at 7:00pm	Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday.....	March 29th at 7:00pm	Service of Darkness
Easter Saturday.....	March 30th 5:30pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunrise	March 31st at 7:00am.....	Breakfast to follow
Easter Sunday.....	March 31st at 10:00am.....	Holy Communion



LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance will host a Lenten breakfast here at St. Paul's Church each Wednesday morning beginning at 7:30am. (*Please note: If Cole Camp schools are closed due to weather, the breakfast will also be cancelled that day.*) Everyone is invited to attend each week. The following churches will host each week:

February 21st.....	St. John's and Holy Cross
February 28th.....	First Baptist and Ionia United Methodist
March 6th.....	St. Peter & Paul and Faith Chapel
March 13th	St. Paul's and Grace Fellowship
March 20th	Brauersville, Mt. Hulda and Trinity Lutheran

LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPER

Each Wednesday prior to the weekly Lenten service, a “simple supper” will be served in the fellowship hall. These suppers will consist of soup, sandwiches or hot dogs, coffee, water, and, of course, fellowship. Serving will begin at 6:00 pm and ending at approximately 6:45, to allow the volunteers time for clean-up. The “Simple Suppers” will begin on Wednesday, **February 21st** in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed to prepare the soups, prepare the sandwich spread, and to assist with the serving and clean-up. Please mark your offering card if you can help. Contact Janice for any questions. Come and enjoy a “simple supper” with your church family!



AFTER LENTEN SERVICE

There will be the traditional fellowship time (cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate) following each Lenten service beginning on **February 21st**. To insure that there are enough cookies each week, each family is asked to provide cookies according to the following schedule (based on the first letter of your last name). Additionally, please note the organizations asked serve for each of the five Lenten services.

February 21stA - E WELCA Executive Board Serving
February 28thF - H Junior Lutherans Serving
March 6thI - P Luther League Serving
March 13thR - T Congregational Council Serving
March 20thV - Z Esther Circle Serving

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, February 18:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, February 19:	7:00pm	Esther Circle
Tuesday, February 20:	8:00am	LBPS
Wednesday, February 21:	7:30am	Lenten Breakfast
	8:00am	LBPS
	3:00pm	Sunbeam
	6:00pm	Simple Supper
	7:00pm	Lent Worship Service
Thursday, February 22:	8:00am	BCHD
Saturday, February 24:	5:30pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, February 25:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations



~ * ~ **Coming Events** ~ * ~

February 21..... Lenten Breakfast, Simple Supper & Lent Worship
February 28..... Lenten Breakfast, Simple Supper & Lent Worship
March 6..... Lenten Breakfast, Simple Supper & Lent Worship

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist Lois Viebrock
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
Altar Guild Janice Gerken & Rhonda Schlesselman
AV Technicians Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Ushers Justin Tinney, Head Usher
..... Victoria Fox, John Oelrichs, Braden Poe, Ryan Schlesselman



First Sunday of Lent ~ February 18, 2024

Assisting Minister Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants Luther League
Reader Glenalee Dillon
Children's Sermon Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes Wyatt Gooch & Jace Tinney
Flowers Rhonda Schlesselman



Second Sunday of Lent ~ February 25, 2024

Assisting Minister Tom Oelrichs
Communion Assistants Greg Bredehoeft & Norma Schlesselman
Reader Luke Goosen
Children's Sermon Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
Acolytes Tristan Fox & Logan Jackson
Flowers Sara Jackson