

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

Second Sunday of Lent

March 16, 2025

NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.
Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

Remembering that Jesus the Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life. We continue with confession and forgiveness.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

*** SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

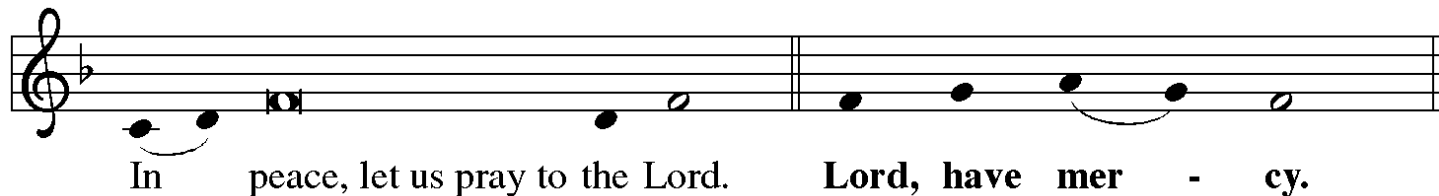
C: And also with you.

GREETING (Please be seated)

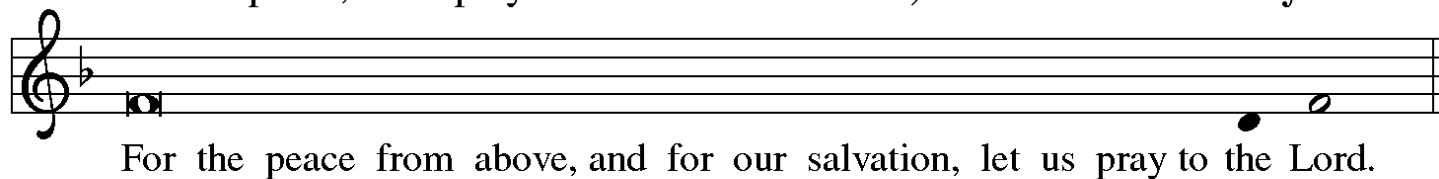
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

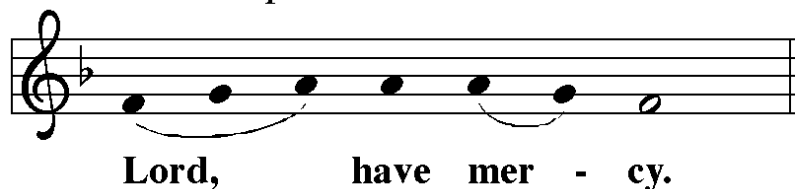
Kyrie:



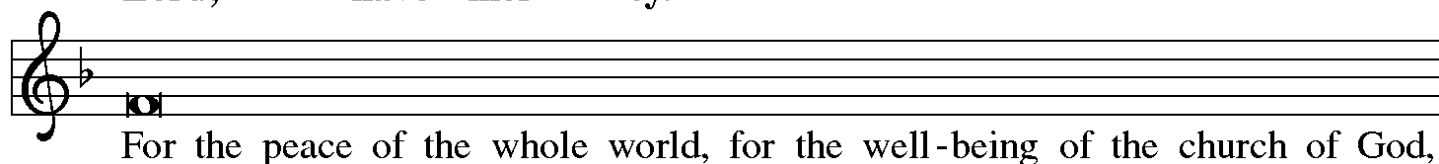
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



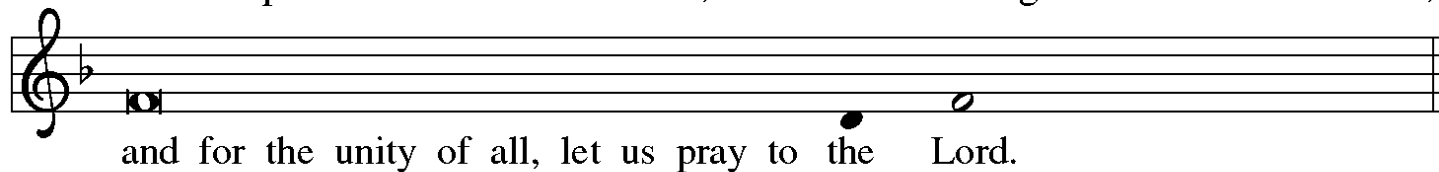
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



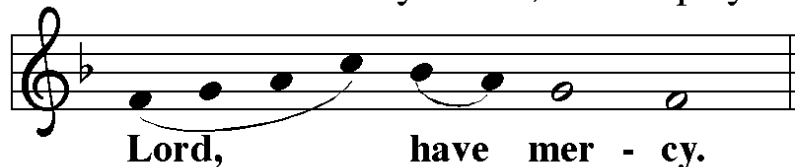
Lord, have mer - cy.



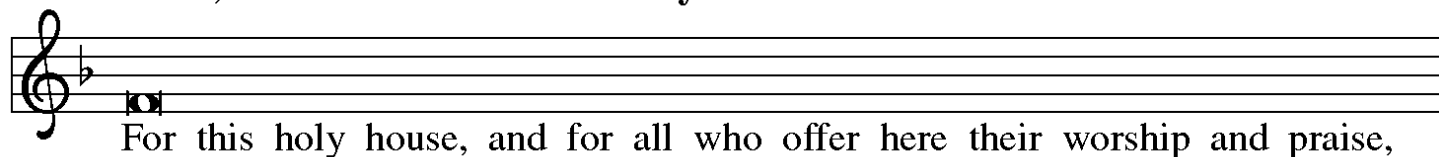
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



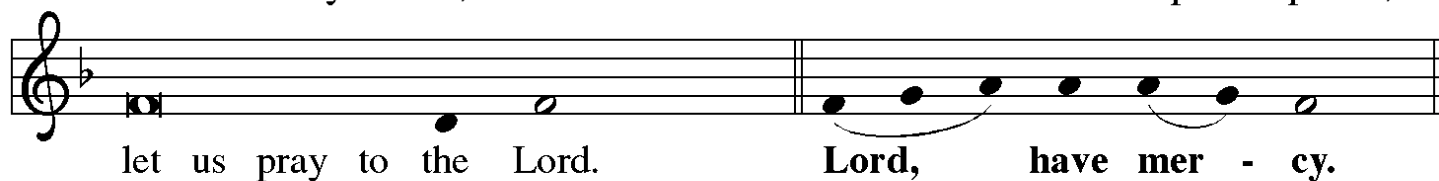
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



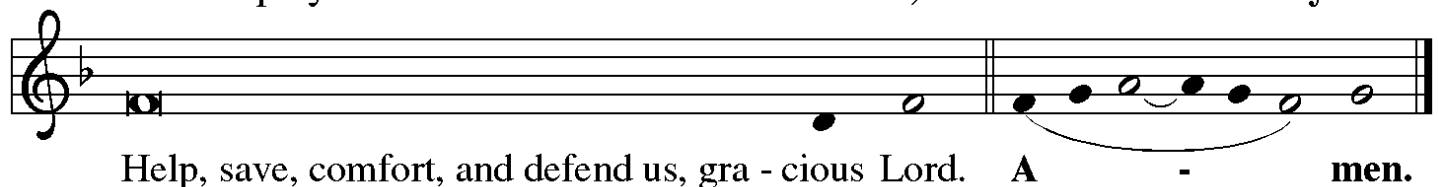
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Hymn of Praise: Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The musical score is written on ten staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The word 'All' is written above the second staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the tenth staff.

Prayer of the Day: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Choir: Psalm 27 “The Lord is My Light”

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Sunday School

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Genesis, the 15th Chapter.

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

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

Psalm 27 (Read Responsively)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; 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 seek God in the temple.

For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O Lord, I will seek.

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take me in.

Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

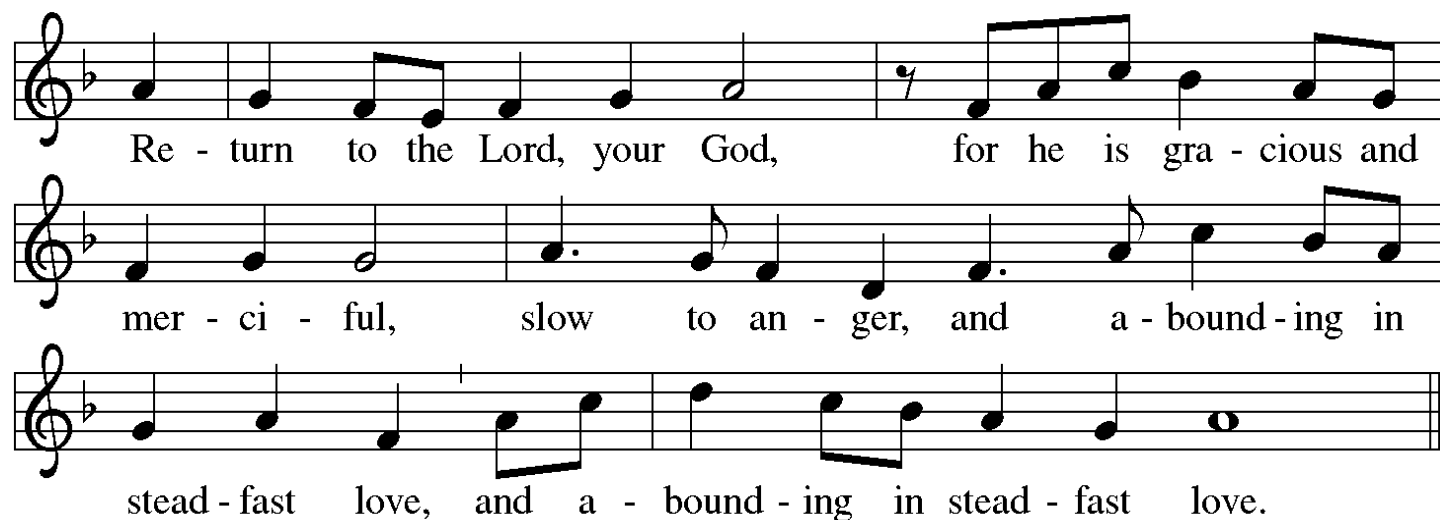
Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord!

The 2nd lesson is a reading from Philippians, the 3rd and 4th chapters.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

***Gospel Acclamation:**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

***The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter.**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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



Hymn of the Day:

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

596

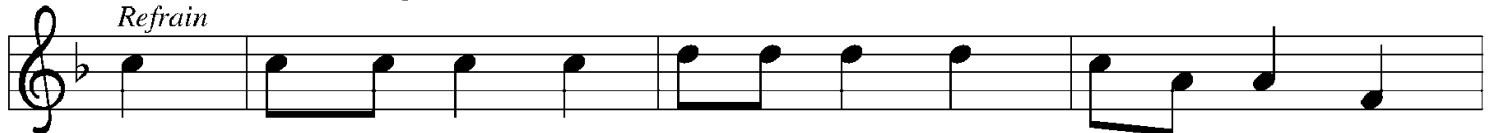


1 My hope is built on noth- ing less than Je- sus' blood and righ- teous- ness;
 2 Whendark-ness veils his love- ly face, I rest on his un- chang- ing grace;
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
 4 When he shall come with trum- pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,

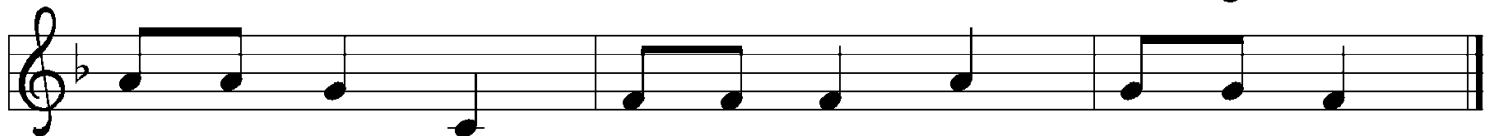


no mer- it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with- in the veil.
 when all sup- ports are washed a- way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 clothed in his righ- teous- ness a- lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

Baptism of Michelle Kay Watson

See Holy Baptism in hymnal on page 227

THANKSGIVING

Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts. Through this small sacrifice, God's love is shown through us, to those who are in need.

***(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Offertory Prayer:** Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

*** The Prayers of Intercession:** The congregation's response to "God in your mercy," is "receive our prayer."

***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.

SENDING

***Blessing:** (Please Stand)

Pastor David

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

*Sending Song:

Lead Me, Guide Me

768

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;

for if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.

Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995

Music: Doris Akers

Text and music © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Kathy Meller
Song Leader	Dan Tschirgi
Acolyte	Morgan Schroeder
Audio / Video Technician	Roger Pennell
Reader	Donald Weber
Council	Misty Schroeder
Greeters	Richard & Rosemary Heidbreder
Altar Flowers	Rosemary Heidbreder

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism today: Michelle Kay Watson, daughter of Caleb & Jana Watson, will receive Holy Baptism following the Hymn of the Day. We praise God for this beautiful child who will join the church family as a daughter of our Father in Heaven. Sponsors are Scotty & Mary Watson. Grandparents are Kent & Julie Nelson.

St. Paul's Annual Pancake Breakfast is today from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM with all the Pancakes and sausages you care to eat. Hope to see you there.

WELCA Lent Ingathering – will be collecting through Palm Sunday, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotions and body deodorants. Thanks so much. Donations are for the Samaritan Center.

Church Directory Info: Appointments can now be scheduled for **March 26, from 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM.** Each family photographed receives a complimentary 8 X 10 portrait to be sent to their home. You can schedule on line or we have volunteers before and after church service to help you with the scheduling process.

Wednesday night Lenten Services: at 6:00 p.m. Pastor David has a program of weekly readers and we will sing the Holden Evening Prayer. The mid-week Lenten service envelopes will go to the ELCA Hunger Appeal.

STARS will meet on Wednesday, March 19th, with lunch at 11:30 am and a program to follow. Our presenter will be Dan Cooper, Executive Director of Oaks Indian Mission, located in Oaks, Oklahoma, an organization which St. Paul's, its members, and Margaret Circle support with financial gifts. Dan will share information about the Mission, its residential and day school program as well as its Humanitarian Aid Program. If you've always wanted to learn more about Oaks Indian Mission and its ministry, this program is for you! If you plan to attend, please make reservations with Rose Strobel at 782-4553 by Monday evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Time for Easter Lilly orders: Please give info of in honor or memory to Katheryn by April 13th. Flowers will be \$10 each.

2025 Central State Synod Assembly: will be held June 5 - 7 at Embassy Suites in Olathe, KS. Let Pastor know if you are interested in attending. Deadline to register is May 15. Church will cover cost for registration fee and hotel. (reservation for hotel must be set up by May 6).

Reminder: The basement is available for all members to rent on a first come first serve basis. You may call Pastor David to confirm the day is open or check the calendar on the church website. If available, please complete a 'Request Form' located in the rotating rack in the Narthex and give it and the rental fee of \$25 to Pastor David. A confirmation of the rental will be confirmed.

Hymn History – Our gathering song “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” was written in 1867 by Walter Smith, son of a cabinet maker and ordained by the Free Church of Scotland in 1850. This hymn was originally published under this Scripture: “Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen” (1 Timothy 1:17). After paraphrasing this verse in the first stanza, the author goes on to expound on God’s light, immortality, and glory in the following stanzas. Walter Smith rose to be the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church, the highest position of the church.

Schedule for Online Services:

Services are at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings on FaceBook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

All services can be viewed at any time on our St. Paul’s website:

<http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org> just scroll down to the middle section and click on the service of your choice under “In Case You Missed It.” Below that is another section for current and past bulletins.

Pastor David