

*We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinabek Nations, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.*

*This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase, Treaty 13 of 1805, and the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today, our community is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We gather by these territorial lands and waters to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.*

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

### **Lent One**

### **February 26, 2023**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HYMN ACS # 918 NOW IS THE TIME OF GRACE**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Now is the Time of Grace'. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody starts with a quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B4, and C5. A first ending bracket labeled '1' covers the first four notes. A second ending bracket labeled '2' covers the last four notes. The lyrics 'Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va-tion.' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics 'Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in-vi - ta-tion.' are written below the staff.

## PSALM 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
**and whose sin is put away.**

Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

While I held my tongue, my bones wasted away  
**Because of my groaning all day long.**

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
**my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt;  
**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"**  
**then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble,  
**When the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;  
**you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
**I will guide you with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
**Who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.**

Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
**but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;  
**shout for joy, all you who are in true of heart.**

### 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

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and  
around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty  
promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and  
restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## GOSPEL MATTHEW 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## REFLECTION

### **HYMN ELW # 325 I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME**

**I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**All along my pilgrim journey,**

**Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me.**

**When my heart is almost breaking,**

**Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.**

**When my head is bowed in sorrow,**

**Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

## THE CELTIC CREED

**We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.  
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.**

**He descended into the earth to the place of death.**

**On the third day he rose from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,  
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and of eternal life.**

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS

**SINGING INTO PRAYER ACS # 921 RETURN TO GOD**

**In all affliction. In all affliction..... return, return to God.**

**With great endurance**

**In every hardship**

**With humble spirit**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence*

You alone are God. Sustain us in times of wilderness. Give us vision and wisdom. Help us to know your will for loving service.

Merciful God.....**receive our prayer.**

You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. As winter sleep continues here, nourish the earth to bring forth spring and summer growth.

Merciful God.....**receive our prayer.**

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern. Instill in them justice and righteousness, that peace would find a home in all regions and nations. Let your peace empower all in Ukraine and Russia after one year of war, calm the spirits of those in Palestine, Israel, Iran, and Pakistan.

Merciful God.....**receive our prayer.**

You are a resting place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles and accompany all refugees and immigrants. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness surround us with your steadfast love. We pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, and for all who need care and healing in our community among our friends and families.....

*Pause*

Merciful God.....**receive our prayer.**

You offer abundance to all. Bless the hearts and hands of all who offer hospitality in this place. Make our welcome your welcome to the study of scripture and times of worship and prayer.

Merciful God.....**receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

**SINGING INTO PEACE ACS # 921 RETURN TO GOD**

**By speech that's truthful. By speech that's truthful.....return, return to God.**

**To cease oppression**

**By loving justice**

**With gentle kindness**

SHARING THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

*The offering will now be received and may God bless the gifts of your life*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
Together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
We bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
And provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
Who joined us in our desert,  
Pouring out his life for the world.

in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,

We await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out you Spirit on this holy food

And on all gathered for this feast:

Wash away our sin,

That we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honour is yours,

Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit,

In your holy church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness. **Thanks be to God!**

## HOLY COMMUNION

*you are invited to eat your bread and drink your wine as you hear the words*  
*“the body of Christ given for you”      “the blood of Christ shed for you”*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us always in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbours and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

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

## HYMN ELW # 808 LORD JESUS, YOU SHALL BE MY SONG

**Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;  
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:  
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.**

**Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**

**As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,  
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.  
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**

**I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the family you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE