



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

9:30a Service of Worship

Pastor ~ Reverend Ashley Nicolls

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent | March 29, 2020**

Welcome!

May God's grace continue to overflow to and through you.



## Worship Assistants

**Assisting Minister**  
Marilyn Hutfilz

**Reader**  
George Hutfilz

**Sound**  
John Beyer

**Screen Operator**  
Rick Barry

**Camera**  
Debi Rado

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

We hope you will use this bulletin during the week to have a song to sing, prayers to pray and give comfort during this time away from in-person worship.

Please know that although we are not physically together to worship, our Lord is still with us. We give thanks for this technology that allows us to share the bulletin, record the abbreviated service of worship and post to our website.

Our Tuesday community meals are still on and so are the Saturday Food Pantrys. Please continue to bring in supplies for these ministries.

Your offerings during this time are especially appreciated as our ministries still continue. They can be sent to the church or dropped off during our normal office hours Monday-Friday • 9a-12noon.

May God bless you and give you peace.

# Prelude

“The Lord is My Light”  
John Ferreira

music by Andrew Dahl

## Welcome and Announcements

### Gathering Hymn \* *Please Stand* *Christ Be Our Light*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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## Prayer of the Day

**Congregation:** Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Scripture ~ Ezekiel 37:1-14

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." <sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within

you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture ~ Psalm 130

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; <sup>2</sup>O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. <sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand? <sup>4</sup>Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared. <sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope. <sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning. <sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption. <sup>8</sup>For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

### Scripture ~ Romans 8:6-11

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel ~ John 11:1-45

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

*Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

**Response: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard

that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." <sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." <sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" <sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you

always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

*Pastor:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon ~ Pastor Ashley Nicolls

Solo

“Thy Word”

Sung by Susy Scholl Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith music by

Prayers of the Church

*Assisting Minister:* Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its renewal. Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

**Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life. Hear us, O God. **Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those waiting for immigration paperwork to finalize, those seeking election, and those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Come quickly with your hope. Hear us, O God. **Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain especially those we name aloud or in our hearts (*pause*). Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God. **Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services. Hear us, O God.

**Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, be with our members, especially... and our preschool teachers and students, especially...Hear us O God. **Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* God of life, you are our resurrection. We remember all those who have died and trust that, in you, they will live again. Breathe new life into our dry bones, that we, too, might live with you forever. Hear us, O God.

**Response: Your mercy is great.**

*Assisting Minister:* According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Response: Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer *(sung and signed)*

**Congregation:** Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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. Amen.

### Blessing

*Pastor:* Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ☩ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

**Response: Amen.**

### Sending Song

“Days of Elijah”

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the Word of the Lord  
And these are the days  
Of Your servant Moses  
Righteousness being restored  
And though these are days  
Of great trials  
Of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice  
In the desert crying  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord  
Behold He comes  
Riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun  
At the trumpet call  
So lift your voice  
It's the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion's hill  
Salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days  
Of Your servant David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise  
And these are the days of the harvest  
The fields are as white in the world  
And we are the labourers  
In Your vineyard  
Declaring the Word of the Lord  
Behold He comes  
Riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun  
At the trumpet call  
So lift your voice  
It's the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion's hill  
Salvation comes

## Postlude

“Thy Word”

John Ferreira

music by

Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith

## St. Paul Mission Statement

As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we are called through baptism to proclaim and bear witness to God’s reconciling grace in Jesus Christ to all so that by joyfully sharing God’s Word and encouraging each other to service for the sake of others, our lives together make a difference for Christ and His kingdom.

**Eternal Candle** is given by Sue and Rick Barry in honor of Melissa and Mike’s wedding.  
**Attendance for Last Sunday:** 409 views (as of 3/23/2020)

## Preparing for Next Week

Monday—Psalm 143; 1 Kings 17:17-24; Acts 20:7-12

Tuesday—Psalm 143; 2 Kings 4:18-37; Ephesians 2:1-10

Wednesday—Psalm 143; Jeremiah 32:1-9, 35-41; Matthew 22:23-33

Thursday – Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

Friday – Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30

Saturday—Psalm 31:9-16; Lamentations 3:55-66; Mark 10:32-34

Sunday—Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14—27:66

## This week at St. Paul ~ March 29-April 5, 2020

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Tuesday 3/31	5:30p	Community Meal
	6:00p	Bell Choir rehearsal
	7:00p	Choir rehearsal
Wednesday 4/1	8:00a	Property Committee meeting
Friday 4/3	9:30a	Food Pantry packing
Saturday 4/4	9:00a	Food Pantry distribution
Sunday 4/5	9:30a	Worship – TBD online or in person

### Holy Week/Easter Schedule (as of today – subject to change)

#### Holy Week

April 9 Maundy Thursday worship 7p

April 10 Good Friday worship 7p

April 11 Kids Easter Celebration 1:30p

April 11 Easter Vigil Worship 8p

Easter April 12 9a traditional 11am contemporary

## Please remember in your prayers...

All those serving in the U.S. Military. The homeless in our neighborhood, our city, our nation and the world. The Florida Bahamas Synod Office of the Bishop Staff: Bishop Pedro, Assistants to the Bishop Pastors Khader and Rob, Deacons Michele and Connie, Specialists Sue and Michelle, Support Staff Bev, Yuliet, Kim, and Ileana.

SURE – Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity

Our members, especially, Michael Reiter, Stella Reynolds, Blake, Kendall, Mark, Nicole, and Tyler Riley, and Judy Roberts

Our Early Childhood Learning Center teachers and students, especially, Miss Lisa, Miss Christine, Arber, Cameron, and London.

<p><b>Members</b>            Beetle Family            Susan Burmaster            Sue Fisher            Bob Fong            Evelyn Gulliksen            Ed Hahn            Brian McCulley            Cecilia Morvick            Ann Olsen            Jean Panthana            James Paulsson            Cindy Paxton            John Puckhaber            Susy Scholl            Kathie Snyder            Ginger Webb            Karin Zukowski</p> <p><b>Homebound Members</b>            Joanne Austin            Sharyn Brodnax            Pr. Loren Hoch            Charles Kistner            Olive Lehman            June Manselle            Mary Marshall            Virginia McQuaig            Lorraine Metcalf            Michael Reiter            Carole Wilson            Bettie Zuknick</p>	<p><b>Friends and Family</b>            Clinton Allen            Alice Bishop – <i>friend of Doris Schlotterback</i>            Sherri and Rebecca Buete – <i>family of Brian McCulley</i>            Tom &amp; Michele Dawson – <i>friends of Ethel Hamilton</i>            Stephanie Diehl            Cody Eddleman – <i>husband of John Beyer</i>            Freddie Greer – <i>friend of Jim Paulsson</i>            David Jackerson – <i>son of Susy Scholl</i>            Janet Lewis            John Logan – <i>brother of Judy Carnal</i>            Kenny Manselle—<i>son of June Manselle</i>            Ginny Marraccini – <i>sister of Kathie Snyder</i>            Pamela McCann            Tiffany Merrill            Pam Mills – <i>sister of Daniel Mills</i>            John Morrow            Scott Musser – <i>friend of Judy Roberts</i>            Karen Paulsson            Lars Paulsson</p>	<p>Terry Panthana – <i>niece of Jean Panthana</i>            Cory Putnam – <i>grandson of Janice Kruse</i>            Ann Redding            Manny Rebas – <i>friend of Ethel Hamilton</i>            Ann Redding            Candy Reimer – <i>godmother of PrAshley</i>            Brian Rogers – <i>nephew of Sue Barry</i>            Brian &amp; Tommy Schlotterback—<i>sons of Doris Schlotterback</i>            Kent Schlotterback – <i>brother-in-law of Doris Schlotterback</i>            Cynthia Lu Scholl – <i>sister of Susy Scholl</i>            Shelley Smith            Timothy Smith—<i>grandson of Ginny McQuaig</i>            Susan Sullivan – <i>friend of John Ferreira</i>            Charles Sykes – <i>Mathew Syke's father</i>            Dan Torrence            Elaine &amp; Mark Vanderweight            Russell Yerkes—<i>father of ECLC teacher Lisa McLean</i>            Amy Zuccarello—<i>daughter of Dcn. Michele Hilton</i></p>
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# St. Paul Lutheran Church

and Early Childhood Learning Center  
951-955-6480

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and the Florida-Bahamas Synod, established 1955  
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Dorrie Parsons, Parish Secretary—stpaul-admin@verizon.net  
John Ferreira, Director of Music Ministries—sjrmd@comcast.net  
Christine Merrill, ECLC [Director--stpaul-eclc@verizon.net](mailto:Director--stpaul-eclc@verizon.net)

## Executive Committee

George Hutfilz, President      Sandy Tull, Vice President  
Marty Hillerich, Treasurer      Sharon Wittren, Secretary

## Congregation Council

Marty Hillerich	George Hutfilz	John McAuliffe
J.D. Miller	Daniel Mills	Nancy Neff
Pr. Ashley Nicolls	Debi Rado	Colleen Ryan
Sue Scherr	Gail Seyfarth	Sandy Tull
	Sharon Wittren	

Michele Hilton, Synod Parish Deacon



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