

# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

— CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION —  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**F**OR the message ABOUT  
the CROSS IS foolishness  
to those who are PERISHING,  
BUT to us who ARE BEING  
SAVED it IS the power of GOD.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

**4th Sunday in Lent  
MARCH 31, 2019**

# **ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Larry Reed, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Ruth Greening, Suzannah Miller, Lisa Sprengeler, organists

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD**

*(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)*

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 32 (pew bible, p.495)
- ◆ The Hymns: 912, 560, 769, 692
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 12:1-6, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 66

### **Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

#### ***THE AGE-OLD MESSAGE OF THE CROSS***

1. Though regarded as foolish and weak by many,
2. It's where the true power & wisdom of God are found!

- ◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
- ◆ Prayers & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (692)

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**Visitors, Welcome!** The members of St. Paul Lutheran are pleased to meet you and are happy you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word in the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Holy Scriptures. It gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again! The Lord be with you.

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

### First Lesson – Isaiah 12:1-6

In that day you will say: "I will praise you, O LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

### Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 66

P Shout with joy to God:

**C Sing the glory of his name.**

P Make his praise glorious!:

**C Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"**

P So great is your power:

**C That your enemies cringe before you.**

P All the earth bows down to you, they sing praise to you:

**C They sing praise to your name.**

P I will come to your temple with burnt offerings:

**C And fulfill my vows to you.**

P Vows my lips promised, and my mouth spoke:

**C When I was in trouble.**

P Come and listen, all you who fear God:

**C Let me tell you what he has done for me.**

### Second Lesson – Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable: | "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving

to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

### **Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (3/31)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Jesus Walks on the Water, NT 19)
	10:45 am	Bible Class
Wed	7:00 pm	Lenten Service
Sun (4/7)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Jesus Heals the Ten Lepers, NT 32)
	10:45 am	Bible Class
	10:45 am	Mary & Martha Ladies' Meeting

### EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Wed. Lenten services: April 10 (7 pm)
- Church Council Meeting: Sunday, April 14 (8:30 am)
- Maundy Thursday Com. Service: Thursday, April 18 (7 pm)
- Good Friday Worship: Friday, April 19 (7 pm)

### UPCOMING CHOIR PRACTICES

- Sunday, April 7, 8:30 am
- Sunday, April 14, 9:10 am

### SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE DURING MARCH

- Ushers: Ed Chiappetti, Bob Rankin
- Elder: Mike Sprengeler
- Communion Assistant: Larry Reed

### DURING APRIL

- Ushers: Don Claeys, Mark Hartmeister
- Elder: Larry Reed
- Communion Assistant: Mike Sprengeler

### APRIL BIRTHDAY (WEDDING ANNIVERSARY) BLESSINGS TO . . .

Mary Anna Sprengeler, Apr 3	Travis Andrews, Apr 16
Jennifer Roberson, Apr 3	Pat Newton, Apr 19
Wayne Ruegge, Apr 3	Burt Miller, Apr 21
Fred Brethauer, Apr 6	Ruth Claeys, Apr 23
Kylee Acker, Apr 6	David Wamboldt, Apr 28
Ruth Greening, Apr 9	(Gilbert & Jo Ellen Blakey, Apr 19)
Dustin Fritzler, Apr 12	(Bob & Carrol Rankin, Apr 28)
Debbie New, Apr 15	

**PALM SUNDAY/GOOD FRIDAY/EASTER INVITATIONS** may be found on the shelf under the tract rack. Take as many as you wish for sharing with friends and neighbors.

**A BREAKFAST BRUNCH** will be held after our Palm Sunday service, to be served by the men. Men, here's a list of items you are invited to contribute to the menu: egg dishes, toast, jams, breakfast meats, juices, rolls, or other breakfast food. You may wish to cook meat items in advance at home to save prep time on Sunday morning.

**SYNOD NEWS**

- “Professor Paul Sullivan recently announced his intention to retire from his call at ILC. We thank the Lord for his many gifts which our church body has enjoyed as he has prepared our young people for their service in His kingdom. May the Lord bless him and his wife, Jan, in this next phase of their life. Prof. Sullivan writes: *‘It has been a privilege to have served as instructor at ILC these past twenty-two years, also as dean of students to have been entrusted with the physical and spiritual welfare of the high-school students and collegians for twenty of those years. After prayerful thought, I’ve come to the conclusion that the Lord, through the normal aging process, is having my body tell me it is time to plan to retire after the 2019-2020 school year (God willing--our times are in his hands). “There is as time for everything, / and a season for every activity under heaven” (Eccl. 3:1)’*” (John Hein, Chairman of the Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, & Seminary).

**ST PAUL LENTEN SERVICES (REMAINING SCHEDULE)**

<i>LANDMARKS OF JESUS’ PASSION</i>			
DATE	THEME	TEXT	SPEAKER
Apr 3	<i>The Seat of Judgment where Justice Prevailed</i>	John 19:12-16	C. Seybt
Apr 10	<i>The Mount Called Calvary where the Savior Died</i>	Luke 23:32-33	T. Schuetze
Apr 19 (Gd Fri)	<i>The Garden Tomb where the Dead Savior Lay</i>	John 19:31-42	T. Schuetze

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES**

Palm Sunday Worship: April 14, 9:30 am  
*(followed by brunch served by the men)*  
 Maundy Thursday Communion Service: April 18, 7:00 pm  
 Good Friday Worship: April 19, 7:00 pm  
 Easter Sunday Worship: April 21, 9:30 am

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS**  
**APRIL 1-6**

**Mon 1 Corinthians** Humans are self-centered (**ch. 1:10-17**), whereas Jesus was self-sacrificing (20-31). Paul was self-effacing (**ch. 2:1-10**), yielding to the Holy Spirit (ch. 2:11-16). Selfish Christians tout their favorite clergymen, whereas faithful clergymen disdain such acclaim (**ch.3**). As we consider these things in our hearts, we are thankful that God is concerned enough to warn us against our on-board selfishness – and still love us all the same (**ch. 4**).

**Tues** Sexual immorality is a sub-division of selfishness, so we stay away from carriers of filth (**ch. 5**). Selfishness fuels litigation (**ch. 6:1-11**), just as it fuels prostitution (**6:12-18**). Christians spouses have a great blessing (**ch. 7:1-6**), but partners in a “mixed” marriage carry a heavy burden (**7:10-16**), while unmarried Christians are spared a lot of tribulations (**7: 25-40**).

**Wed** Sensitive Christians cope with life by avoiding situations that will put themselves or someone else in harm’s way (**ch.8**). Paul’s life was governed not by self-centeredness but by his love for others. In reaching out to others, he sublimated his “rights” and his “freedoms,” for doing so made him a better conduit for Jesus’ self-sacrificing love and mercy (**ch.9**).

**Thurs** Bad things happened to people who cheated on God (**10:1-10**), and *those things happened to them as examples* for their neighbors, and those events were recorded in the Bible *for our admonition* likewise (**10:12-14**). We do not fall for the temptation to grant equal status to false religions (15-22), even though there’s no law against it (23). Situations arise regularly which require our perceptivity and compassion (24-33). Lord, help us!

**Fri** God’s ABC’s supersede social and/or religious customs (**ch. 11:2-16**), and that impacts the way we celebrate the Lord’s Supper (11:17-34). God is versatile in coping with the wide variety of human needs (**ch.12:1-11**) in the Holy Christian Church (ch.12:12-31). In a congregation with many native languages, these language problems can be solved by love for one another (**ch. 13**). In point of fact, all congregational endeavors should be done with respect for God and proceed in an orderly fashion (**ch. 14**).

**Sat 1 Cor. 15:20-58** The cornerstone of our (and God’s) religion is Jesus’ resurrection from death, for that’s how God changed death from curse to blessing! How does resurrection work? It works like the miracle of seed sprouting (35-38); our resurrected body will differ from other bodies (39-44), for our resurrected body will be spirit-natured (45-49). When? In the split second when Jesus descends in glory from heaven, trumpets everyone awake from their sleep, and immortalizes us. We thank God for giving us this victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Hallelujah to Jesus and Amen!