

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

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Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1976

Sunday School Superintendent: Mike Sprengeler



www.denverlutheran.com

Find us on Facebook at: "St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church"

Member Congregation:
Church of the Lutheran Confession
www.clclutheran.org



+++ **3rd Sunday in Lent – March 12, 2023** +++

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Carly Mess; Ushers: Bob Rankin, Mark Hartmeister

A Warm Welcome to Our Worship Guests. The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are happy that you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word, 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!

Pre-Service Meditation and Prayer

Psalm 34 (pew bible, page 496)

*To Your temple I draw near; Lord, I love to worship here.
Here are Sacrament and Word; here believers meet their Lord.
While I listen to Your Law, fill my soul with holy awe
Till Your Gospel brings to me life and immortality.*

*While Your ministers proclaim peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I hear You speaking from the sky.
From Your house, when I return, may my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say, "I have walked with God today."*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

+++ **We Prepare to Meet Our Lord** +++

Opening Prayer

Hymn

904 – *Blessed Jesus, At Your Word*

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.


C 
A - men.

Our Confession of Sins

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C 
Who made heav'n and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C 
And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C 
A - men.

+++ We Praise Our Lord +++

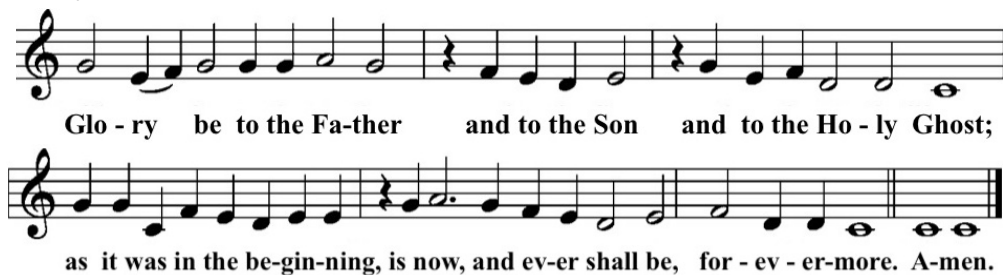
Psalm of the Day

From Psalm 146

P I will praise the LORD all my life:
C **I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**
P Do not put your trust in princes:
C **In mortal men, who cannot save.**
P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob:
C **Whose hope is in the LORD his God.**
P The LORD sets prisoners free:
C **The LORD gives sight to the blind.**
P The LORD sustains the fatherless and the widow:
C **But he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**
P The LORD reigns forever, our God, O Zion, for all generations.
C **Praise the LORD.**

P Glory be to God!

C



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Congregation sings:

**A Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign!
Glory, glory, To the Lamb that once was slain!**

[LSB #506:1-2]

P Let us pray:



+++ Our Lord Speaks to Us in His Word +++

First Lesson – Isaiah 42:14-21

14 “For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant. 15 I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools. 16 I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them. 17 But those who trust in idols, who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’ will be turned back in utter shame. 18 “Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see 19 Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send? Who is blind like the one committed to me, blind like the servant of the LORD? 20 You have seen many things, but have paid no attention; your ears are open, but you hear nothing.” 21 It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it. Alleluia!



Second Lesson – Ephesians 5:8-14



8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10 and find out what pleases the Lord. 11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. 13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14 for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”



Our Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

868 – *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun*

Sermon

Text – John 9:24-41

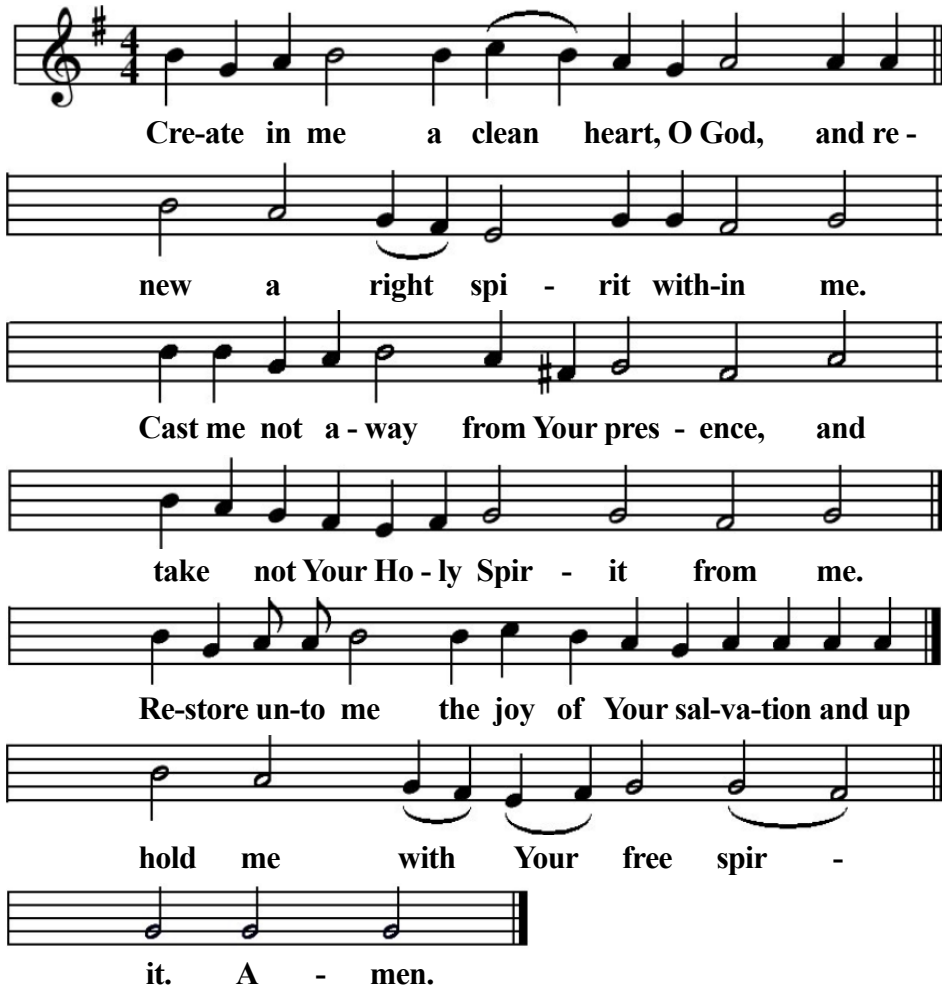
24 A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." 25 He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" 26 Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" 28 Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! 29 We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. 32 Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out. 35 Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." 38 Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." 40 Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" 41 Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

The Double Effect of Jesus' Coming Into the World

1. Enlightenment for those who accept Him in faith.
2. Continued blindness for those who reject Him in unbelief.

+++ We Offer Ourselves to Our Lord +++

Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spi - rit with-in me.
Cast me not a - way from Your pres - ence, and
take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re-store un-to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion and up
hold me with Your free spir -
it. A - men.

Offering of Thankful Hearts / Altar Prayer / Lord's Prayer

Hymn

703 – *How Can I Thank You, Lord*

+++ Our Lord Blesses Us +++

Benediction

P The LORD bless you and keep you . . .



A - men, a - men, a - men.

+ + + + +

This Week at St. Paul

Today (3/12)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
Wed	7:00 pm	Wednesday Lenten Service
Sun (3/19)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class

Extended Calendar

- Wed. Lenten Services: Mar.15,22,29, 7:00 pm
- Choir Practices: March 19, 26; April 2, 16, 8:30 am
- Palm Sunday Brunch: Sunday, April 2, served by the men
- Front Range Mission Festival Service, hosted by St. Paul: Sunday, April 23, **11:00 am** (Choir: 9:30 am; Bible Class: 10:00 am, Meal: 12:00 noon). Guest speaker: Pastor David Reim of Vernon BC, Canada

Upcoming Meetings

Church Council: Sunday, Mar.26, 8:30 am
 Mary/Martha Ladies: Sunday, April 26, 10:45 am
 Quarterly Voters: Sunday, April 30, 10:45 am

Our Midweek Lenten Service Schedule continues this Wednesday, March 15, with Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer, Cheyenne, conducting the service. This year’s theme is *"Our Savior’s Sorrows Foreshadowed in the Psalms."* This week’s psalm prophecy: *"Jesus Will Be Crucified by All Sinners"* (Psalm 22:13-16).

In Our Prayers

- The family of Mark Sprengeler of Cheyenne, brother of Mike, who was called home to heaven last Monday. Mark was a long time member of Redeemer Congregation, serving for many years as president and elder. Mark had recently been diagnosed with liver cancer but passed rather quickly. His funeral was held at Redeemer last Friday. *"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain"* (Philippians 1:21). Condolences can be sent to Mark's wife: Stacy Sprengeler, 1601 Goshen Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82001.
- Pastor John Hein, of our sister congregation in Fridley MN. He has been undergoing treatment for thymic cancer.

Synod News & Notes

After Banquet Party: Parents of Immanuel Lutheran High School students are presently working on this year's After Banquet Party to be held Saturday May 6, 2023. The ILHS Banquet is held at a local venue with the After-Banquet Party immediately afterwards in the high school gymnasium. The After-Banquet Party is held to provide a fun and safe place for the students to enjoy this special evening honoring the senior class. The gym is decorated to a theme with games, prizes, refreshments and entertainment provided at NO cost to the students. Nearly every student attends the After-Banquet party, even if they don't attend the Banquet. We rely on donations from the parents, families and local businesses. We are able to buy some prizes at local businesses, but if you would like to donate gift cards or prizes, that would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding prizes and/or donations, please contact: Jennifer Radermacher, imjenrad44@gmail.com Monetary donations may be sent to: ILC After-Banquet Committee, c/o Immanuel Lutheran College, [501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701](https://www.immanuelcollege.edu/501-Grover-Road-Eau-Claire-WI-54701). Thank you for considering!

Basketball Camp for Girls Entering 5th – 12th Grades

- Location: Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire
- Date: Thursday, June 8 - Saturday, June 10. The CLC Youth Camp begins the next day, Sunday, June 11. Learn correct basketball fundamentals. Meet new friends. Enjoy Christian fellowship.
- Cost: \$35/girl (covers t-shirt, meals & lodging, if needed)
- Camp Staff: Present and Former Immanuel Lutheran High School and College coaches and players.
- Registration: Online at <https://ilc.edu/athletics/summer-skills-camps/girls-basketball-camp/>
- Questions? Call or email Ross Roehl at (715) 864-1764 or ross.roehl@ilc.edu

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions (March 13-18 '23)

Mon Luke 9:51-56 Jesus face was set to go to Jerusalem, but not to destroy mankind, by nature sinful and unclean, but to save them at the cost of His very life. The human response to animosity is greater animosity, which Jesus turned and rebuked.

Tues 1 Peter 1:13-16 Peter, whose response in Gethsemane had been to draw his sword, now points rather to the grace of God in Christ. This will move God's obedient children not to follow the passions of their former ignorance, but to conduct themselves as children of the heavenly Father.

Wed Luke 22:63-65 The passions of ignorance included mocking God's Servant Jesus. His captors challenged His prophetic office, by suggesting that if He were a prophet He should prove it by responding to their "test." We, too, are tempted at times to put God to our tests. "If God really cared, He would..."

Thurs Luke 22:66-71 After practice trials during the night, it was necessary to convene in the daytime to make Jesus' condemnation legal. This is accomplished by getting Him to testify that He is the Christ, the Son of God. For them this justified killing the Lord of Glory. For us this is the light of Salvation shining through the clouds of death.

Fri Jeremiah 26:1-15 The prophet Jeremiah was sent to call people back from their evil ways to the true God. He was given the words to speak which prophesied the end of those who reject God's word. The people's passionate response was to encircle God's messenger, haul him to court, and threaten him with death.

Sat 2 Peter 1:19-21 Peter speaks of the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and reminds us that God's prophets (like Jeremiah) spoke what they were moved to speak by the Holy Spirit. Their words bring light in the darkness, and Christ's fulfillment brings the dawn of a new day in our hearts.