

***Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!***  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)**  
**"The First Sunday in Lent"**

**Sunday, March 9, 2025 - 9:30 am**

**Divine Service**

**Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.**

**Organist: Gerald Dahlin**

**Choir Director: Mark Howard**

**Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson**

**Office: 12-4 M-F; 949-599-4760**

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**Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus**

**16355 Laguna Canyon Rd**

**Irvine, CA 92618**

**Mission**

*To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.*

**Vision**

*To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.*

**Service Offerings**

- Sunday Divine Service 9:30 am
  - Fellowship in Café 10:30 am. Adult Bible Study 11:00 am
- Wednesday Lenten Services 7:00 pm
- Holy Thursday (4/17) & Good Friday (4/18) 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Divine Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
  - Easter Fellowship Breakfast in between services at 9:30 am

**Welcome to Saint Paul's**

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the

forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at St. Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

### **This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:**

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

### **The Lord's Supper**

The Holy Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors.**

### **Prayer Before Divine Service**

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

# + In the Name of Jesus +

## Prelude

A Mighty Fortress -- Dieterich Buxtehude

## Greeting

**P** He will command his angels concerning you

**G** to guard you in all your ways.

- Psalm 91:11

## Confession and Absolution

### *Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**G** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**G** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**G** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn:

**418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days**

# Kyrie

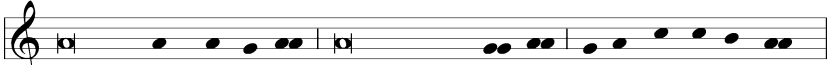
LSB 168



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



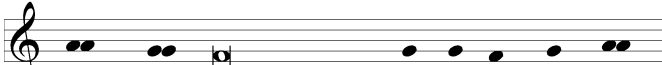
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



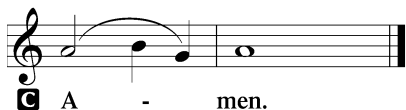
let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



**G** A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 26:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. <sup>3</sup>And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.' <sup>4</sup>Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

<sup>5</sup>And you shall make response before the LORD your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous.

<sup>6</sup>And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. <sup>7</sup>Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD

brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. <sup>9</sup>And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup>And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup>And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 91:1–13; antiphon: v. 1*



*(congregation chants in unison)*

**He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.  
I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my | fortress,\*  
my God, in | whom I trust."**

**For he will deliver you from the snare of the | fowler\*  
and from the deadly | pestilence.**

**He will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find | refuge;\*  
his faithfulness is a shield and | buckler.**

**You will not fear the terror | of the night,\*  
nor the arrow that | flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in | darkness,\*  
nor the destruction that wastes at | noonday.**

**A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your | right hand,\*  
but it will not come | near you.**

**You will only look | with your eyes\*  
and see the recompense of the | wicked.**

**Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*  
the Most High, who is my | refuge—  
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\*  
no plague come | near your tent.**

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
 to guard you in | all your ways.  
 On their hands they will | bear you up,\*  
 lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.  
 You will tread on the lion and the | adder;\*  
 the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.  
 Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
 and to the Holy | Spirit;  
 as it was in the be- | ginning;  
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen  
 He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
 will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

**Epistle**

*Romans 10:8b–13*

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 4:1–13*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness <sup>2</sup>for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” <sup>5</sup>And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, <sup>6</sup>and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom

I will. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup>And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God,  
and him only shall you serve."

<sup>9</sup>And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,  
to guard you,'

<sup>11</sup>and

"On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>12</sup>And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup>And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## Children's Message

Hymn of the Day:

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Sermon

"It is Written"

(Luke 4:1-13)

Pastor Mueller

*Stand*

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,

**God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For deliverance, that the Lord would be our dwelling place and refuge against every evil, and that by the work of the Holy Spirit we may be satisfied with His salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For missionaries, that God would protect and provide for them as they proclaim the Word of faith to all who will hear, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For parents, that God would bless them with wisdom as they teach their children His ways, bestowing His riches in His Word, that all may confess Jesus as Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For governing authorities, that God would protect them from every temptation and equip them to curb what is evil and promote what is good, let us pray to the Lord:

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those in need of healing and restoration that God would answer their prayers, be with them in trouble and rescue them according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For a right reception of the Lord's Supper, that God would unite His people in a true confession of His Word and bring them with penitent hearts to receive the great riches of His Son's body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For a proper stewardship of abundance, that the Lord who gives us all good things would grant us thankful hearts to declare His goodness and gladly support what He wills, let us pray to the Lord:

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, the adversary continually afflicts us and walks about as a roaring lion seeking to devour us. We implore You for the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, to help us by the Holy Spirit and strengthen our hearts by Your Word, that our enemy would not prevail over us, but that we may abide evermore in Your grace and be preserved to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Offering**

Andante Maestoso -- Felix Mendelssohn

*Stand*

**Offertory**

LSB 176



**G** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa-lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 177

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al-so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us

faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

**G 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**





1. Un-to Jer - u - sa - lem, Like flint he set his face
2. De-spi sing all its shame, He bore the hea vy cross
3. O Christ our li - ving Lord Who sits at God's right hand,
4. So let us fix our eyes on Christ, the Lamb of God



Ful -fill -ing all the Father's will To suf - fer in our place  
 The Sin -less in the sinner's stead, He counted all as loss.  
 O strengthen us to bear the cross A - mid life's shifting sand.  
 Who authored and per-fect-ed faith by walking Calv'ry's road.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 2010

## 529 Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

*Stand*

### Nunc Dimittis

LSB 182



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

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

### Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

### Benediction

LSB 183

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** A - men.

### Postlude

Te Deum Laudamus -- Claussmann

#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book  
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## Today:

### “Journey through the Parables”

Our *Journey Through the Parables* study group will meet today to explore the Parable of the Great Value (Parable 15) and the Parable of the Net (Parable 16). Please join us after the service and a brief fellowship (around 11 a.m.) for Bible study and an opportunity to deepen your knowledge of the Scriptures.

## This week:

### Marriage, Life, and Family Conference – Last Chance to Register!

If you missed the registration deadline for the **CUI Spectrum – Mercy: Love Throughout Life** conference, please let us know as soon as possible! We may be able to request an extended deadline on your behalf.

This inspiring event will take place **March 14-15** and features a lineup of engaging speakers addressing key topics on marriage, family, and the value of life.

We also ask God's people to **pray over the presentations** and all who attend, that hearts may be encouraged and strengthened in Christ.

#### Local Schedule

##### Friday, March 14

- **4:00 – 5:00 PM** – Registration and Dinner (5:30 PM)
- **Opening Devotion & Welcome** – Rev. Dr. Al Espinosa
- **6:00 PM** – Michelle Thompson: *The Whole Person Throughout All of Life*
- **7:00 PM** – Rev. Dr. David Loy: *"We Cherish Life": Presenting a Compelling Moral Vision*
- **7:45 PM** – Evening Devotion (local)

##### Saturday, March 15

- **8:00 AM** – Arrival and Fellowship
- **8:30 AM** – Morning Devotion (local)
- **9:00 AM** – Dr. Ashlie Andrew: *Healthy Communication in Marriage*
- **10:00 AM** – Rev. Dr. Steven Mueller: *Christian Families and the Family of God*
- **11:00 AM** – Dr. Margaret Christmas Thomas: *Nurturing Healthy Families*
- **12:00 PM** – Lunch
- **1:00 PM** – Rev. Brian Barlow: *The Gift of The Other... Our Journey After The Fall*

- **2:00 PM** – Rev. Dr. Al Espinosa: *Celebrating Male and Female without Denigrating nor Demonizing People in the Culture*
- **3:00 PM** – Rev. Dr. Scott Stiegemeyer: *The Christian Estate of Love as Foundation for Christian Living*
- **3:45 PM** – Closing Devotion (local) – Rev. Dr. Al Espinosa

For more details or to express interest in attending, please contact [office@saintpaulsirvine.com](mailto:office@saintpaulsirvine.com).

Let us join together in prayer and learning as we celebrate God’s design for marriage, life, and family!

## **Spiritual Renewal According to the 12 Minor Prophets Wednesdays at 7:00 PM | March 5 – April 9**

Join us for a six-week sermon series exploring the timeless messages of the 12 Minor Prophets. Each week, we will uncover how these prophetic voices call us to deeper faith and spiritual renewal.

### *Series Schedule:*

Date	Prophets & Theme
<b>March 12</b>	Amos & Obadiah: Justice & Humility
<b>March 19</b>	Jonah & Micah: Mercy & Obedience
<b>March 26</b>	Nahum & Habakkuk: Trusting God’s Plan
<b>April 2</b>	Zephaniah & Haggai: Renewing Our Devotion
<b>April 9</b>	Zechariah & Malachi: Hope & Restoration

Come and be refreshed through the Word as we seek renewal in our walk with God.

## **Coming Up:**

### **Wednesday Bible Studies on Hiatus through the Lenten Season**

Our **Wednesday Bible Study** will be on **hiatus through Easter** and will resume on **April 23**. In the meantime, we invite you to join us for our **Midweek Lenten Services**, held **Wednesdays at 7:00 PM**, beginning **March 5 (Ash Wednesday)**.

This year, our Lenten focus will be on **the Minor Prophets**, exploring their messages of hope, justice, and God’s faithfulness. We encourage you to take this opportunity to reflect and grow in faith as we journey toward Easter together.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### ***Chosen Bible Study***

Group #1 will be meeting at the church on **Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** at the Geisler's home. St. Paul's now has two *The Chosen* Bible Study groups that meet once per month. If you are interested in the next meeting, please speak to Pastor.



*For this I will praise  
you, O Lord, among  
the nations, and  
sing to your name.  
- Psalm 18:49*

### **CHOIR SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2025**

- ♪ **Sunday, April 6, 8:30-9:15 am**  
Rehearsal in the cafeteria area
- ♪ **Sunday, April 13, 8:30-9:15 am**  
Rehearsal in the cafeteria area
- ♪ **Good Friday, April 18, 6:00-6:45 pm**  
Pre-service rehearsal in the sanctuary
- ♪ **Good Friday, April 18, 7:00-8:00 pm**  
Sing for Good Friday service
- ♪ **Easter Sunday, April 20, 9:30 am**  
Pre-service rehearsal in the sanctuary
- ♪ **Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:30 am**  
Sing for Easter Sunday service

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Sheet music PDFs and recordings of the music, including the individual parts, are now on the "Choir" page of the church website. Questions? Contact Mark Howard (714) 423-6460 or [markahoward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:markahoward@sbcglobal.net).

## **General Announcements**

### **The Bulletin Board**

**Life Quote:** "Brothers and sisters, in Christ you are God's masterpiece. You were created for a purpose. You are the hands and feet of Christ demonstrating His love in a world that desperately needs it. Live out that purpose in the strength that comes from Him and wait joyfully for the day where we get to see His finished product." *Rev. Adam Osier, Dean, Free Lutheran Bible College, Plymouth, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Weekly Stewardship Message:** Matthew 4:7 – "Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written ...'" Isn't it interesting that Jesus does not defeat Satan with His power as God, but rather by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity? Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to them. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First,


because we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, because here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone. Let us build our lives on the sure rock of this Word!

### **Family Sunday School**

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve and grow in fellowship with our youngest disciples? Family Sunday School is a **wonderful opportunity to share in faith, learning, and community!**

We are looking for volunteers to help guide and nurture our children in their spiritual journey. If you have special gifts or talents you'd love to share—whether it's storytelling, music, crafts, or simply a heart for teaching—we would love to have you join our Family Sunday School ministry!

If you're interested, please talk to **Miles or Jackie Johnson** or **sign up on the interest sheet located by the welcome table.**

Thank you for being a blessing to our church family! 

### **Words of Evangelism**

#### *Ch. 4 – Two Religions*

From the Evangelism Committee. There are three points you should remember when sharing the Gospel. First, death and guilt are universal problems. Second, there are two religions in the world; Christianity and all others. Third, remember the Gospel. Christ has died for you and your sins and gives you eternal life.

Let's talk about this second point. There are only two religions in the world. One religion is the world's religion, the religion of the law. In these religions, the works of men are pursued to please a false deity or deities. One has to achieve, attain, or do something in order to be saved. The other religion is Christianity. In Christianity, the Holy Spirit works faith in Christ who makes us right with God without a single work of our own. A distinguished Professor described this distinction as follows:

“In the discharge of my duties for forty years as professor of Sanskrit in the University of Oxford, I have devoted as much time as any man living to the study of the Sacred Books of the East, and I have found the one key-note ... of all these so-called sacred books ... – the one refrain through all – salvation by works. They all say that salvation must be purchased, must be bought with a price, and that the sole price, the sole purchase-money, must be our own works and deservings. Our own Holy Bible ... is from the beginning to end a protest against this doctrine. Good works ... are only a thank-offering, the fruits of our faith. They are never the ransom-money of the true Disciples of Christ. ...Let us teach [others] that there is only one sacred book ... that can be their mainstay in that awful hour when they pass all alone into the unseen world. It is the sacred Book which contains that faithful saying, worthy to be received of

all ... -- that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” (Franz Pieper quoting Max Muller, Christian Dogmatics)

The Christian religion is the one true religion. All other religions are man-made. King David, in prayer, worshiped our Lord and proclaimed, “You alone are God.” (Ps 86:10) Besides our God, there is no other. Our God saves. No other God does that. Remember, Christian, this distinction because it shows you just how unique your faith is and how important it is to share it.

*O Lord, you alone are our God and you alone provide for our salvation. We thank you, o God, that our salvation comes through your grace and mercy and not through our own works. For by our own works, we would be lost. Always keep us mindful, o Lord, of this truth. Give us courage, o Lord, so that we may teach and pass along the message that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Amen.*

### **Worship Attendance for Members & Guests**

Scan the QR code or use the iPads at the Welcome Table to sign in. **Guests**, please sign the guestbook at the entrance.

**Offerings:** Collected during the worship service. All contributions are voluntary.



### **Requesting Announcements**



To request an announcement for the congregation or community, submit your request via the QR code or this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hsgrm6zAup>. Choose where you want it published: bulletin, email, website, livestream, etc.

### **Daily Bible Devotionals – 2025**

**Join Pastor Espinosa in reading through the Holy Bible in 2025!**  
Follow along daily on:

- ◆ **Facebook:** @AlfonsoEspinosa
- ◆ **TikTok:** @alfonsoespinosa356
- ◆ **Instagram:** @alfonsoespinosa88

Let's rejoice as God strengthens our faith through His Word!  
Want devotionals sent to your inbox? Please email [office@saintpaulsirvine.com](mailto:office@saintpaulsirvine.com) to be added to the list.

## Lux et Veritas K-8 Lutheran Classical Academy Update

Lux et Veritas K-8 Lutheran Classical Academy continues to work with LCEF feasibility study in raising funds for the study and conducting groundwork on research for grants and other financial opportunities. In addition, hard work is going into mission and vision formation. The LORD continues to identify for us more people desirous of helping this vision. We are also working closely with the district executive director of schools and our local LCEF representative. Please keep this Great Commission ministry in your prayers for the growth of our congregation and the light of Christ to reach out to many in the Irvine area who may not know the saving Gospel.

In Your Service and To Christ's Glory,  
Pastor Espinosa

### Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers for **Ushers, Altar Guild, Welcome Table, Transportation Services, and Visiting Shut-Ins**. If interested, please contact **Mark Kuntz**. We also need help with **Livestream, Family Sunday School, Quilting & Fellowship Team**. Please reach out to **office@saintpaulsirvine.com** if you can assist.

Thank you for serving our congregation!

### Women's Retreat Interest Check!

We're excited to explore the possibility of hosting a St. Paul's Women's Retreat, and we want to hear from you! This retreat will be a time for spiritual renewal, personal growth, and connecting with fellow women of faith. Before we move forward with planning, we'd love to gauge interest and see how many women would like to participate. If you're excited about the idea of taking time away to recharge, grow spiritually, and build meaningful connections, please talk to Laura Miller, email the church office at [office@saintpaulsirvine.com](mailto:office@saintpaulsirvine.com)

### Please Pray for our Missionaries, Council Members & Elders

#### Missionaries Supported by St. Paul's

*(Financial gifts given annually to the national synod)*

Missionary	Location
Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad	Dominican Republic
Erin Mackenzie	Latin America & Caribbean
Britt Odemba	Kenya

Rev. Dr. Tom Park

Taiwan

**Missionary Friends**

*(Non-Financial Support)*

Missionary	Role	Location
Tirzah Krey	Regional Human Care Coordinator	Latin America & Caribbean

**Local Evangelism Support**

- **Rev. Mark Jasa** – St. Paul’s supports our local evangelist.

**St. Paul’s Parish Council Members**

**Debbie Dannemeyer** – President ~ **Matt Bures** – Recording Secretary ~ **Ken Mott** – Treasurer

**Laura Miller** – Financial Secretary ~ **Jon Rutherford** – Trustee Director ~ **Ali Frank** – Stewardship Director

**Mark Kuntz** – Presiding Elder ~ **Renee Mott** – Fellowship Director ~ **Bradley Hustad** – Evangelism Director

**Jacob Thornblad** – Education Director ~ **Miles & Jackie Johnson** – Youth Directors

**St. Paul’s Elders**

**Mark Kuntz** (Presiding Elder) ~ **Bruce Dannemeyer** ~ **Bryan Kilduff** ~ **John Church** ~ **Jon Steele** ~ **Karl Blanke**

**Michael Padilla** ~ **Steve Fischer** ~ **Ricky Cuenca** ~ **Alex Padilla**

## **SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Altar Team</b>	<b>Ushers/ Greeters</b>	<b>Elders on Duty</b>	<b>Entrance Area</b>	<b>Livestream</b>
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
2nd Sunday 3/9/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, A. Wright	Bill Frank and Ed Miller	Mike Padilla	Myra Taylor	Shane Perry
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 3/16/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 3/23/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	John Church, Jon Steele	Anne Wright	Jon Steele
5th Sunday 3/30/2025	Mei Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Myra Taylor	Jon Steele

## **FELLOWSHIP ROTATION**

2nd Sunday 3/9/2025	Espinosa's
3rd Sunday 3/16/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 3/23/2025	Gary & Daisy Minter, Renee Mott
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 3/30/2025	Johnson's