

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Bella Vista Christian Academy  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany  
Mr. Ed Ramirez, Guest Speaker  
The Story – Chap. 17  
The Kingdoms Fall - Judah  
January 29, 2023**

**Scripture:** Ezekiel 37: 1-6 // Romans 6: 20-23 // John 11: 17-44

**Welcome & Invocation:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**10:00 a.m. Opening Songs:** *Hosanna (Praise Is Rising),  
Everlasting God, Goodness Of God*

**Introit – Based on Psalm 1**

P: The Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

**C: but the way of the wicked will perish.**

P: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked

**C: or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.**

P: But his delight is in the law of the Lord,

**C: and on his law he meditates day and night.**

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.

**C: Whatever he does prospers.**

P: Not so the wicked!

**C: They are like chaff that the wind blows away.**

P: Therefore the wicked will not stand in judgment,

**C: not sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**C: and to the Holy Spirit;**

P: as it was in the beginning,

**C: is now, and will be forever. Amen**

P: The Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

**C: but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Collect**

Almighty God, because you know that we are set among so many and great dangers that by reason of the weakness of our fallen nature we cannot always stand upright, grant us your strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**10:00 am Service: BVCA 4th Graders Sing**

**10:00 am Service: Young Time**

**The Old Testament Lesson ...** Ezekiel 37: 1-6

**The Second Lesson ...** Romans 6: 20-23

**The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 11,  
beginning at verse 17...** John 11: 17-44

**The Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 thence he shall 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.

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I. Ezekiel's Vision of the Valley of Dry Bones  
"Son of man, can these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37:3)

II. **Things we can't undo.**  
Broken toys...Broken hearts...Broken lives.  
Brokenness that we can't undo and that steals our breath.  
Think of the times in your life that you wish you could  
undo and can't.  
Think of the brokenness of this life that has taken your  
breath away.

It's moments like this that God invites us to ask the same question that  
He asked Ezekiel long ago: Son of man, can these bones live?

III. **You can't undo it. But Jesus can.**  
In Ezekiel's vision, God shows the prophet that Israel's breath is  
gone because of their disobedience.  
We see the effects of our disobeying God all over the place.  
Things break. People break. Breath goes away.

"The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23a)  
We cannot undo the wages of sin. We cannot undo the loss  
of life...

"...but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
(Romans 6:23b)

...But Jesus can.

After Jesus breathes his last breath, He rises from the dead three days  
later to answer the same question that God had asked Ezekiel:

Son of man, can these bones live?  
Jesus answers YES!

His resurrection gives us life!

(Notes: live, undo, undo, Jesus)

**OFFERING** is collected at door and online

## **Prayers**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in  
earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And  
forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those that trespass  
against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, For  
ever and ever. Amen.

### **Benediction**

May the Lord bless you and keep you  
May the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you  
May the Lord, lift up his countenance upon you  
And give you peace. Amen.

**10:00 a.m. Closing Song: *Jesus Paid It All***

### **Announcements**

**Join us after each morning service for Coffee & Donuts in the gym  
entryway!**

**Grief Share Support Group.** Grieving the loss of someone close to  
you? Find comfort & support at Grief Share. Mondays at 6:30 pm

starting January 30 in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's. Pick up a postcard in the Church entryway.

**We LOVE our volunteers & will be showing our appreciation at our Volunteer Luncheon** on Sunday, February 5 in the gym following the close of the 10:00 am service. RSVP on the Connection Card!

Our next **Mite Box Sunday** will be on Feb. 5. Bring your filled Mite Box to Church & empty it into the large mite box in the Church entryway after each service. We collect mites the first Sunday of each month. Checks are accepted, please make out to St. Paul's.

We have a way to **support our local Pregnancy Resource Center** this month. Fill a baby bottle with coins/cash & return those bottles on 2/12. Bottles now available for pick up in the Church entryway.

A new **His Scoop Study** starts 2/21 (evenings via Zoom) & 2/23 (mornings in person at St. Paul's Parish Hall). A 7-week study by Kelly Minter to cultivate habits of faith such as prayer, study, worship, rest, simplicity, generosity, celebration and more. Create more margin in your life providing peace and rest as we walk closer with Jesus. Study book is our LOVE gift to you. Contact Becki Brown at brownlvine@aol.com to reserve your book.

**Life Line Screening** returns to St. Paul's on Tuesday, February 28. Life Line offers preventive health screenings. For pricing & registration call 1-888-653-6441.

A nine week class on personal finance, **Financial Peace University**, will be starting this March. This is a step by step approach to handling money God's way. A must for couples who are engaged, seniors in high school, or families trying to get out of debt. Sign up by using this link [fpu.com/1159965](http://fpu.com/1159965). Contact James Heinmiller [jheinm1@comcast.net](mailto:jheinm1@comcast.net) for more information.

**Before you book that vacation, save our VBS dates on your calendar... July 10-14!**

**2023 Offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Church entryway.**

Join us as a church body as we **read through the scriptures**. Here is our reading schedule (Year 2) for the week of January 30:

*Monday, January 30*

**Romans 2 & Esther 7**

*Tuesday, January 31*

**Romans 3 & Esther 8**

*Wednesday, February 1*

**Romans 4 & Esther 9-10**

*Thursday, February 2*

**Romans 5 & Job 1**

*Friday, February 3*

**Romans 6 & Job 2**

*Saturday, February 4*

**Romans 7 & Job 3**

*Sunday, February 5*

**Romans 8 & Job 4**

### **This week at St. Paul's**

*Sunday, 1/29*

8:30 am & 10:00 am - Worship Services - Church

10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church

11:00 am - Youth Group - Youth Room

*Monday, 1/30*

6:30 pm - Grief Share - Parish Hall

*Wednesday, 2/1*

9:00 am - ESL Beginner Class - Parish Hall

6:00 pm - ESL Intermediate Class - Parish Hall

*Thursday, 2/2*

10:00 am - Pastor Kal's Bible Study - Admin Conf. Room

*Sunday, 2/5*

8:30 am & 10:00 am - Worship Services - Church

10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church

11:15 am - Volunteer Luncheon - Gym

### **Remember in Prayer**

Dan Aldrete - Surgery recovery  
Alisa - Surgery recovery & healing (friend of Gary & Joanne Faber)  
Ashley - Chemo treatments (step mom of Darby McMahon)  
MaryAnn Carpenter - Continued recovery (sister of Chrissy Lew)  
Amy Cook - Recovery (daughter in law of Joyce Arbuckle)  
Mike Cullen - Healing & a relationship with Jesus (friend of Actkinsons)  
Frances - Recovery from Covid (mother of Jon Schmidt)  
Gonzales family - Newborn born with heart complications (BVCA family)  
Gale Heinrich - Healing  
Lisa Jackson - Recovery  
Megan Krause - Treatments (wife of Matt Krause)  
Christine Lewis - Surgery recovery  
Linda Lundenberg - Recovery from Covid (friend of Schmidts)  
Shirley Maraj - Recovery  
Melissa Martin - Healing & restored health (daughter of Actkinsons)  
Darby McMahon - Surgery recovery  
Alletta Parker - Healing (mother of Lorraine Hall)  
JoAnn Quinn - Strength & recovery (friend of Gene & Evie Motley)  
Mary Louise Rainey - Continued prayers for recovery & strength  
Al Renner - Treatments (husband of Sue Renner)  
Bethany Renzi - Surgery recovery (daughter of Ron Gilbert)  
Quentin Rios - Successful treatments for cancer (extended family of Gamaches)  
Prayers for family/friends impacted by flooding in Merced & Planada (Schmidts)  
Jon & Debbie Schmidt - General prayers  
Carl Teare - Surgery recovery  
Karen Wardell - Recovery  
Stephen Williams - Cancer treatment  
Kimberly Wyatt - Cancer treatment (past member)  
Zach - Surgery recovery, healing (great nephew of Lori Aldrete)