

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Bella Vista Christian Academy  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
Jesus Is My RANSOM  
March 17, 2024**

**Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Titus 2:11-14, Mark 10:32-45**

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

**10:00 a.m. Opening Songs:** *Holy Holy Holy, King Of My Heart, O Praise The Name*

**Introit – Based on Psalm 116 & 43**

P: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

**C: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**

P: I love the Lord, because he has heard

**C: my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

P: Because he inclined his ear to me,

**C: therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

P: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**C: I suffered distress and anguish.**

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord:

**C: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

P: For you have delivered my soul from death,

**C: my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

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: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

**C: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**

**Collect**

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**The Old Testament Lesson ...**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34, “The days are coming,” declares the Lord,**

**“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.**

**32 It will not be like the covenant**

**I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to them,”  
declares the Lord.**

**33 “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the Lord.**

**“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.**

**I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.**

**34 No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the Lord.**

**“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.” ESV**

**The Second Lesson ...**

**Titus 2:11-14, “For the grace of God has appeared that offers  
salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say “No” to  
ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled,**

upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.” ESV

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 10, beginning at verse 32

Mark 10:32-45, “They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. 33 “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.”

#### The Request of James and John

35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

36 “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

37 They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

38 “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

39 “We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, 40 but to sit at

my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. 42 Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 43 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” ESV

#### The Nicene Creed

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 of the world to come. Amen.

**Sermon Notes**  
**“Jesus Is My RANSOM”**  
**Pastor Kal Waetzig**

Jesus begins to teach the disciples about how captive they are and about the price that will be paid for their ransom.  
(Mark 10:43-45)

On the cross, Jesus takes on the form of a servant. Jesus serves by laying down his life to pay the price for our freedom.

**Titus 2:11,14, “...who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.” ESV**

**“to redeem us” translated: “to r\_\_\_\_\_ for a r\_\_\_\_\_.”**

**I. Jesus’ Ransom Sets Us F\_\_\_\_\_ – Mark 10:33-34**

Jesus’ ransom tells us that...

1. We are in b\_\_\_\_\_
2. That Jesus has come to p\_\_\_\_\_ the costly price for our freedom.

**II. We are Ransomed from Our B\_\_\_\_\_ to Sin**

1. Preservation of S\_\_\_\_\_
2. I\_\_\_\_\_
3. The Judgment of the L\_\_\_\_\_ of God.

**III. Our Ransom Price - The C\_\_\_\_\_**

**IV. Jesus’ Ransom Gives Us a New Mission**

Since I am valued and loved by Jesus, I am now free to ask,  
“What can I do to value & love as Jesus has valued & loved me?”

(Notes: release, ransom, Free, bondage, pay, Bondage, Self, Idols, Law, Cup)

**OFFERING** is collected at door and online

**Prayers / Confession & Absolution / Words of Institution**

**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.

**Holy Communion**

**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: *Build My Life***

**Announcements**

**Holy Week Worship Services & Events:**

- Thursday, March 28. Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 12:00 & 7:00 pm in the Church.
- Thursday, March 28 & Friday, March 29. Prayer Vigil runs Thursday from 8:00 pm - 12 midnight & Friday from 5:00 - 11:00 am.
- Friday, March 29. Good Friday Worship Service at 12:00 & 7:00 pm in the Church.

- Sunday, March 31. Easter Sunday Services at 6:30, 8:30 & 10:30 am.  
Egg hunts following the close of the 8:30 & 10:30 am services.  
Breakfast in the Life Center from 7:30 - 10:30 am.

### **Easter @ St. Paul's - Invitation to Serve**

*(Indicate interest on Connection Card or sign up on clipboards being passed during services.)*

- Set up for Easter SunRise Worship at 5:45 am.
- Parking Lot Greeters. 8:00 - 8:30 am or 10:00 - 10:30 am.
- Easter Breakfast. Looking for servers, casserole bakers, pancake grillers & clean up crew.

**St. Paul's will be starting a youth praise band** open to musicians between the ages of 12 - 18. The band will be coached to play contemporary music that is exclusively Christ centered. The intent is to give young musicians a fun Christ centered creative musical outlet where they can grow together musically and spiritually. It will be open to musicians from other churches and even teens who have yet to know Christ but are not in opposition. All instrumentalists are welcome. Students should have reasonable proficiency on their instruments. Reading music or at least chord changes is required. Rehearsals will be Monday nights from 6:30 - 7:45 starting soon! Contact Ken Cefalo at 209-601-9809 for more info.

**BVCA is having their next Dine & Donate between 11:00 am - 8:00 pm** on Tues., March 19 at 1867 W. 11th St. Pick up a flyer in the Church entryway. Our school receives 20% of the event sales.



**Our VBS volunteer team started planning for this summer's SCUBA VBS.** Help our decorating team gather & buy supplies as they embark on building an underwater coral reef! We're collecting: newspaper, S shaped packing peanuts & pool noodles. Donations can be dropped in the Church office or lobby. We are in need of hot glue guns to keep for future VBS events. If you're interested in helping us purchase some items, see our gift registry by scanning the QR code.

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

#### Sunday, 3/17

8:30 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church

#### Monday, 3/18

6:30 pm - Grief Share - Parish Hall

#### Wednesday, 3/20

9:00 am - English Second Language - Life Center  
10:00 am - Ladies Jeremiah Bible Study - Admin building conference room  
6:00 pm - High School Youth Group - Parish Hall  
6:00 pm - English Second Language - Life Center

#### Thursday, 3/21

9:00 am - HSS Abide Bible Study - On Zoom  
10:00 am - Pastor Kal's Bible Study - Admin building conference room  
6:30 pm - Crown Financial Class - Off Campus

#### Saturday, 3/23

11:00 am - Traci McClain's Memorial Service - Church

#### Sunday, 3/24

8:30 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church

Join us as a church body as we **read through the scriptures**. Here is our reading schedule (Year 1) for the week of March 18:

#### *Monday, March 18*

**John 8 & Exodus 29**

#### *Tuesday, March 19*

**John 9 & Exodus 30**

*Wednesday, March 20*

**John 10 & Exodus 31**

*Thursday, March 21*

**John 11 & Exodus 32**

*Friday, March 22*

**John 12 & Exodus 33**

*Saturday, March 23*

**John 13 & Exodus 34**

*Sunday, March 24*

**John 14 & Exodus 35**

Heidi Teal - Healing & pain relief (sister of Kari Mellick)

Lorraine Toll - Serious health problems (friend of Jodi Seifert)

Lori V. - Healing & help with school (daughter of Michaela Vanderveen)

Lindsay Walker - Job search

Pastor Roland Wilkins - Stroke recovery (friend of Kathy Harris)

Stephen Williams - Treatments

Stephani Wing - Surgery recovery

Zach - Upcoming surgery (great nephew of Lori Aldrete)

Ken Zblewski - Recovery (husband of Karyn Zblewski)

### **Remember in Prayer**

Howard Baca - Recovery & comfort (friend of Christine Lewis)

Chrissy Briggs - Healing during med taper

Joe Carr - Stroke recovery (friend of Christine Lewis)

Tammy Culberson - Healing (daughter in law of Jo Culberson)

Karen deSterke - Strength & peace (friend of Kari Mellick)

Kathy Harris - Procedure & results

Gale Heinrich - Healing

Chris Hsiao - Healing & recovery (father of Elaine Hsiao)

Patsy Hull - Health & recovery

Pam Kincaid - Surgery recovery (sister in law of Jo Culberson)

Megan Krause - Treatments (Gamache family member)

Roger Kunz - Restored health & strength

Claia Larken - Strength during med taper, to not lose hope

Becky Leach - Surgery recovery

Jesse Linsley - Recovery

Norman Loeber - Upcoming procedure (cousin of Blanche Loeber)

Ashley McMahon - Treatments (stepmom of Darby McMahon)

Pastor Jeff Morey - Recovery

Joann Priller - Strength & healing (mother of Marna Aguirre)

Mary Louise Rainey - Recovery & strength

Carrie Renner - Recovery (daughter of Sue Renner)

Quentin Rios - Treatments (Gamache family member)

Gary San Julian - Healing & renewed strength (brother of Linda Actkinson)

Jon & Debbie Schmidt - General prayers

Christina Segura - Upcoming surgery