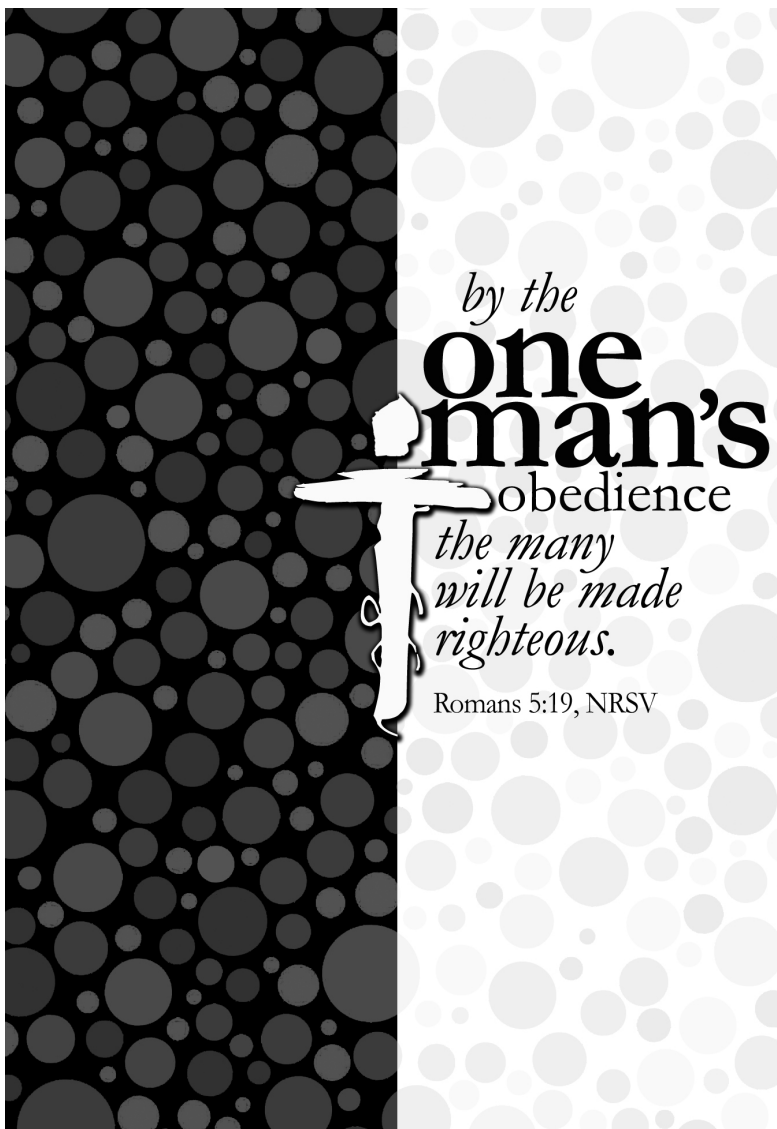


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



LOOK TO JESUS AS THE SINNER'S SUBSTITUTE

The First Sunday in Lent

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Wisconsin Rapids, WI*

March 1, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can help you find the restrooms, family room or answer your other questions.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

The Son of God goes forth to war and defeats the devil for us. The Prayer of the Day sets the tone for the Sunday: the ancient foe warred on mankind in the garden, but God promised to send a champion to battle on our behalf. The Second Adam came to do what the first could not, and in the desert the battle was put on display for us. As our opening hymn says, "But for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected...he holds the field forever."

The liturgical color for this Sunday is purple, which is a reminder of the solemn nature of Lent, when we look at what our sin has done.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using page 156 in the front of the hymnal.

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Hymns marked CW can be found in the red hymnals in the pew racks, Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal.

754 "The Tree of Life" Text: Stephen P. Starke, © 1992 Stephen P. Starke; Admin. Concordia Publishing House. Tune: Bruce W. Becker © 1995 Bruce W. Becker.

DIVINE SERVICE II

A version of the historic liturgy of the Christian Church intended to be used when Holy Communion is celebrated.

WELCOME

HYMN - *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* | CW 200

While this isn't exactly a Lent hymn, it poetically tells the story of how Jesus goes to battle for us, which we see in today's Gospel.

Please stand.

INVOCATION

Minister (M): In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer,
O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD

sung to the tune in CW 376

♪ All glory be to God on high!	O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;	You take all human sin away.
We praise you for your peace and grace,	Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
Your favor toward our fallen race.	From God's right hand, your mercy share.

**You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen. ♪**

The Word

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:1-15

The need for a Substitute arises.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

This Psalm reminds us of the need for a substitute: "If you kept a record of sins...who could stand?" But it also reminds us of God's grace and mercy: "With the Lord is unfailing love."

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 130 | CW p.114

SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:12-19

The Substitute brings righteousness to mankind.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: It is written:

C: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." (Matthew 4:10b)

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

The Substitute fights for us!

After the Gospel, the announcement is made:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Tree of Life | CWS 754



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus'



good In E - den's ho - ly or - chard
 grove Was bro - ken as the ser - pent
 race, A plan of res - cue by his
 shame Flows life e - ter - nal in his



stood, And of its fruit so pure and
 strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
 name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an
 guile And Ad - am to by sin de -
 seed, The One to fill our great - est
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re -



eat. Yet in this gar - den al - so
 file. Oh, day of sad - ness when the
 need— For on a tree up - lift - ed
 ceive. And of this fruit so pure and



grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
 breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
 high His on - ly Son for sin would
 sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

SERMON - Great Fall—Greater Recovery

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

THANK OFFERING

St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate. We ask that everyone, guests and members, sign the Friendship Register which will be passed out during the offering. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING - *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

In the era of the Reformation, announcements about births, deaths, and marriages were made after the sermon. Then prayers were offered. We've obviously held to that practice as a way to keep the family of believers aware of what is going on in the lives of our Christian brothers and sisters, as well as unite our hearts in approaching God's throne of grace.

The Sacrament

PREFACE *(spoken)*

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

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

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

♪ O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry. ♪

♪ Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—Hosanna, mighty Lord! ♪

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power. By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven. Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Think of this prayer like a normal table prayer. We are approaching the Lord's Table to receive a wonderful meal.

It is only right that we would recall what makes this meal possible and thank God for his precious gifts!

LAMB OF GOD - *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

The communicant members of our congregation will be invited to receive the Lord's Supper. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament, and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor prior to communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we've had an opportunity to explain and prove them from Scripture. The pastor would be happy to explore our convictions with you, on the basis of God's Word, so that you might commune with us in the future!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

If you are in need of gluten free wafers or grape juice, please ask for directions from an usher.

COMMUNION HYMN

All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall | CW 378

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior | CW 313

Please stand.

SONG OF SIMEON - *Nunc Dimittis*

sung to the tune in CW 419

♪ **O Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten all gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory of those in Israel!** ♪

CLOSING PRAYER

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

If God Had Not Been on Our Side | CW 202

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. The devil's temptations will always be essentially the same, with an echo of "Did God really say...?"
 - a. What might that question sound like in today's world or even in your life?
Example: "Did God really say that church is that important?"

 - b. What different factors make fighting those temptations so difficult?

2. With each temptation in Matthew 4, what was the devil trying to get Jesus to question or doubt?
 - a. What verses (or biblical thoughts) come to mind when you see Jesus refusing the devil's temptations by using the Word of God?

3. Compare and contrast God's words to Adam and Eve with his reaction to the devil in Genesis 3:9-15. What types of sentences did God use with each?
 - a. What does that say about God's relationship with each?

 - b. Which response does God show to us, his children? How do you know?

4. Romans 5:12-21 is such a rich text. It's simultaneously simple and complex. Reading through those words again, write down the similarities and differences between what Adam did and what Jesus did.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY

WELS & Other Christians:
Methodists (Wesleyan, Assemblies of God)
Join cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

WE HAVE A SECOND PASTOR!

God has answered our prayers in His good timing. The Holy Spirit led our voters to approve calling a seminary graduate who had previously deferred a call and was now available for immediate assignment. Peter Plagenz is married with one child and another on the way. More details on moving arrangements and the ordination/installation service will be provided in the near future. However, we expect the Plagenzes to be here before Easter. Praise God!

LADIES' EVENTS ON MARCH 14

Baby shower for Pastor and Amy Proeber at 1:00: Ladies who are interested in attending the shower are reminded to sign up on the sheet on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center or call Carol Newsom at 715-424-2608 or Sue Kulhanek at 715-421-4414 by next Sunday, March 8. Details are on the invitation you should have received in your mailbox. Extra invitations are also by the signup sheet.

Willing Workers meeting after the shower: All ladies are invited to stay after the shower for the March Willing Workers meeting. Come and see what the group is all about! *Willing Workers members, please note the change in date and time from our scheduled meeting on March 16.*

WE WILL HAVE LENTEN MEALS

Wednesdays | 4:45-6:00 PM

We had several people step up to coordinate fellowship meals during Lent. Upcoming menus include chicken & dumplings, beef stroganoff, lasagna, and chili. Thank you to all our volunteers.

If you attend the fellowship meals, we ask that you help with food prep, serving, or clean up as your schedule allows. Desserts to share are also appreciated.

Last names A-J help on Feb. 26 & March 18

Last names K-O help on March 4 & 25

Last names P-Z help on March 11 & April 1



WOMEN'S SERMON STUDY

March 3 | 9:45-11:00AM

Do you have good intentions of going through the take-home questions each week, but usually forget? Then join Women Walking in the Word. They will be using these questions as the basis of their discussion during Lent.

VOLUNTEER FOR EASTER FOR KIDS

Share the joy of Easter with children at our Easter for Kids event on April 4. Choose from a variety of tasks that utilize your talents and abilities. You can be a leader or a helper; work with children or work more behind the scenes. Our signup is available online (see the Serve tab on our website) or on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center.

ADDED STOCK FOR NORTHLAND SCRIP

The Northland scrip team has added two new items to our stock. We now carry Piggly Wiggly in \$25 and \$50 denominations and Discover cards in the \$50 denomination. You can use the Discover card anywhere that takes credit cards. (Think Aldi and other places that don't have their own scrip.) You can buy these and other stock items at the scrip table on Sunday mornings or from the church office during the week. Thank you for supporting Christian education by using scrip!

THRIVENT GIFTS

Thanks to Thrivent Financial and their members, we recently received \$208 through the Thrivent Choice program.

AMAZONSMILE EARNINGS

We just received a donation of \$28.99 from the AmazonSmile Foundation. The amount represents 0.5% of purchases made through AmazonSmile for Oct-Dec 2019. When you make purchases from Amazon, be sure to use their alternate website smile.amazon.com and designate our church as the organization you are supporting.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last Week's Attendance: 208 YTD Average attendance: 237

From July 1, 2019 to February 21, 2020

Actual ministry income: \$687,015

Actual cost of ministry: \$741,154 Mortgage balance: \$1,409,584

CALENDAR

March 1-8

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 4K-6 in Room 106
	10:30 AM	Worship
	12:00 PM	Together We Shine at NLHS
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball
MONDAY	8:30 AM	Board of Elders in the Resource Center
	6:00 PM	A People Close to God in the Bible Study Room
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Board of Lutheran Education in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministers peer Group in the Resource Center
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	School Chapel Service
	4:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service
	4:45 PM	Lenten Fellowship Meal (Meal Helpers K-O)
	5:00 PM	Board of Mission Outreach in the Resource Center
	5:30 PM	Board of Properties in the Bible Study Room
	5:30 PM	Handbells in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Midweek Lenten Service
	7:30 PM	Catechism Class in the Bible Study Room
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice in the Balcony
	8:00 PM	Contemporary Choir in the Balcony
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	6:00 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 4K-6 in Room 106
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball
	3:00 PM	Lent/Easter concert at NLHS



www.stpaulswr.org

*311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | churchoffice@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org*