



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul Lutheran Church

## A Message from Pastor Mathew

*"Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice strong your love, As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore." -The Magnificat from Holden Evening Prayer*

This year the Sunday's of Lent are filled with covenants, promises between God and God's people. They reveal God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

### God's covenant with Noah

*"When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. "When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." -Genesis 9:14-16*

### God's covenant with Sarah and Abraham

*God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." -Genesis 17:6-8*

### God's covenant with Israel at Mt. Sinai

*I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. -Exodus 20:2-3*

These promises remind us of what we experience in baptism. Like Noah and his family we are promised life beyond death, like the Israelites God brings us safely through the water and gives us a new future, like Abram and Sarai we receive a new name—child of God.

God is truly rich in mercy and love, no wonder Mary sang out for joy.

God's Peace,

Pastor Mathew



*The people of St. Paul gather to worship, reach out, and serve the Lord.*

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

March 2 – Tammy Oliver  
March 3 – Amanda Schumm  
March 5 – Brenda Russow  
March 8 – Wanda Schlueter  
March 9 – Kylee Claypool  
March 11 – Bryce Claypool  
March 13 – Brad Solberg  
March 14 – Carley Nourie  
March 18 – Carl Thorson  
March 21 – Sue Curtiss  
March 21 – Max Gschwendtner  
March 21 – Brianna Schumm  
March 23- Travis Westergreen  
March 23 – Mil Girard  
March 26 – Brooklyn Delheimer  
March 30 – Mary Leach  
March 31 – Jennifer Bauknecht  
March 31 – Sarah Bibo  
March 31 – Brian Swanberg  
March 3 – Keith & Natalie Hendershott (2006)  
March 9 – Don & Mary Lou Bevers (1995)  
March 16 – Hermie & Janice Schmidt (1985)  
March 19 – Jeff & Darla Dixon (1988)

### In-Kind Gifts

In following the IRS rules and tax guide for churches and religious organizations, “a donor cannot claim a tax deduction for any single contribution of \$250 or more unless the donor obtains a written acknowledgment of the contribution from the recipient church.” If you have made a non-cash gift of \$250 or more, please contact the church administrative secretary of your purchase and a receipt and a letter of acknowledgment will be provided for your tax documents. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

## Prayer Chain Requests

If you would like someone added to our prayer chain, please contact Pastor Mathew, Julie Mehlberg, or Angie in the office. Please let them know when names should be removed from the prayer list as well.

## Flower Donations

We will once again order fresh flowers for worship from County Market. Please sign up on the flower chart if you are interested in donating for a two week span. Please write your check for \$25 to St. Paul Lutheran and put “flowers” on the memo line. We thank you in advance for helping to make our worship space beautiful to bring honor and glory to God.

## Text Updates Now Available

**Updates from St. Paul are now available via text message.** These messages will be used to provide important reminders about upcoming church events, changes to worship plans due to inclement weather or health concerns, etc.

If you would like to receive text message updates from St. Paul, **here is how to sign up:** Text @stpaul210 to the number 81010.

It is important to text this exact message "@stpaul210" to the number. After you have done so, you will receive a welcome text from Remind.com with more information. Remind will ask you to identify yourself as a student, teacher or parent because Remind is typically used by schools. Since we are not a school, choosing one of these roles is not necessary.

If you have any trouble you can also text @stpaul210 to (213) 947-9776.

If you are unable to sign up but would like to receive text message updates, please email or call Angie and share your cell phone number and first and last name.

## Chicken Supper

The council has decided to postpone the chicken supper due to the current situation with the COVID pandemic. A future date has not been set.

## Holden Evening Prayer

Each Wednesday during Lent, we will gather on Zoom for a service of Holden Evening Prayer. Join us for song, prayer, a message, and some time for fellowship. The link and login information will be the same for each week.

Join by clicking this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83727738156>

You can also join by phone.

**Dial 1 312 626 6799 and enter the Meeting ID: 837 2773 8156**

## Congregational Council

**President**  
Doug Oliver

**Vice President**  
Mark Mackinson

**Secretary**  
Shelly Heller

**Building & Grounds**  
Louis Kehinde

**Building Community Liaison**  
Mary Leach

**Lifelong Learning Liaison**  
Tonya Johnson-Wilcox

**Finance/Stewardship Liaison**  
Jake Dixon

**Worship and Music Liaison**  
Sandy Erickson

**Treasurer**  
Denny Leach

**Financial Secretary**  
Marion Brown

## Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour on Sunday, March 14. One more hour of daylight!



*Pastor Amy and I are so grateful for your kindness and generosity as we await the birth of our child. Thank you for the cards, the gifts, and the well wishes. The St. Paul shower was such a blessing to us both.*

*-Pastor Mathew*



You can join **ST. PAUL'S ONE TEAM** for our 2021 Lenten Challenge. This year, we will have just one team as we gather items to donate to the Livingston County Food Pantry and to Lutheran World Relief.

### Food Pantry Items

laundry soap  
toilet bowl cleaner  
dish soap  
toothpaste  
deodorant  
toothbrushes  
shampoo  
conditioner  
bar soap  
toilet paper  
paper towels

### Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Items

1 lightweight bath towel  
2 bath-size bar soap  
1 adult toothbrush  
(in original package)  
1 metal nail clipper  
1 sturdy comb

All items can be dropped off at St. Paul any time during Lent. Our goal is to collect **400** items for the food pantry and to assemble **50** care kits. Cash donations will also be accepted. If you donate an item, you'll **be on THE SPOT** in Lent!