

We ask that all members join the Women of ELCA and pray this prayer as you rise in the morning, and as you prepare to retire each evening.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring to you:

Jada, Myles, & Conner Garske; Britain Hahn; Amara Brandau; Chase Brandau; Avery Brueggen; Riley, Aria & Hudson Brueggen; Nolan & Logan Buchholz; Thadyn & Ayawyn Conner; Vanessa & Elliott Ornes; Lailah Eckes, Maevis Shock; Lena Ornes; Porter Sorenson; Josie Ornes; Brooklyn, Madelyn, Kaylin, Emma, Bryce, Marah, Bria, Ava, Katie, & Benjamin Gruen; Braylee Zimmerman; MaKenzie & Cooper Powell; Wesson & Arden Mayne; Vanessa, Mia, & Brek Anderson; Tyler & Jaden Bever; Carlee, Collin, & Camden Neidfeldt; Morgan Speicher; Krista & Sierra Cook; Franklin & Douglas Wildes; Sophia, Derek & Deacon Erdman; Kody Tormoen; Callie Fleming; Miranda, Daphne & Linus Arndt; Emma Elder; Bryson Lamb, Elizabeth Wildes; Alaina & Braxton Holthaus; Jayda Leis; David, Sam & Zachary Ross; Gannon & Ellory Tormoen; Jase & Margo Picha; Watson and Duke Sebranek, Violet Ford, Hunter Puhl, Eason Kelbel, Cole, Caleb & Connor Redding; Brooke, Claire, Grace & Bree Olson; Alayna, Alivia & Levi Wyttenbach; Luke Kroeger; Peyton Oelson, Greyson Resop; Kendall Christopher-son, and children throughout the world.

That your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you. I pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for all children every where, that you would keep them in your care.

In Jesus name I pray.

Amen

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
First Sunday in Lent  
March 9, 2025



**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
In Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*

*\*(Indicates the people should stand as they are able.)*

Welcome and Announcements

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**  
Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

### **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One,  
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.  
We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.  
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.  
We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.  
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.  
In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.  
You have a place in God's house forever.  
**Amen.**

**\*Hymn** I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ELW #611

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you**

Kyrie ELW p.184  
Glory to God ELW p.185

## IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Allen Roscovious, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton.

## CALENDAR

Today	Church Council	11:30 AM
Wed., March 12	Supper/Lent	6:00 PM
Sun., March 16	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### March 16 Service

Thadyn Conner will provide the sermon on March 16, as part of his class studies.

### QUILTING

The quilters will be meeting on Thursday, March 27, at 9:00 AM. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

### SYNOD ASSEMBLY PROJECT

The Synod is asking people to save the rolls from toilet paper and paper towels. In addition, they are asking we save milk caps. We'll put a small container out so you can just drop them in and we'll take care of them from there.

### April 27

Annual drive-up barbeque chicken dinner at St. Paul's.

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **BLESSING**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
‡ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Hymn**      “Bless Now, O God, the Journey”      ELW #326

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God’s People; Synod Authorized Minister:  
Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Greg Bever;  
Altar: Kirstin & Miranda Arndt; Communion Server: Justin  
Arndt

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene Babbitt, Wayne Schindler, Florence  
Dougherty, Laurie Switz Johnson, Heidi Stenerson, Linda,  
Richie Vlasak, Bud Speicher; Jeremy Munson, Kristy Gwin  
Solovey, Lyle Schindler, Gordy O’Rourke, Marilyn O’Rourke,  
Larry Arndt, Carol Lydon Fronk, Gloria Nofsinger

### **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING**

*The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God’s gracious acts on behalf of Israel.*

#### **A reading from Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” <sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down

before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

<sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and 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> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 91:1-2, 9-1**

<sup>1</sup> You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

<sup>2</sup> **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

<sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
and the Most High your habitation,

<sup>10</sup> **no evil will befall you,  
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

<sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge over you,  
to guard you in all your ways.

### Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who are hungry, come!  
The feast of grace is spread  
Distribution

*Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.*

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 191

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.  
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our  
communities, that your liberating love might nourish the  
world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (God, in your mercy,  
receive our prayer)

**OFFERING**

Offering Hymn "Create in Me a Clean Heart" ELW 185

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider,  
**you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

P: Let us give thanks to our Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places.....  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**"Holy, Holy, Holy"**

ELW p. 190

<sup>12</sup> **Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

<sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;  
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

<sup>14</sup> **I will deliver those who cling to me;  
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

<sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

<sup>16</sup> **With long life will I satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

**SECOND READING**

*Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their  
creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.*

**A reading from Romans 10:8b-13**

<sup>8b</sup> "The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart"  
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you  
confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your  
heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>  
For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one  
confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture  
says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>  
For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same  
Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>  
For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be  
saved."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL READING

*After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”*

### **The holy gospel according to Luke 4:1-13**

#### **Glory 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> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying 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 protect you,’

<sup>11</sup> and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Karen Sparling  
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn “O Lord, Throughout These Days” **ELW#319**

## \*APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**