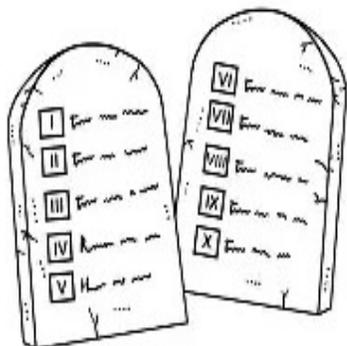


Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LCMS)

321 N 10th, Beatrice, NE 68310

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent



Welcome! We are glad you're here and hope to see you again soon! Please sign the guest book at the entrance of the church. If you don't have a church home, are interested in the teachings of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS), or are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's, please speak to the Pastor, Elder, Usher, or the church office.

***Communion Guidance:** Visitors wanting to commune should speak to the pastor or an elder prior to the service. Our summary of faith is available in the pews to help you determine if you share in*

our confession of faith. LCMS members and those from congregations in fellowship with LCMS are always welcome to commune.

Hymns are found in the Lutheran Service Book in the pews.

We're using Divine Service, Setting 3 on page 184 in the front section of that hymnal.

(♪ denotes responses that are to be sung. **P** = Pastor; **C** = Congregation)

Opening Hymn 873: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

**1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise;
Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.**

**2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**3 Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.**

Charles Wesley, 1707–88 Text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the {†} Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the {†} Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit *Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15*

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

C One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

P to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

C For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

P he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high

upon a rock.

C And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

P I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

♪ Kyrie

LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

♪ Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪ **C** Amen. *Please sit*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.” ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind

as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: *Please Stand*

John 9:1–41

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

♪ **C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called

Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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. *Please sit*

Hymn 571: God Loved the World So That He Gave

1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,

That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Text: Public domain

Sermon

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Mark 14: 3-9

³And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure

nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. ⁴There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment wasted like that? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. ⁹And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”

Proverbs 11:13

¹³Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.

♪ **Offertory:** *Please stand*

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Offering: *Please sit*

Prayer of the Church: *Please stand*

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...
- C** Responds: **Hear our prayer** after each petition.
- C** Responds: **Amen** after final petition.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪ **Preface**

LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.
- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary...praising You and saying:

♪ Sanctus

LSB 195

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread,
and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and
said: "Take, eat; this is My {†} body, which is given for you. This do in
remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when
He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of
you; this cup is the new testament in My {†} blood, which is shed for
you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in
remembrance of Me."

♪ Pax Domini

LSB 197

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

♪ Agnus Dei

LSB 198

- C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen. *Please sit*

Distribution Hymn 744: Amazing Grace

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn 851: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

- 1 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the_unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.

With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt. Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn 849: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons

With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955 Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644
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- ♪ **Nunc Dimittis:** *Please stand* *LSB 199*
☐ **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

- ♪ **Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect** *LSB 200*
☐ O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
☐ **and His mercy endureth forever.**
☐ Let us pray....one God, now and forever.
☐ **Amen.**

- ♪ **Salutation and Benedicamus** *LSB 201 & 202*
☐ The Lord be with you.
☐ **And with thy spirit.**
☐ **Bless we the Lord.**
☐ **Thanks be to God.**

- ♪ **Benediction** *LSB 202*
☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and {†} give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen. Please sit

Departing Hymn 635: From High Atop the Mount

1: From high atop the mount where Moses stands,
Thro' cloud and storm the voice of God is heard:
“I am the Lord, and these are my commands.
In all you do, obey my ev'ry word.”

4: Your highest love and trust belong to me;
To these no other god has any right.
Not health or wealth or self or family
But I alone shall be your chief delight.

11: I know precisely what your words intend,
For truth and lie can both alike defame.
Speak well of all and readily defend
Your neighbor's reputation and good name.

3: Your life, O Christ, is counted as our own;
Our guilt was crucified in none but you.
In keeping your commands our love is shown
Now work within us both to will and do.

Text: Michael D Schultz b.1963. Tune: Alfred M Smith 1879-1972 Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A744031, All rights reserved.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Pastor Karl Hollibaugh

Elder: Greg Penner

Organist: Bev Duensing

Reader: Shari Pack

Acolytes: Sawyer Penner and Sloan Penner

Greeters: Wayne & Chris Schulz

Ushers: Wayne Schulz, Ron Buss, Lonnie Duensing

Please remember with prayers, cards, texts, or calls, our sisters- and brothers-in-Christ who are hospitalized or ill at home: Verda Riekenberg (hospitalized); Joyce Neumann (heart attack); Mary Scheve, Angie Fossler, Mike Holthus, Cheri McConnell, Cindy Weise (all with cancer); Duane Delozier (hospitalized), Pat Nave; Michelle Baker (hip surgery); Chuck Baker (leukemia);

Lilly Baker (thyroid cancer); Olivia Hatzembuehler and William Kelley (military).
****Please contact the church by Thursday morning** with additions or corrections to this prayer list.

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Holly Norris in memory of her Dad Ron Sohl's birthday.

Sunday's available for sponsorship in 2026 are July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9; Sept 20; October 4, 11; Nov 15, 29, and Dec 6, 13, 27. You can schedule a sponsorship in the **scheduling book outside of the church office**. Find the Sunday you want to sponsor and put your name and other information. Payment (by check) should be made at time of scheduling. You may also call the church office to schedule. **Sponsorships of radio broadcasts** are now \$125 (this includes bulletin sponsorship).

From the Call Committee:

Pastor Joey Bluege and his wife Catherine along with their three children will be visiting St. Paul's church and school on **MARCH 17 and 18**.

On Wednesday, March 18, the following is his schedule:

8:30 am - Chapel at school with his family.

Head Teacher Jonetta Hagemeyer welcomes his visit in classrooms.

11:15 am - Attend the meal after the morning Lenten service at church.

3:20 pm - Meeting with the staff at school.

5:30 pm - Lenten service at church. Meal to follow in the church basement.

After Lenten meal: Joint meeting of the Board of Elders & Church Council.

Thrivent members: Don't forget to direct 2025 Choice Dollars® by March 31 at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

Lent Services are held Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. with a meal served after (optional free will offering) on March 18 and 25. We'd like the community to know about the services and meals so **please invite friends and neighbors**. Some in our community experience hunger and we'd like this to be an opportunity for them to get a hot meal.

Happening this week:

Sunday, Mar 15 8:00 am KWBE Broadcast of previous week
 9:00 am Divine Service

10:15 am Children's SS, Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, Mar 17 Pastor Bluege & Family, see bulletin
Wednesday, Mar 18 Pastor Bluege & Family, see bulletin
10:30 am Lenten Worship with meal to follow
5:30 pm Lenten Worship with meal to follow
6:30 pm Confirmation Class
Saturday, Mar 21 10:00 am Altar Guild
Sunday, Mar 22 8:00 am KWBE Broadcast of previous week
9:00 am Divine Service
10:15 am Children's SS, Adult Bible Study

Beside the service sponsorship book is a calendar (on a table near the office door). **Please write church activities** you would like listed in the bulletin on that calendar.

Help Preserve the Story of St. Paul's – Volunteers Needed

For more than a century, St. Paul's Lutheran Church has been shaped by the faith and dedication of the generations of families who have worshiped here and helped build this ministry. In later years, St. Paul's Lutheran School became an important part of that ministry, with many students, families, and teachers passing through its doors.

We are forming a Historical Committee to help preserve and document the history of our church and school and are looking for volunteers to join us. Everyone is welcome—storytellers, historians, organizers, photographers, researchers, or anyone who simply enjoys hearing and sharing the memories of those who came before us. If you have old photographs, documents, stories, or knowledge about the history of our stained glass, organ, church artifacts, or the families who helped build St. Paul's, we would love to hear from you. And if you would simply enjoy the fellowship, stories and conversation, please join us as well.

If you are interested in helping preserve the heritage of St. Paul's for future generations, please contact the church office or speak with a council member.

Time and date of the first meeting and subsequent meetings will be determined by the volunteers.

Please join us downstairs following worship for refreshments and Bible Study "See Through the Scriptures" with Pastor Hollibaugh. This study makes the Bible more accessible by taking readers step-by-step from Genesis to Revelation, putting everything in clear context. You will see how the Old Testament and the New Testament books of the Bible fit together and help you more fully understand Jesus' ministry and servanthood.

Jr/Sr High students: “See Through the Scriptures” is for you too! Please join the study following worship.

Remaining March Anniversaries- Happy Anniversary!

(if yours is missing, let us know!)

- 15 Kevin & Shirley Petersen, 40 yrs.
- 21 Robert & Vicki Frerking, 40 yrs., Matt & Jill Helmke, 17 yrs.
- 27 Richard & Mary Scheve, 55 yrs.
- 31 Steven & Phyllis Schmidt, 47 yrs.

Remaining March Birthdays – Happy Birthday!

(If yours is missing, please let us know!)

- 15 Janell Holle, Brian Walters
- 17 Hunter Zarybnicky
- 18 Wayne Schulz, Vaughn Wright
- 19 Garry Busboom, Melvin Oltmans, Kevin Riekenberg
- 20 Candice Mentgen
- 21 Rodney Aden, Norman McConnell
- 22 Marilyn Adam
- 24 Chelsea Guiffre
- 26 Kathleen Buhr
- 27 Cooper Fralin, Christopher Teeter
- 28 Olivia Aden
- 29 Connie Oltmans
- 31 Carolyn Junker, Rose Pittman

Holy Week Services are as scheduled:

- Maundy Thursday, April 02, 2026 at 10:30am and 7pm.
- Good Friday, April 03, 2026 at 10:30am and 7pm.
- Easter, April 05, 2026:
 - Divine Sunrise Service at 7am.
 - Breakfast at 8am.
 - Divine Service at 9am.
 - Resurrection Egg Hunt at 10:15am.

The **Easter egg hunt** does not originate in the Bible, but rather from later Christian traditions symbolizing the resurrection. Early Christians used eggs to represent the empty tomb. The hard shell represents the sealed tomb, while breaking the shell symbolizes Jesus’ rising from the dead. The specific tradition of hunting eggs

is attributed to **Martin Luther** in the 16th century, where men hid eggs for the family to find – **mimicking the discovery of the empty tomb**, like Mary Magdalene on the other women on the first Easter.

Dorcas provides quarterly **Portals of Prayer** and **Children's devotion books** for congregation members to pick up and use. They are free and on the table near the front door of the church.

We are **accepting applications for new students** in Pre-School, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten through 5th grade 2026-2027. Please contact the school office if you need an application.

School's Ongoing Scrip Card Fundraiser: Order pre-paid shopping cards through St. Paul's Lutheran School "Script Card" Program and our school automatically gets money in return at no extra cost to you! Please contact the school office to order for your own use or for gifts.

All Russ's Register Receipts must be turned in to school or church by March 29th, 2026. This promotion only goes through March and must be tallied and submitted by April 12th. Please continue to save **Our Family and Best Choice UPC** codes. They can be put in the box in the narthex.

The Youth Lead at **Our Savior Lutheran** church in **Odell, Ne**, is hosting at **Pancake Fundraiser** today on **Sunday, March 15th, from 10am to 1pm**. It is freewill donation and located at the Odell Community Building.

"Inspired - A Women's Retreat", at **Grace Lutheran, Fairbury** Saturday, **March 21**. Author Christina Hergenrader will present Luke 1 and the story of Mary and Elizabeth to our participants. Three sessions include the topics of Peace: Resting Through Interruptions; Love: Encouragement Shapes Courage; and Sisterhood: Showing Up and Recognizing God's Work. A fee of \$20 for the day includes lunch, treats and a book from Christina. Contact Laura for additional details at Grace via phone (402)729-5163 or by email, gl92901@windstream.net. Space is limited so act now!

St. Joseph's Friday fish fries: March 20, 5:30-7:00pm in the Parish Center at 6th and High Street, enter at the northeast school doors. Fried and baked fish, coleslaw, french fries, green beans, mac and cheese, baked potato, and deserts. \$12 per adult, \$6 kids 4-10 (under 4 eat free), \$40 max price per family. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 1723.

Gage County Sheriff's Department is holding an open house at the Gage County jail March 21 & 22 from 1pm to 5pm each day.

- **March & April calendars are available at the church entrance.**
 - **Church office** is open Thursdays. Please leave a message at 402-228-1540 or email stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com.
 - **For immediate assistance:** contact Church Chair Rod Aden {402- 239-5305}; Head Elder Chuck Baker {714-232-2794}; or Finance Committee member Dave Doering {402-806-1015}.
 - **For school or church reservations,** call Wayne Oestreich 402-440-5054.
 - **Busy Bags and books** for kids are in the narthex by the bulletin board.
 - **Large print bulletins with large print hymns attached** are available from an usher.
 - Sign up for **NE LCMS** weekly emailed newsletter at ndlcms.org.
 - **Communion Guidance:** Visitors wanting to commune should speak to the pastor or an elder prior to the service. Our summary of faith is available in the pews to help you determine if you share in our confession of faith. LCMS members and those from congregations in fellowship with LCMS are always welcome to commune.
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Our livestreamed services are available on

- **YouTube:** Search for St. Paul's Lutheran Church Beatrice NE.
- **Facebook:** Follow St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
(Be sure you're following the one with our church photo.)
- **Our website or app:** stpaulbeatrice.org.
The bulletin is on the website so you can follow along.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Address: 321 N 10th St, Beatrice, NE 68310

Office: 402-228-1540

Website: www.stpaulbeatrice.org

Email: stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Karl Hollibaugh: 225-361-5121;
revdochollibaugh@gmail.com

St. Paul's Lutheran School, Pre-School & Childcare

Address: 930 Prairie Lane, Beatrice, NE 68310

Phone: 402-223-3414

Website: stpaulbeatrice.org

Email: stpaulschoolbeatrice@gmail.com

Lead Teacher: Jonetta Hagemeyer

Childcare Director: Sheridan Martinez

Come Visit Mission Central!

Plan now to take a group from your congregation out to visit Mission Central 2 miles east of Mapleton, Iowa to hear stories from our LCMS missionaries. What in the world is Mission Central? We are a team of volunteers and professionals serving alongside LCMS International and National Mission who are deeply committed to:

- Helping YOU PERSONALLY support specific missionaries
- Assisting YOU PERSONALLY to volunteer with YOUR time and talents for the Lord's work
- Keeping unavoidable administrative costs associated with YOUR personal gift as low as possible.
- Designating YOUR gift to a specific family or project in order that YOU have the absolute assurance your gift of love is going directly for its intended purpose.

The Lord's Mission Central is in the hills of western Iowa working coast to coast with you in the lord's mission! Contact Gary Thies or Rev. Steve Schulz (712-882-1029) to schedule a visit or help us with a donation today.

Upcoming Presentations at Mission Central:

- April 18, 2026, 1:00, Rev. Tom Park, Taiwan; 1:30 Rev. Herb and Markie Burch, Belize
- May 16, 2025, 1:00, Cody and Aurelie Mock, Czech Republic
- May 23, 2026, 1:00, Rev. Paul Nelson, Indonesia; 1:30, Rev. Adam Lehman, Puerto Rico
- June 27, 2026, 1:00, Rev. Jordan Andreasen, Romania
- July 8, 2026, 1:00, Rev. David Preus, Eurasia
- July 11, 2026, 1:00, Matt and Dee Dee Wasmund, South Korea/East Asia; 1:30 Rev. Shauen Trump and family, Africa; 2:00 Deaconess Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores, Latin America and Caribbean Region
- August 22, 2026, 1:00, Ashley Lehr, Puerto Rico
- December 5, 2026, 1:00, Rev. Chris and Lula Tiews, Germany

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

