



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 15, 2026 – Fourth Sunday in Lent A



Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word, and through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Restrooms and a drinking fountain are located on the right in the hallway outside the sanctuary. We have **personal hearing devices**. If you need one, please let an usher know before the service. If you are a parent with young children, we want you to know that we love having children worship with us since worship includes them, too. At the same time, we know that children sometimes like to make their presence known in spite of the best efforts to keep them quiet. For your convenience and in consideration of those seated near you, we have a **Family Room** located through the door in the back of the Fellowship Hall. The facility includes a TV, a window, and speakers so that you can still follow along with the worship service. **Busy bags** are also available near the central sanctuary doors.

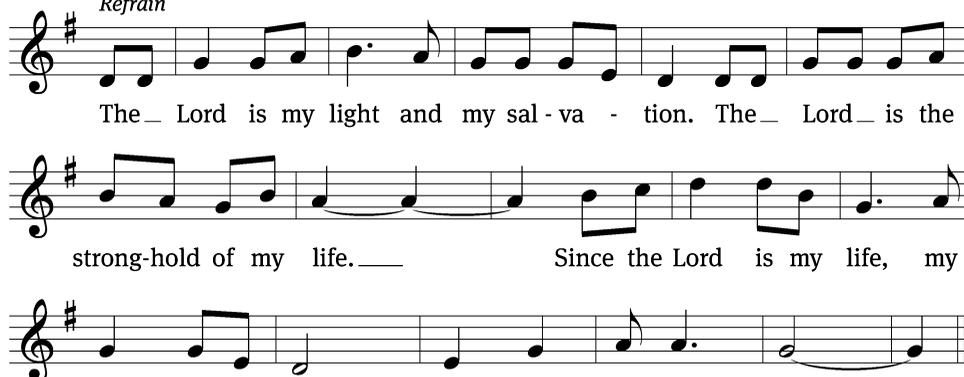
Prayer before worship: Suffering Servant of the Lord, we approach this season with mixed feelings. We feel crushed, knowing that our sins have caused your pains and suffering. We see your tortured body and know it was because of the sinful actions we did, the wicked words we said, and the evil thoughts that crossed our minds. We are deeply sorry for our sins, and we are deeply grateful to know that it was your undeserved love that led you to save us. If, in that love, you see fit to allow suffering in our lives, grant us the strength to bear it well and to glorify you through it all. Amen.

Service of the Word

The Lord Is My Light

CW 825

Refrain



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion. The Lord is the
strong-hold of my life. ____ Since the Lord is my life, my
strength, and my all, whom then shall I fear?

The musical notation for the Refrain consists of three staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text, including a long horizontal line for the blank space. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of text, ending with a double bar line.

Verse



1 There is one thing I ask of the Lord: to dwell in his
house for - ev - er, to gaze on the beau-ty of the
Lord all the days of my life. ____

The musical notation for the Verse consists of three staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of text, ending with a double bar line. The word 'Refrain' is written above the end of the third staff.

Verse

2 Do not hide__ your face, O__ Lord. Ev-'ry day I will
 seek your_ face.__ Though my fa - ther and moth - er may for -
Refrain
 sake me, the__ Lord____ will re - ceive me.

Verse

3 Teach me, Lord, and keep me on your paths;__ guide me,
 Lord,__ a - long a lev - el way.__ I will gaze on the
Refrain
 good-ness of the Lord in the land of all the liv - ing.

Text: tr. Lorraine Florindez, 1926–2011; tr. Jon D. Vieker, b. 1961; Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007 Tune: Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007
 Text: © 2006 Jon D. Vieker. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833 Tune: © 1982 Alberto Taulé, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Absolution

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer

P: Let us pray: O Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

God promises to lead the blind to safety, give them sight, and turn their darkness to light.

¹⁴I have been silent for a long time. I have kept still. I have restrained myself.
But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream. I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will dry up mountains and hills. I will make all their grass wither.
I will turn rivers into islands. I will dry up pools.

¹⁶I will lead the blind on a way they do not know. Along paths they do not know I will direct them. Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light and rough places into level ground. These are the things I will accomplish for them. I will not abandon them.

¹⁷They will be turned back and completely disgraced—those who trust in an idol, those who say to molten images, “You are our gods.”

¹⁸You deaf ones, listen! You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see! ¹⁹Who is as blind as my servant? Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent? Who is as blind as my associate, as blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe. Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear. ²¹Because of his own righteousness, the LORD was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

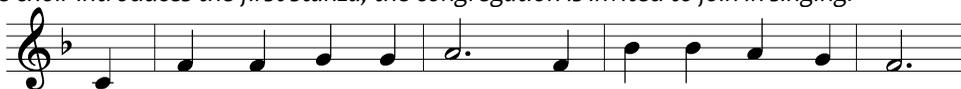
P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

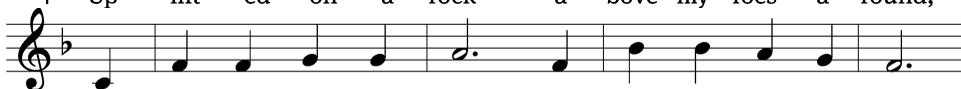
Psalm of the Day – O LORD, You Are My Light

Psalm 27B

After the choir introduces the first stanza, the congregation is invited to join in singing.



1 O LORD, you are my light and my sal - va - tion near;
2 My one re - quest has been and still this prayer I raise;
3 When trou - bles round me swell, when fears and dan - gers throng,
4 Up - lift - ed on a rock a - bove my foes a - round,



then who will cause me fright or fill my heart with fear?
that I may live with - in God's house for all my days.
se - cure - ly I will dwell in his pa - vil - ion strong.
a - mid the bat - tle shock my song shall still re - sound.



While God my strength, my life sus - tains, se - cure from fear my
God's glo - rious beau - ty to ad - mire, and in his tem - ple
With - in the shel - ter of God's tent he hides me till the
Then joy - ful of - f'ings I will bring; the LORD God's praise my



soul re - mains, se - cure from fear my soul re - mains.
to in - quire, and in his tem - ple to in - quire.
storm is spent, he hides me till the storm is spent.
heart shall sing, the LORD God's praise my heart shall sing.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once I have sight and have seen the light of Christ, I strive to leave deeds of darkness behind.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. ¹⁰Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, ¹¹and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. ¹⁴Therefore it is said, "Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem – All I Know

Adult Choir

*Born in darkness, blind from birth, days as dim as night,
'til the Savior touched my eyes, awakening my sight.
How it happened, myst'ry deep, I can never prove.
All I know is Jesus did what no one else could do.*

*I don't know the secrets of the universe,
how the earth and heavens came to be.
All I know is I was blind, but now I see.
All I know is Christ changed me.*

*Eyes wide opened, now behold beauty missed before.
Since the Savior touched my life, my joy has been restored.
Why he chose to make me whole, I don't comprehend.
All I know is Jesus healed what no one else could mend.*

*I don't know the secrets of the universe,
how the earth and heavens came to be.
All I know is I was bound, but now I'm free.
All I know, is Christ changed me.*

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 12:2

P: It is written: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal.

Gospel

John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

Jesus enables a man who had been born blind to gain his sight and see him both physically and spiritually.

¹As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His 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 God’s works might be revealed in connection with him. ⁴I must do 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.”

⁶After saying this, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and spread the mud on the man’s eyes. ⁷“Go,” Jesus told him, “wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means “Sent”). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

¹³They brought this man who had been blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight.

“He put mud on my eyes,” the man told them. “I washed, and now I see.”

¹⁶Then some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath.” Others were saying, “How can a sinful man work such miraculous signs?”

There was division among them, ¹⁷so they said to the blind man again, “What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

³⁴They answered him, “You were entirely born in sinfulness! Yet you presume to teach us?” And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out. When he found him, he asked, “Do you believe in the Son of God?”

³⁶“Who is he, sir,” the man replied, “that I may believe in him?”

³⁷Jesus answered, “You have seen him, and he is the very one who is speaking with you.”

³⁸Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” and he knelt down and worshipped him.

³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, in order that those who do not see will see, and those who do see will become blind.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

CW 904

Jesus' light brings spiritual sight to the lost, the straying, and the oppressed, to bring us all home to rest.



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, en - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray that they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold, re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more such grace with



those who sit in night; let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; en - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way; let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to your fold; u - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore and end - less praise to



hear your voice and in your fold with us re - joice.
in - most minds some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed in you find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part, con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
you be giv'n by all your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

John 9

Unseen Mercies Abound

Questions to consider during the sermon:

- 1) Describe the day-to-day life of the man born blind.
- 2) What's the most charitable understanding of the concerns of the Pharisees?
- 3) How does Isaiah help us to see what no one else could?
- 4) Why did the Jewish leaders attempt to pit Jesus against Moses?
- 5) How did Jesus illustrate the unseen blindness of so many?
- 6) Where are our blind spots to the unseen and abounding mercies of God?

Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Offering

***To our honored guests:** We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you today! Our offering is not a debt we owe God but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation but love for God. Our offerings are how St. Paul's funds our Gospel mission work. As our honored guests, please do not feel obligated to contribute.*

*If you would like to support our Gospel ministry with an offering, you have options! Place your offering in **the offering plate** in our gathering space as you leave worship today, **mail an offering** to our church anytime, or go to **stpauls.edu** or **scan this QR** code to give an offering online.*



Prayer of the Church

P: Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

C: Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

P: Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

C: Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

P: The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

C: Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

P: Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

C: Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

P: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

C: Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

C: Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

CW 713

Our fervent prayer is to follow Jesus by his Word in this life until he returns to bring us home to him.



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Tune: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

Prayer

P: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Blessing

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

Amazing Grace

CW 576

Written by a former slave trader, this hymn rejoices in the spiritual sight that is the gift of Christ alone.



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790 Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman Text and tune: Public domain

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+ Ministry Notes +

Our good day in God's house continues after worship, too.

Our after-worship adult Bible Class time is a great time for good Christian encouragement as we **grow** in the Word together and take time to pray for one another. Today Miss Lendt will give a presentation on her time in Asia in the Fellowship Hall, while Pastor Tim leads the BIC in the choir area of the sanctuary. Sunday school for the children will be at the same time.

Special Presentation – Asia

Today, we will have the opportunity to hear a presentation during the Bible Study hour about Miss Cindy Lendt's time in **Asia**. Join us to learn more about the ministry there and for encouragement about the worldwide reach of Jesus.

Midweek Meal & Meditations

We continue to have a great turnout for our Wednesday dinners and have more opportunities to gather for food, fellowship, and faith-building. Most of the meals have some hosts already, but there are still a few open spots available. Please check the sign-up in the gathering area if you'd like to participate.

Midweek Meal & Meditations – It Is Finished

3-18 The Kingly Priest

3-25 Look at the One Who Was Pierced

Call Updates

At the meeting of our congregation on February 22, we extended two divine calls: One to **Mrs. Michelle Most** and the other to **Miss Meredith Moeller**. Please keep them in your prayers as they deliberate where they can best serve in God's kingdom. If you would like to reach out to them personally, their contact information is below:

Mrs. Michelle Most
1393 W. Northstar Lane
Spokane, WA 99208-4976
1-832-212-9102

michelle.most@stmatthewspokane.org

Miss Meredith Moeller
1508 Monterey Lane
Janesville, WI 53546-5754
608-921-0039

meredith.moeller85@gmail.com

YouTube, too

Did you know that we are now live and streaming services on a YouTube channel? Find us by searching @StPaulsBeverlyHills on YouTube!

Free Hot Lunch Fund

In late 2024 (thanks largely to Mr. Randy Cochran serving as our interim principal), we received a generous donation from the members of Open Bible that allowed us to provide free hot lunch since then for as many students as wanted it. That fund will be depleted around the end of March. If anyone would like to help extend that duration, please indicate that with your offering.

2026 WELS International Youth Rally

This summer will be the next WELS International Youth Rally held **July 14-17** in **Bowling Green, OH**. This is a great opportunity for high school-aged youth to spend some time growing together in their faith and fellowship. The cost is \$450 until April 30, after which the cost is \$475. Any youth who want to attend or any adults 21+ who are interested in being potential chaperones should speak to Mr. U. Please check out welsyouthrally.net for more information.

Our Christian Stewardship of God's Gifts

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. – 1 Cor. 4:2

ATTENDANCE: 112 (Wed: 62)

PREACHER: Tim Rosenow

ACCOMPANIST: Justin Siegler

USHERS: Newton & Rochelle Trimmer

OFFERING: \$9,525

PRESIDING MINISTER: Tim Rosenow

STREAMING: Josh Plum

FLOWERS: Vivian Gennett

Let's pray this week!

birthdays | **Patti Bussinger** (3-20); **Tina Grant** (3-21)

anniversaries | (none this week)

holding calls to our school | **Mrs. Michelle Most; Miss Meredith Moeller**

homebound members | **Dave Brandt, John Hambel, Leon and Barbara Johnson, Susan Rammel, Kathy Saracione, Josephine Throo, and Paula Vitolo**

health | **Tom Colwell** (home hospice care); **Sharon Cummons** (health and strength); **Shia Gabourel** (kindergarten student, surgery on his hand); **Kay-Lynn Johnston** (recovering from surgery); **Heidi Meyer** (recovering from surgery after a fall); **Rick Robinson** (continued recovery from more falls); **Barbara Sadler, Kathy Babcock** (Barbara's daughter), and **Kathy's daughters** (genetic health issues); **Nancy Scruton** (continued recovery)

Serving in worship next week

Streaming: (Wed) 3/18 Josh Plum; (Sun) 3/22 Bill Hoeltke

Ushers: 3/22 Bruce Salzman and Rick Freihofer

This Week | March 15th – 21st

TODAY – Presentation on Asia (Miss Lendt) after the service

WED – Isaiah Bible study 10:00 AM; Midweek Meal & Meditation 6:00 PM; Choir 7:00 PM

FRI – Morning chapel 8:30 AM; PreK-K Field Trip

SAT – Women's Growth Group 10:00 AM

Upcoming Events

March 25 – Midweek Meal & Meditation 6:00 PM

March 23-27 – NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)

March 30 – Palm Sunday 9:30 AM **April 2** – Holy Thursday 6:00 PM

April 3 – Good Friday 6:00 PM **April 5** – Easter Service 9:30 AM; Breakfast & Egg Hunt 11:00 AM

Who We Are

(Our Mission)

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family. Like any family, we have our strengths and we have our weaknesses. We experience successes and we experience struggles. These are the things which unite us. For we know that we aren't perfect, but our Heavenly Father is; and he has loved us with a perfect love, sending his Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and to give us eternal life in heaven. With that same love, he comes to us through his Word, the Bible, to equip us and encourage us as we live in a world which can leave us feeling discouraged and hopeless at times. So, as a family, we **gather** together around God's Word in church and in Bible classes. We have a school where children can **grow** in their relationship with our Heavenly Father and where we can **go** to share the love of Jesus with them. We want as many people as possible to know the joy and hope which we have as members of God's family.*

If you would like to learn more about our church family or the ministries we offer through our church, school, and preschool, please speak with our pastor, principal, preschool director, faculty, or one of our members.

Thank you for being a part of our church family today!



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School Precious Lambs Preschool

6150 N Lecanto Hwy
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
352.489.3027
www.stpauls.edu
office@stpauls.edu

Sunday worship: 9:30 AM
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10 minutes
after



OUR STAFF

James Saatkamp *Pastor*

pastor.saatkamp@stpaulsk8school.org 414.335.2316

Timothy Rosenow *Pastor*

pastor.rosenow@stpaulsk8school.org 920.860.2216

Dave Goddard *Principal*

Principal@stpaulsk8school.org 813.702.5853

Sharon Welfel *Preschool director*

Sharon.Welfel@stpaulsk8school.org 352.462.1814

Becky Ramsey *Preschool teacher*

Lucy Siegler *Kindergarten teacher*

Hannah Foley *1st grade teacher*

Cindy Lendt *2nd grade teacher*

Lindsey Klingenschmitt *3rd and 4th grade teacher*

Noah Uhlenbrauck *5th and 6th grade teacher*

Justin Siegler *7th and 8th grade teacher*

Dorothy Draeger *Administrative assistant*