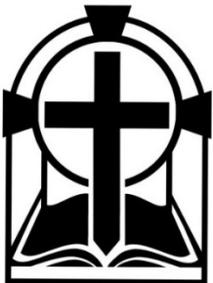


Two Lost Sons

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod
Columbus, Indiana

Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you have come to God's house to be fed and strengthened by His holy Word. The order of service for today is printed on the **insert** in this bulletin. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this morning. We are privileged to have you as our guest today and encourage you to worship with us again soon.

The Family Quiet Room and Restroom are located outside the doors of the sanctuary and to the left. In the Family Quiet Room, you can hear and see the service. **Assisted hearing devices** are available for the service. Please contact an usher.

Do you need prayer support? Please call Bonnie England at **812-447-7895** to activate our **Prayer Chain**. Your fellow church members will pray for you.

Our Communion Practice: We invite and encourage those who have been instructed, confirmed, and confess the faith of this congregation and other congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to receive the Sacrament. Communicants at this altar acknowledge their sins, believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, and desire the Spirit's help to turn from their sins.

Those who are not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing by placing their arms across their chest.

If you have questions regarding our Communion teaching and practice, please speak to a pastor.

Communion Preparation: To prepare for the Lord's Supper, you may wish to pray the prayer on the inside cover of the hymnal or review the Christian Questions and Answers on pages 329-330.

Today's Christian Education Opportunities

First Steps of Faith (Infants and Toddlers with a parent)
Sunday School classes for ages three-sixth grade
Confirmation Instruction (grades 7-8) led by Pastor Patterson
Sr. High Youth in the Youth Room led by DCE Jen Probst
Hey Pastor, what about...? led by Pastor Bauman meets in the fellowship room

Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau
Acolytes: 8 AM Service Jocelyn Vogel
10:45 AM Service Caroline Glick

Church Calendar

Today	8:00 AM Divine Service 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM 10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish Noon Lunch 12:15 PM Youth Confirmation 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes 1:15 PM Jr. Handbells 1:30 PM SPY, C4Life, and Young Adults Golf Outing 1:45 PM Jr. Choristers 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM
Monday	9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10:00 AM Small Group Handbells
Tuesday	9 AM-Noon OGT Workday Noon Staff Meeting
Wednesday	9:00 AM Bible Study 10:15 AM Matins Service 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 5:30 PM Sr. Handbells 6:30-6:45 PM Hymn Sing 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:45 PM Sr. Choir
Next Sunday	<i>Mite Box Sunday</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM 10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish Noon Lunch Noon-1:15 PM SPY and C4Life Egg Filling 12:15-2 PM 8 th Grade Confirmation 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH... are given in thanksgiving to God by Bruce and Natalie Pollert on the occasion of their 46th wedding anniversary.

TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY... is sponsored to glory of God by Marvin and Joyce Boggs.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Small Group Handbells: *Interlude*—M. Helman

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Record of Fellowship

Ringling of the Bell

Choral Call to Worship

There Is a Green Hill Far Away—J. Blersch

There is a green hill far away, Outside a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified, Who died to save us all.
We may not know, we cannot tell What pains He had to bear,
But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.
He died that we might be forgiven, He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heaven, Saved by His precious blood.
There was no other good enough To pay the price of sin,
He only could unlock the gate and let us in.
Oh, dearly, dearly has He loved! And we must love Him too
And trust in His redeeming blood And try His works to do.

Confession of Sins

please stand pages 184-185

Introit

from Psalm 51

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

C *All sing the Gloria Patri—page 186: Glory be to the Father...*

Kyrie

page 186

The Gloria in Excelsis (pages 187-189) is omitted during Lent

Salutation and Collect of the Day

page 189

P The Lord be with you.

C *(sung)* **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 *(sung)* **Amen.** *please be seated*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to You, O LORD, for though You were angry with me, Your anger turned away, that You might comfort me. "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation."

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted. "Sing praises

to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

[Paul writes:] From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day

please stand speak together (Luke 15:24)

G **For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the fifteenth chapter.

G *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” So He told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day

609 stanzas 1-4

Sermon

Two Lost Sons

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Offering

609 stanzas 5-6

Prayer of the Church

please stand

Service of the Sacrament

pages 194-198

Distribution

423, 612, 435, 437, 428, 427

Visitors—Please read our Communion statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Closing Liturgy

please stand pages 199-202

Closing Hymn

609 stanza 7

Postlude

Jesus, Priceless Treasure, BWV 610—J.S. Bach

Two Lost Sons—Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Why is the younger son lost? What sins has he committed?

How are you like the younger son?

Why is the older son lost? What sins has he committed?

How are you like the older son?

Next Sunday's Readings *Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20*

LIVING THE SERMON... You were lost but now are found! You were dead but now are alive in Christ! You are a child of the heavenly Father with a place in the Father's house and at the family feast! However, one can resist, reject, and turn away from the Father's love and grace. Pray for strength in times of temptation, a desire to be in the Father's house and to feast at our Lord's table, and for a repentant heart that trusts in Christ alone for salvation.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Pray for those who were in the Father's house and feasting at His table but have rejected and turned away from him, either through rebellion, self-righteousness, apathy, or indifference. Pray that they would return "home" with repentant hearts. Pray for strength and courage to speak the truth in love to them.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK... *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.* Luke 20:17

In the Wilderness—Lenten Sermon Series

During our midweek services we are studying the book of Numbers which recounts the Israelites' journey in the wilderness to the Promised Land. Supper is served from 5:30-6:15 PM. We sing our favorite hymns from 6:30-6:45 PM, and the Lenten services begin at 6:45 PM. Here are the upcoming service themes:

Wednesday, April 2: Anger in the Wilderness—Numbers 20:1-13, 22-29

Wednesday, April 9: Idolatry in the Wilderness—Numbers 25:1-18

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 7, 9, and 10:45 AM—Through the Wilderness to the Promised Land

Extending Christ's Love Update

The \$8.125 million budget for our Christian Education Center includes many sources of funding. One of these sources is fundraising. Our campaign goal for fundraising is \$50,000. This includes funds raised through church fundraisers like the LWML's silent auction this past week and through fundraisers organized by members.

We are thankful for everyone who donated and those who participated in the Silent Auction this past week, and to the LWML for organizing this event.

Our attention now turns to the Rummage Sale on **June 6-7. Your help is needed!** Please continue to gather items for our Rummage Sale on June 6-7. Larger items can be stored in the chapel. Donations can be brought to church May 18-June 3. Volunteers are needed to set up for the Rummage Sale on June 4-5, and to serve during the sale on June 6-7. Please sign up in the gathering space if you can serve. If you have any questions, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946.

The Building and Finance Committees are grateful for your continued prayers and support of Extending Christ's Love.



Youth Events

MATCHING GRANT REACHED!!! Thanks to everyone who generously donated to send our youth and chaperones to the National Youth Gathering this summer. Thanks to your generosity, we have reached our **\$21,000 fundraising goal!**

KfC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)

Palm Sunday, April 13th is our annual Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:45 AM service. There is no lunch served with this KfC event and no RSVP is needed.

Good Friday, April 18th: Sunday School Children first grade and younger will sing at the 10 AM morning service. The service will be followed by Together as Family in the fellowship room concluding around 11:30 AM.

SPY (high schoolers) and C4Life (sixth-eighth grade)

Today, Youth AND Young Adults: Fun and fellowship at Back 9 Golf in Indianapolis. Meet at church at 1:30 PM for devotions. We will travel to Back 9 for play from 3-5 PM, returning around 6 PM. Bring money for snacks and golf clubs, if you have them. Cost: SPY and C4Life Youth—free. Young adults, parents, younger siblings—suggested \$10 donation. If you have questions, please contact Eric and Linda Scheidt (812-371-8810; elscheidt@juno.com).

Next Sunday, April 6th Servant Event: Sixth and seventh graders and high school youth are invited to remain for lunch and help us fill Easter eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Palm Sunday, April 13th.

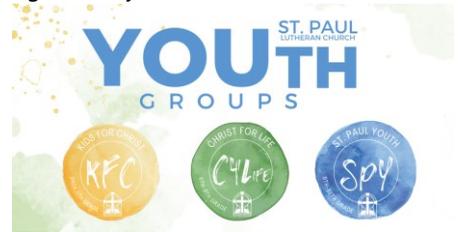
Palm Sunday, April 13th Servant Event: SPY and C4Life Youth that attend the 8 AM service are encouraged to help hide Easter eggs during the 10:45 AM service.

Good Friday, April 18th Servant Event, Lunch, and a Movie: Youth are encouraged to attend the 10 AM Morning Service. Following the service, youth will assist with Together as Family and help set-up and prepare for the Easter breakfast. We will enjoy lunch together and then watch *The Passion of the Christ*. Pick-up is at 3 PM.

All Youth and Youth Families

Easter Sunday, April 20th: Youth families are sponsoring the Easter breakfast. Please sign-up in the gathering space to bring food. SPY and C4Life Youth should plan to serve at the breakfast.

Friends are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact a youth counselor or Pastor Bauman.



IN OUR PRAYERS... Sick and Recovering: Warren Scheidt, James Neawedde, Callan Jones, Amy Yeley, Dennis Peters, Pastor Stache, Ray Cline, Sandy Lagneau, Karen Hendershot, Phyllis Fox, Nancy Lipka, Kathy Hoover, Lynn Hoeltke, Bob Runge, Jill Scheidt, Pam Jenkins, Jean Joyner (Nancy Dyer's sister), Carolyn Kidd (Danny and Sandy Johnson's friend), Morgan Curry (Danny and Sandy Johnson's friend), Candice Rominger (Clearys' friend), Amy Coombs (Darlene Bower's friend), Judy Parker (Gayla Alesandro's friend), Angela Vennemann (Kathy Hoover's niece), Margaret Osman (Nancy Dyer's sister), Paul Schultz (Gloria's son; Sandy Banister's brother); Edward Arnold (Amanda Kruger Arnold's brother-in-law), Mike Alesandro (Gayla's husband), Cassie Murray (Jason and Laurie Schroer's friend), Lonnie Doty (Laurie Schroer's father), Tiffany Wilson (Karen Hendershot's cousin), Connie Ball (Jan Voelz's friend), Dave Jensen (Krugers' friend), Moe Humphrey (Ray and Pat Hall's friend) Ozzy Hentges (Kallis' friend), Kristina Hargitt (Kim Chandler's friend), Amy Cockburn (South Decatur principal), Dale Christophel (Ray and Pat Hall's friend), Ed Vogel (Eddie Vogel's father), Annie Walton (Holly Wischmeier's coworker's daughter), Marcelle Williams (Bridges' friend), William Leitshuh (Clearys' friend), Naomi Gillespie (Haaks' great-niece); **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Noah Hoeltke, Evan Rickus, Shane McGowen (Sally Haak's nephew), Michael Mullins (Sperrys' friend), Sam Studler (Kallis' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative)

IN THE GATHERING SPACE...

- + April Newsletter
- + April-June *Portals of Prayer*
- + 2024 Contribution Statements

MIDWEEK LENTEN SUPPER AND SERVICE... We will gather for our midweek Lenten service **this Wednesday, April 2nd** at 6:45 PM. Our theme for this Wednesday's service is *Anger in the Wilderness* from Numbers 20:1-13, 22-29. The service will be preceded by a hymn sing from 6:30-6:45 PM.

This Wednesday's supper is fried chicken sponsored by the elders and their wives. Proceeds from the meal will benefit our early childhood ministry.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS... Thrivent members: **Tomorrow, March 31st** is the deadline to designate your Choice Dollars if you have not already done so.

Login in to thrivent.com or call (800) 847-4836 and designate your Choice Dollars. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Lois Wischmeier or the church office.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN WORKDAY... is **this Tuesday, April 1st** from 9 AM-noon at the Jonesville Warehouse. If you cannot attend, the need for volunteers is ongoing so volunteer anytime during their regular hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM.

Donations can be dropped off at any time at the trailer located on the east side of the warehouse.

UNTHINKABLE MOVIE... *Unthinkable* is the shocking exposé of the abortion industry and its darkest secrets. You are invited to watch this pro-life and pro-love movie **this Saturday, April 5th** at 10 AM at Yes Cinema in Columbus. For more information or to purchase tickets, please see the flyer posted in the gathering space.

EASTER CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED... Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is **Palm Sunday, April 13th**. Individually wrapped candy donations will be collected in the gathering space to offset the costs of filling Easter eggs. Please bring your donations on or before **next Sunday, April 6th**. Your donations are appreciated!

CONCERT NEXT SUNDAY... St. Peter's, Columbus invites you to Hot Horns Brass Ensemble Concert **next Sunday, April 6th** at 3:30 PM.

MOMS IN THE WORD... meets **Monday, April 7th** at 10 AM in the conference room. All moms and children are invited to join us for devotions and fellowship.

ST. PAUL TO HOST VISITORS FROM LÖHNE... On **Friday, April 11th**, 16 students and two chaperones from Löhne, Germany, and their area host families, will enjoy supper and fellowship at our church. Löhne is a sister city of Columbus. St. Simeon Church in Löhne was the home congregation of the majority of our founding members.

To learn more about our rich history with St. Simeon and Löhne, please request a copy of our 175th anniversary book if you don't have a copy. Please also stop by the picture display in the fellowship room.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION OF PALMS... Children are invited to participate in the procession of palms at the beginning of either service on **Palm Sunday, April 13th**. Children should be in the gathering space ten minutes prior to the start of the service.

EASTER EGG HUNT... is **Palm Sunday, April 13th** at noon. The Easter Egg Hunt is for children fifth grade and younger. Bags will be provided for the children.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP... Youth families, please sign up in the gathering space to provide food for the Easter breakfast. Also, help is needed to serve the breakfast, especially from SPY and C4Life Youth. Those attending the 7 AM service should plan to serve after the worship service through clean-up. Those attending the 9 AM service should plan to arrive by 7:30 AM to serve until 9 AM. Those attending the 10:45 AM service should plan to serve from 9 AM-10:45 AM.

ECM FOURTH ANNUAL CARNIVAL... The fourth annual Early Childhood Ministry CARnival is **Saturday, May 3rd**. This year's CARnival will have a Hawaiian theme. The ECM board is seeking volunteers to host a booth at the event. Booths may include a fun activity or game; prizes will be provided. Please contact Andrea Cotton to sign up for a booth at 812-344-4580 or amorris1525@gmail.com.

DONATIONS FOR JUST FRIENDS... Just Friends is a nonprofit organization that provides Adult Daycare Services. In the gathering space is a collection box and a list of needed items. Thanks for your support!

GREETERS NEEDED... Greeters welcome members and visitors to our worship services. Greeters typically serve at either the 8 or 10:45 AM service for one month. If you are interested in serving as a greeter, please contact Eric Scheidt at 812-371-8810.

THANKS TO... all who served on our accreditation teams and assisted with the accreditation visit this past Wednesday-Friday. Thanks also to all who greeted and met with the accreditation team this past week.

THANKS FROM... Thank you to everyone's support, prayers, concern, and cards of our mom Kay's passing away. A special thanks to our pastors and for the meal.

--Susan Newton, LoisAnn Ayala, and family

THANKS FROM... Thank you from Macy, Tatum, and Kacey for the sweet celebration of our babies due in April. We love serving the congregation as Sunday school teachers and are thankful to have everyone's love and support as our families grow. A special thank you to the other moms who hosted the donuts and refreshments and decorated the fellowship room.

The Response of God's People

Wednesday, March 19th

Lenten Service Attendance: **96**

Last Sunday, March 23rd

Divine Service Attendance: **375**; Communion: **284**

Sunday School Attendance: **152**

General Fund: **\$18,478.81** Weekly Need: \$15,933

Extending Christ's Love: \$14,637 including \$200 Kay

Newton Memorials; \$200 Jan Sherbundy Memorials;

\$162 Kitchen Equipment

National Youth Gathering Scholarships: \$400 **Goal**

reached!!!

Radio Ministry: \$105; SGO Fund: \$75

St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201

812-376-6504; www.stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Doug Bauman; pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-350-4115

Pastor Jeff Patterson; pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-569-2471

Pastor Daniel Fickenscher; pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org; 260-710-6750

Kantor Daniel Mau; kantor@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-927-9319

Church and ECM Secretary Mackenzie Wint; secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-528-1176

Church and ECM Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne; financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-343-3786

Latino Outreach Coordinator Renee Strietelmeier; riskplants@yahoo.com; 812-343-6466

Early Childhood Ministry Director Jen Probst; director@stpaulcolumbus.org; 765-491-7818

ECM Teachers: Anne Wiltsey (kindergarten); Jen Probst and Michelle Schultz (preschool)

ECM Assistants: Gayla Alesandro, Sally Haak, Kathy Hoover, Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz,

Claudia Sims, Caroline Wilcox, Glory Wofford, Amy Yeley