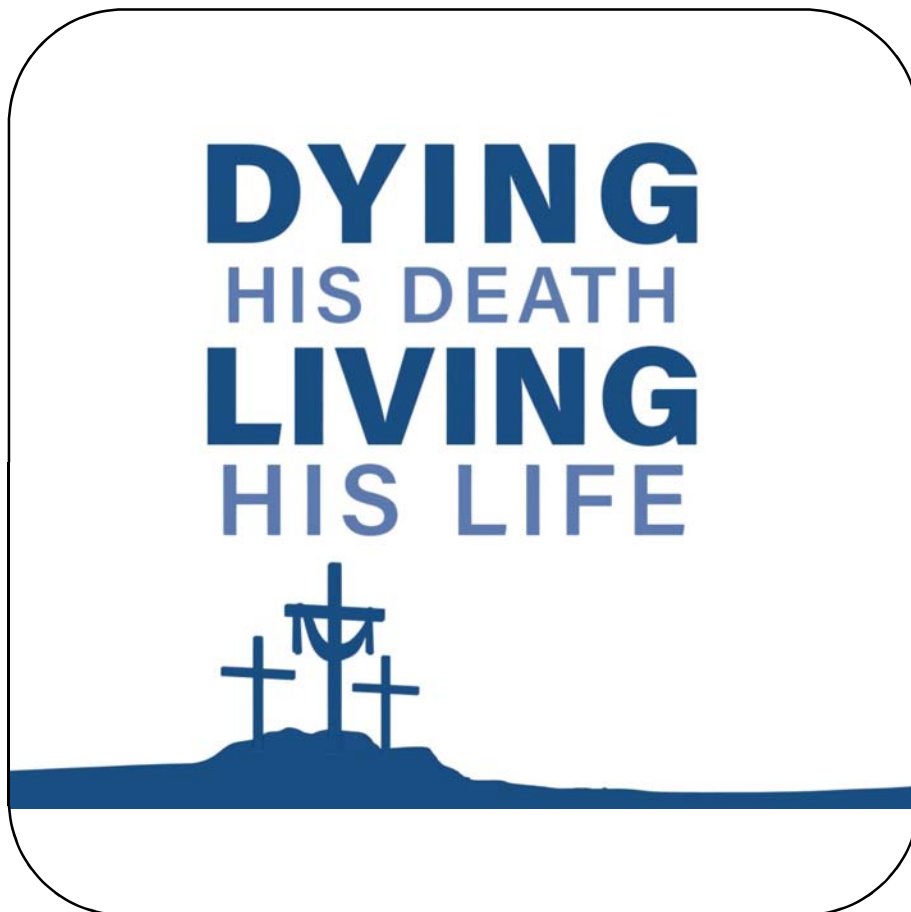




St. Paul
Ann Arbor

Sowing **truth**. Building **faith**. Shining **love**.



Welcome to Worship

March 8, 2026

8:30 AM, Downtown Campus



Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 8, 2026 (8:30 AM)

One church
with two
locations:

Downtown Campus
420 W. Liberty St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Worship:
Saturdays @ 6:30 PM
Sundays @ 8:30 AM

Discipleship Hour:
Sundays @ 9:45 AM

Earhart Campus
495 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Worship:
Sundays @ 10:45 AM

Discipleship Hour:
Sundays @ 9:45 AM



Welcome to our guests!

We're glad you're here! We ask that you fill out your name and an email or phone number in the black folder at the end of the row so we can connect with you. One of St. Paul's core values is unity so we'd like to help you get connected. On the back page of this worship folder, you'll find groups and events that are for you. May God bless you today!

The flowers in the chancel

The flowers in the chancel have been placed to the glory of God by Marlys Hamill in celebration of her birthday (and many more!).

If you have children

We welcome and encourage all children (yes, babies too!) to worship the Lord at St. Paul. If your child becomes restless during the service, don't worry! We get it. If you'd like to use it, there is a cry room available at the rear of the church and a nursery located below the main worship entrance. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available at each worship entrance. The hospitality team will be happy to assist you.

About Holy Communion

St. Paul is a confessional Lutheran congregation sharing the beliefs and practices of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). Following the Word of Jesus, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a symbol. Jesus gives His people His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins through the bread and wine. In Holy Communion, Jesus not only gives these gifts, He unites us in a confession of faith. We confess that God has given His gift of salvation in baptism. We confess that we are sinners who need the forgiveness that Jesus offers by His death and resurrection. We confess that God speaks in His inspired Word, the Bible. We confess that God is one God, the Father who created all things, the Son Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in His people by faith. Alongside this confession of faith, the Holy Spirit is at work in those who receive the Supper to live according to God's Word and remain true to God, even to death, shining Jesus' love inside and outside of God's church. If you share this confession, we invite you to receive Christ's body and blood with us. If you do not share these beliefs, please talk to a pastor before communing though you are invited to come forward during Communion distribution with arms crossed to receive a blessing and the assurance of God's love in Jesus Christ. We're glad you're at St. Paul!

Discipleship Hour & Christ Connections

You're invited to gather after the service for coffee, donuts, fellowship and Bible study for adults and children! Sundays at 9:45 AM. Adults meet in Fellowship Hall (lower-level) and children ages 3 through grade 5 meet in the lower-level preschool classrooms.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

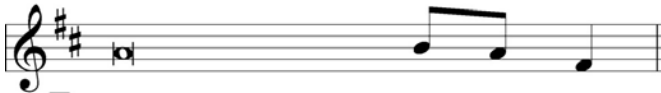
WORDS OF WELCOME

RESPONSIVE VERSES

Versicles
(LSB pg. 219)



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalm 70:1



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Lent: Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Invitatory Antiphon
(LSB pg. 220)



L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



G O come, let us wor-ship Him.

"The Power of the Cross"



(Getty/Townend)



1. Oh, to see the dawn of the dark-est day; Christ on the road to Cal-va-
 2. Oh, to see the pain writ-ten on Your face, bear-ing the awe-some weight of
 3. Now the day-light flees; Now the ground be-neath quakes as its Ma-ker bows His
 4. Oh, to see my name writ-ten in the wounds, for through Your suf-fring I am



ry. Tried by sin-ful men, torn and beat-en, then nailed to a cross of
 sin. Ev-'ry bit-ter thought, ev-'ry e-vil deed crown-ing Your blood-stained
 head. Cur-tain torn in two, dead are raised to life- "Fin-ish-ed!" the vic-tory
 free. Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your self-less



wood. _____
 brow. _____ } This the pow'r _____ of the cross: _____ Christ be-came _____ sin for
 cry. _____
 love! _____ This the pow'r _____ of the cross: _____ Son of God _____ slain for



us. _____ Took the blame, _____ bore the wrath; We stand for-gi-ven
 us. _____ What a love, _____ what a cost! We stand for-gi-ven



at the cross.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lord Jesus, when Your disciple Peter walked on the water, he grew frightened when he saw the waves and felt the strong wind. He began to sink, but You reached out and raised him up, leading him to safety. When we are weak, raise us up, and lead us in the power of the Holy Spirit to place our trust in You. Strengthen our faith through the gifts of Your holy Word and Your Body and Blood. When we stumble in faith and wander from Your ways, call us to repentance, forgive our sins, and help us to grow in grace and faith.

C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT ✠ Proverbs 3:5–8

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. ⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. (ESV)

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE ✠ James 4:5–8

⁵ Do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, *“He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”*? ⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, *“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”* ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (ESV)

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL † Matthew 14:22–33

²² Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED


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

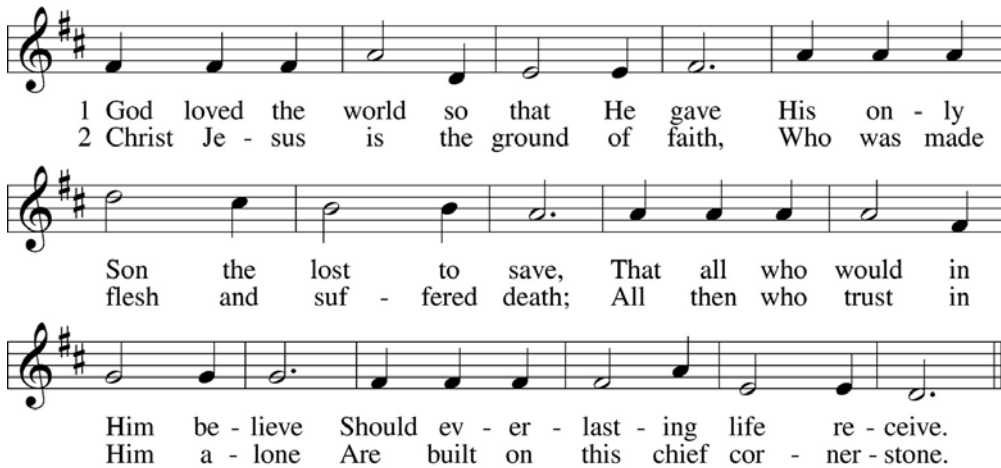
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence 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.

HYMN

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

 (LSB# 571)



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.

MESSAGE

"Dying to Doubt, Living by Faith"

Matthew 14:22-33

Rev. Aaron Roggow

RESPONSE

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

(LSB# 717)

**Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Trinity of love and pow'r, our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee glad praise from air and land and sea.**

We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

During the Offering, we invite your participation in our Ritual of Friendship. Please fill in the requested information on the Friendship Pad (which is located at the end of the pew at the center aisle) and pass it down the pew. Also, as the pad is returned, please take note of who is worshipping with you in order that you might greet them following the service.

(For electronic and convenient giving options, see the end of this worship folder)

VOLUNTARY

The Prayers We Bring to God



1 Timothy 2:1-4
Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God invites us to approach His heavenly throne with all our needs.

C: **We enter the throne room of God, the Ruler of All Things.**

P: We come without fear, at His invitation.

C: **But we come in humility, like the blind men who called out to Jesus: "Lord, have mercy."**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie (LSB pg. 227)
Mark 10:47



Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.**

P: Lord Jesus, the waves of trouble and sorrow in this world sometimes cause us to doubt Your presence and Your care. When we call on You in prayer, as Peter did, have mercy and come quickly to help us. Raise us up and grant to us the peace that only You can give. Lord, hear our prayer,

C: **And increase our faith!**

P: Lord Jesus, we know that You work through the troubles we experience to make us strong in faith. Encourage us with the promises of Your Word. Do not let us look to the storms that surround us, but teach us to keep our eyes on You, dear Savior. Lord, hear our prayer,

C: And increase our faith!

P: Lord Jesus, help those who struggle with sorrow, grief, fear, and illness: [*especially we remember...*]. Comfort them with the promises of Your Word, and fill them with the peace that You alone can bring. Give us opportunities to bring them help and encouragement in Your name. Lord, hear our prayer,

C: And increase our faith!

P: Lord Jesus, You have called us to trust You with all our hearts. Keep us from relying instead on our own understanding. We want to trust You in all circumstances of our lives, in days of blessing, and in times of sorrow. Lord, hear our prayer,

C: And increase our faith!

P: Lord Jesus, as we trust in You for the gift of salvation, for our eternal life, lead us with the help of the Holy Spirit to trust in You each day in this life, too. We pray that our faith will be a witness to others of Your unfailing love. Lord, hear our prayer,

C: And increase our faith!

PRAYERS for THIS DAY

(As prompted) *P: Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

Collect for Grace

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, nor run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven



WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins
(with Matthew 14:31)

- P: The disciple Peter walked on the Sea of Galilee, looking to Jesus. But as Peter saw the storm and waves, he began to sink. Jesus reached out to him and said, “*O you of little faith, why did you doubt?*” Let us then confess our sins, looking to God in faith, and trusting in His ever-present care.
- C: **Almighty God, You call us to trust You and to walk by faith, even though we cannot see what lies ahead. Yet in times of trouble, we fail to place our trust in You. With sinful pride, we would rather rely on our own abilities. We often fail to trust the guidance and truth of Your holy Word. We fail to trust Your promises. Have mercy on us, and forgive our sins. Amen.**

(We observe a moment of quiet reflection as we consider our own sinful condition)

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

Absolution

- P: God has had mercy on us, and He never fails us. He kept His promise to send His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior—who suffered and died on the cross for us—the place where our sins were washed away in His blood. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, by His authority and in His stead, I forgive you for all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen!**

CHRIST’S WORDS ESTABLISH THE LORD’S SUPPER

Words of Institution
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- 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 is ✠ My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pax Domini
John 20:19

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

WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion Distribution

Please note before receiving Holy Communion: *Please read the brief statement of our beliefs, "About Holy Communion", found at the beginning of our worship folder. Our pastors would be happy to meet with you to discuss our beliefs further, and help prepare you for Communion.*



Hymns: "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"
"Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

LSB# 729

LSB# 715

Anthem: "Do Not Be Afraid"

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are Mine.
When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you; you will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames.
When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger, remember you are precious in My eyes.
You are Mine, O My child, I am your Father, and I love you with a perfect love.*

—Gerard Markland (b. 1953)

WORDS OF PEACE AND JOY

Communicants' Dismissal

- P: Now may this Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in ☩ peace!
C: **Amen.**

TAKING IT HOME

John 3:16–17 (ESV)

- P: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
C: **For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."**

WE BLESS THE LORD

Benedicamus (LSB pg. 228)
Psalm 103:1

- P: Let us bless the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God!**

WE RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD

Trinitarian Benediction (LSB pg. 228)
2 Corinthians 13:14

- P: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Preacher: Rev. Aaron Roggow
Lay Reader: Adam Cieply
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Choir: Adult Choir
Family Worship Team: Tim & Barbara Adler
Hospitality: Nancy Niemela
Elder: Jerry Novak

The Power of the Cross: Keith Getty | Stuart Townend, CCLI Song #4490766, © 2005 Thankyou Music Ltd
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Our Offerings and Gifts

Looking for different options to financially support the ministry of St. Paul through your regular offerings or one-time gifts?



Download the **Church Center** app from the Google Play or Apple App stores and navigate to "Give"



or Scan the **QR Code** to give immediately through Church Center

or Visit: <https://st-paul-lutheran-church-ann-arbor.churchcenter.com/giving>

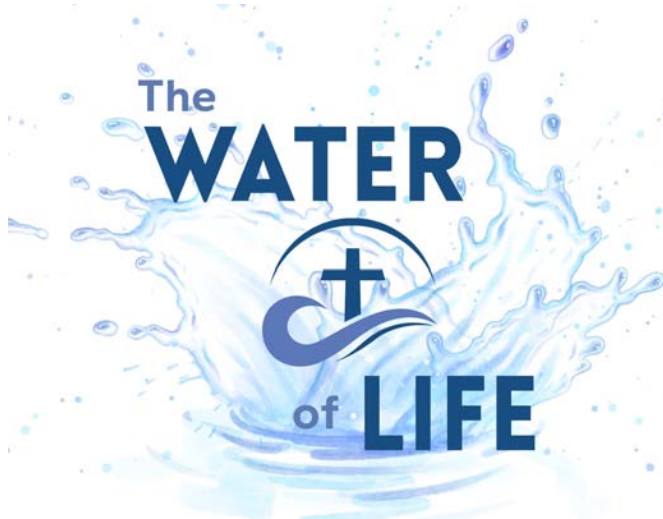


or Mail checks to: **St. Paul Lutheran Church**
420 W Liberty St
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



For more giving information, go to: <https://www.stpaulannarbor.org/give/>

2025-2026 SPAA Attendance and Offering						
Month	Attendance	Offering	Budget	Bud. Var.	Prior Year	PY Var.
July	278	\$ 85,561	\$ 103,200	\$ (17,639)	\$ 95,048	\$ (9,487)
August	292	\$ 92,582	\$ 129,100	\$ (36,518)	\$ 87,623	\$ 4,960
September	364	\$ 108,717	\$ 106,200	\$ 2,517	\$ 98,203	\$ 10,514
October	347	\$ 112,763	\$ 106,200	\$ 6,563	\$ 140,243	\$ (27,480)
November	311	\$ 135,822	\$ 132,800	\$ 3,022	\$ 106,819	\$ 29,004
December	291	\$ 163,097	\$ 123,200	\$ 39,897	\$ 157,855	\$ 5,242
January	306	\$ 91,986	\$ 106,200	\$ (14,214)	\$ 107,378	\$ (15,392)
February	-	\$ -	\$ 107,400	\$ -	\$ 87,936	\$ -
March	-	\$ -	\$ 135,200	\$ -	\$ 118,139	\$ -
April	-	\$ -	\$ 114,900	\$ -	\$ 95,801	\$ -
May	-	\$ -	\$ 132,800	\$ -	\$ 112,259	\$ -
June	-	\$ -	\$ 104,800	\$ -	\$ 122,082	\$ -
YTD	314	\$ 790,528	\$ 1,402,000	\$ (16,372)	\$ 1,329,384	\$ (2,639)



Lent ☒ Holy Week ☒ Easter Service Schedule

Midweek Lent 3 Wednesday, March 11 (12:10pm & 6:30pm— Downtown)

Midweek Lent 4 Wednesday, March 18 (12:10pm & 6:30pm— Downtown)

Midweek Lent 5 Wednesday, March 25 (12:10pm & 6:30pm— Downtown)

Palm Sunday[†] Sunday, March 29 (8:30am— Downtown)
(10:45am— School)

Maundy Thursday[†] Thursday, April 2 (6:30pm— Downtown)

Good Friday Worship Friday, April 3 (12:30pm— Downtown)

Good Friday Tenebrae Friday, April 3 (6:30pm— Downtown)

Vigil of Easter[†] Saturday, April 4 (6:30pm— Downtown)

Easter Sunrise Service[†] Sunday, April 5 (7:00am— Downtown)

Easter Festival Service[†] Sunday, April 5 (9:00am— Downtown)

Easter Festival Service[†] Sunday, April 5 (11:00am— School)

[†]Holy Communion offered



News & Upcoming Events

Don't miss out! Sign up for our e-News at: www.stpaulannarbor.org/news-and-events

Principal Call Extended to Emily Johnson

On Sunday, March 1, the congregation of St Paul Lutheran Church voted unanimously to extend a call to Miss Emily Johnson for the role of principal of our school. Miss Johnson is currently principal at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Fort Wayne, IN, and has been a Lutheran educator since 2008 when she graduated from CUAA with a BA in physical education. Please keep her in your prayers as she discerns God's will regarding our call.



"Night at the Derby" – SPS Auction tickets on sale now!

We invite you to join us on April 18 for St. Paul School's 2026 auction, "Night at the Derby"! We will be fundraising for sunshades on the new playground, basketball hoops, and will be contributing a minimum of 10% of proceeds to the Scholarship Endowment Fund. Derby attire is encouraged but not required. Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets!



Pathway (New Member) Class Starts March 8th!

The best way to learn more about St. Paul Lutheran Church & School is to take part in our Pathway class. Pathway is a 9-week class that meets on Sunday evenings with the pastors and other church leaders. We will talk about what faith in Jesus looks like, return to some foundational basics of God's Word, and introduce you to what St. Paul is all about. There is no pressure to become a member after taking the class, but the class is a perfect way to learn more about St. Paul, meet other people, and dive into God's Word. Scan the QR code for more info and to sign up!



Easter Festival – March 21st, 10am-12pm (School Campus)

St. Paul Church & School is excited to host our very first Easter Festival, and we would love for you to join us! This free, community-wide event is designed for families to gather, celebrate, and enjoy a joyful morning together. Scan the QR code for more info on this family fun event and PLEASE invite others!

Bach Vespers, March 22nd – 4pm Downtown Campus

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Ann Arbor continues its new Bach Vespers series, presenting the beloved music of Johann Sebastian Bach in its original context—the beautiful Vespers liturgy. This presentation will highlight the breadth of Bach's repertoire featuring multi-generational musicians and a wide variety of different instruments and vocal combinations. Led by artistic director, Dr. John Boonenberg.



Hope Clinic Lunch Packing – Wednesday, March 25th – Donations needed!

Help us pack sack lunches for Hope Clinic before church on Wednesday, March 25 @ 5:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall Downtown! Pizza dinner and Lenten worship service to follow. **Tables will be set up at both locations starting March 1st with information about specific items needed.** Donations can be dropped off before and after church through March 22nd. Then plan to join us March 25th and help us pack the lunches!