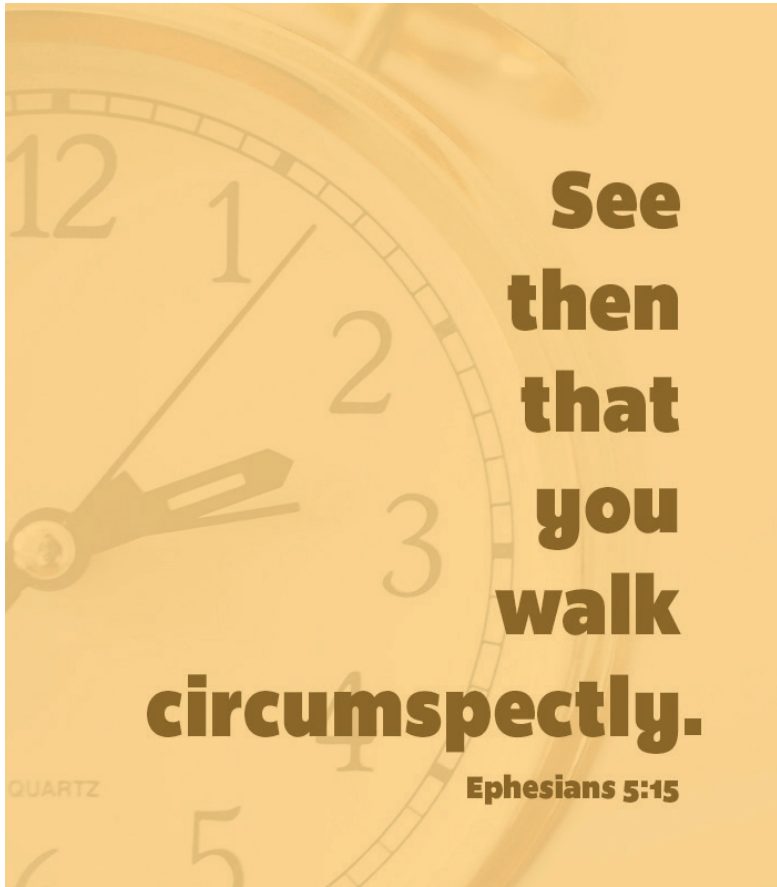




Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC
Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Reese Goodman • Crucifer: German Jaramillo
Lector: Sharon McBride
Communion Assistants: Stan McConnell,
Wayne Taylor, Bethany Whisnant

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “My Heart is Longing”

Johannes Brahms

The Ten Commandments *Please stand.*

The Lord is God, our God, and has brought us out of bondage to sin and death, commanding us to observe our conduct before him and our neighbor.

¹**You shall have no other gods before me.**

²**You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

³**Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

⁴**Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵**You shall not kill.**

⁶**You shall not commit adultery.**

⁷**You shall not steal.**

⁸**You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

⁹**You shall not covet
your neighbor’s house.**

¹⁰**You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor’s.**

Confession and Absolution

Hymn: “Be Thou My Vision”

Greeting and Kyrie Eleison

74

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

And also with you.



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75



Leader:

Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:

And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,

we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,

O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,

Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy
on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

77

Leader: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And with your spirit.

Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds deserve to be punished, may mercifully be acquitted by your grace through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated.

A - men.

First Lesson: 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. The word of the Lord.

Psalm 142

¹I cry to the LORD | with my voice;
to the LORD I make loud | supplication.

²**I pour out my com- | plaint before him
and tell him | all my trouble.**

³When my spirit languishes within me, you | know my path;
in the way wherein I walk they have hidden a | trap for me.

⁴**I look to my right hand and find no | one who knows me;
I have no place to flee to, and no one | cares for me.**

⁵I cry out to | you, O LORD;
I say, “You are my refuge, my portion in the
land | of the living.”

⁶**Listen to my cry for help, for I have been brought | very low;
save me from those who pursue me, for they
are too | strong for me.**

⁷Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks | to your name;
when you have dealt bountifully with me, the righteous will
gath- | er around me.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸... For 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.”

The word of the Lord.

Offering

Anthem: “O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus” Sarah Fesperman

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

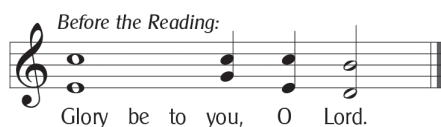
78



Christ has hum - bled him - self, and be - come o - be - dient
un - to death: even the death of the Cross.

The Gospel is written in the ninth chapter of John.

Before the Reading:



Glory be to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 9:1–41

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 spit 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

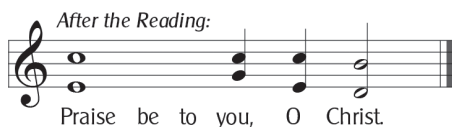
second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

The Baptism of Rachel Marie Ziegler

95

A hymnal in honor of Rachel's baptism was placed in the sanctuary this morning.

*Jesus said,
"Let the little children come to me
and do not hinder them,
for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."*

Matthew 19:14

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Bathing in Light"

Hymn: "Shout to the Lord"

24

Prayers of the Church

Following each prayer:
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Exhortation

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

The musical notation is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It is divided into two parts: "Leader" and "Congregation". The "Leader" part consists of a melodic line with notes for "The Lord be with you." The "Congregation" part consists of a harmonic line with notes for "And with your spir - it".

Leader Congregation

The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it

Leader



Lift up your hearts.

Congregation

We lift them to the Lord.

Leader



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation



It is right to give him thanks and prais.e.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the



The Lord's Prayer

90

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹**hallowed be thy name,**

²**thy kingdom come,**

³**thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴**Give us this day our daily bread;**

⁵**and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶**and lead us not into temptation,**

⁷**but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: Take, and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Agnus Dei

91

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin
of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world,
grant us peace. A - - - - - men.

Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood
strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.

Nunc Dimittis

92

Lord, now let your servant de- | part in | peace,
ac- | cording to | your | word.

For my eyes have | seen your sal- | vation,
which you have prepared before the | face of | all | people:
A light to | lighten the | Gentiles
and the | glory of your | people | Israel.

Glory | be to the | Father,
 and to the | Son, and to the | Holy | Spirit,
 As it | was in the be- | ginning,
 is now, and ever shall be, | world without | end. | A- | men

Thanksgiving

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite
 the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Benedicamus

93

Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" A. Whitworth

*We remain seated, worshiping silently during the postlude,
 standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross,
 now at the rear of the sanctuary.*

Benediction

93

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face to shine upon you
 and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Congregation:

A - men.

*The flower arrangement on the rail is given by
Tony and Jeanne Shaver in honor of
Rachel Ziegler's Baptism today.*

First Communion Class—Classes will be held today, March 26, and April 2. Class will meet in the pastor's office right after worship service. Any parent who would like their child to have their first Communion on Easter Sunday should call the church office and bring their child to *all three classes*.

Special prayers for members of St. Paul's:

- Glen Amos – Upcoming surgery
- Wilbur Canup – Recovering from surgery
- Helen Gordon – Upcoming surgery
- Linda Lyerly – Recovering from surgery
- Stan McConnell – Health concerns
- Nancy Menius – Recovering from surgery
- George Reese – Health concerns; upcoming surgery
- Linda Shirley – Health concerns
- Barbara Upright – Upcoming surgery

Please see the monthly Epistle for a complete list of prayer needs for members, homebound, family, and friends.

An order form for Sun Impatiens for Easter Sunday is on the last page of the bulletin. You may also donate to the Youth Fund in lieu of flowers. The deadline for ordering is next Sunday, March 26th. Please get your orders in as soon as possible.

St. Paul's Friendship Club will meet at 10:30am on Tuesday, March 21, in the fellowship hall. Mr. Virgil Dial, "The Cross Man," will present a program on how he carves crosses. Guests will be twenty-one members from the Grace Lutheran Church senior group. A covered dish meal will be served after the program. Please be generous with the size of your dish. We hope to see you on Tuesday.

Sunday, March 19

- Baptism of Rachel Ziegler
- First Communion class (1st of 3), pastor's office after worship
- Worship and Music Committee, conference room, 2pm
- Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- Handbell practice, 4pm
- Vespers at the parsonage—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed to our Facebook page.

Monday, March 20

- Newsletter articles are due
- Faith Academy after school program, 1-3pm
- Council meeting, 6:30pm

Tuesday, March 21

- Friendship Club, 10:30am, Virgil Dial, "The Cross Man"
- Staff meeting, 5pm
- Adult Confirmation class, 6pm
- Girl Scouts, 7pm

Wednesday, March 22

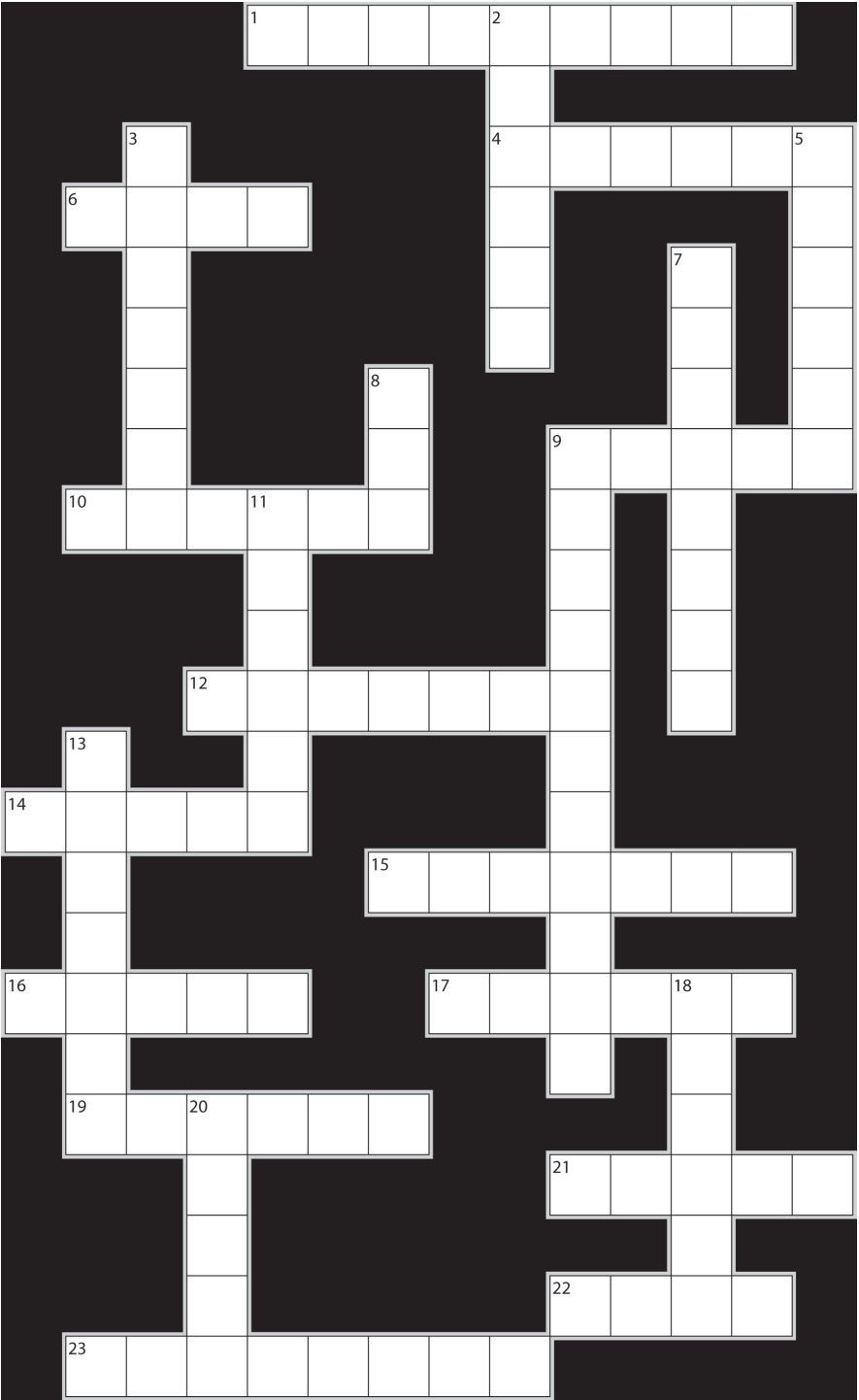
- Lenten Supper, 6pm
- Lenten Service, 7pm
- Choir practice will follow the worship service during Lent
- No Youth Confirmation during Lent

Thursday, March 23

- Bible Study, 10am and 6pm

Sunday, March 26

- First Communion class (2nd of 3), pastor's office after worship
- Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- Handbell practice, 4pm
- Vespers at the parsonage—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed to our Facebook page.



Lent 4A

*Find the answers in today's four Scripture lessons.
Using an ESV Bible will help.*

ACROSS

1. They asked if they were blind.
4. God was this for David.
6. Arise from this.
9. For a long time, the Lord has held his...
10. David wished freedom from here.
12. David told God his...
14. Walk as children of this.
15. David regarded the Lord alone as this share or...
16. David pleaded for this.
17. He will shine on you.
19. The blind man washed there.
21. God will lead them.
22. Who should hear?
23. God will turn this into light.

DOWN

2. Think: Who is the blind, dedicated servant?
3. Who sinned: the man or his parents?
5. Do this with works of darkness.
7. Discern these things.
8. Do you believe in this son?
9. David wanted delivered from them.
11. It is shameful to speak of things done there.
13. The Jews mistakenly thought God does not listen to these people.
18. Jesus made mud with this and dirt.
20. The Lord will cry out like a woman in...

Unscramble the verse:

Od uoy also tnaw ot comeeb ish ciildpsse?

It's Raffle Time Again—The raffles for the Cruise 'n Barbecue were a great success last year with 29 baskets. We hope to continue this year with the congregation's help. Our women circle groups have been asked to donate a basket again this year. In past years, some families have gotten together to donate a basket as well.

If you would like to donate a basket or some items to be included in a basket (gift cards are always a hit), please contact Terri Powlas (tbpowlas@gmail.com, 704-637-6849) or Susan Bernhardt (srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com, 704-637-0155).

The Cruise 'n Barbecue is April 29th. Baskets need to be at the church fellowship hall by Thursday, April 27th. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 30 tickets for \$20.00. Let's generate a lot of interest in buying those tickets for our Helping Hands Fund.

Vacation Bible School June 23-25, 2023—This year's theme is *water*—think Noah and the ark, Jonah and the whale, baptism, sprinklers, water slides, etc. Age groups are pre-school through middle school. More details to come as plans are made. Mark your calendars. Your kids will have a great time at VBS 2023.

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (3/12).....	\$11,742
Other Offering (3/12)	\$2,515
Children's Mission Offering so far	\$1,470
Sunday School Attendance (3/12)	72
Worship Attendance (3/12)	155
General Fund YTD Receipts as of (3/12).....	\$87,981
General Fund YTD Budget as of (3/12).....	\$99,425

Sun Impatiens for Easter Sunday

Orders for Sun Impatiens will be accepted **through March 26th.**

The cost is \$12 per plant. These will be placed around the altar for our Easter worship service on April 9th. Please return the completed form with your payment no later than March 26th.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given By: _____

Total number of Impatiens _____ Total purchase \$ _____

(please do not tear this form)

In lieu of flowers—If you wish to honor or remember a loved one without purchasing a flower, please complete the information below and return the form with your donation of any amount. Funds in lieu of flowers will go to St. Paul's Youth for providing, preparing, and serving our Easter breakfast.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Total given in lieu of a flower: \$ _____

Make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Orders may be placed in the offering plate, turned in to the church office, (send it early if you mail.)

You may take your flowers with you after the 10:30am
Easter worship service on April 9.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, Pastor
pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
splchurch@att.net

John Brock, Music Director
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Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

Perry Bernhardt, Council President
perryhbernhardt@gmail.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Next Sunday's Lessons: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-53

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