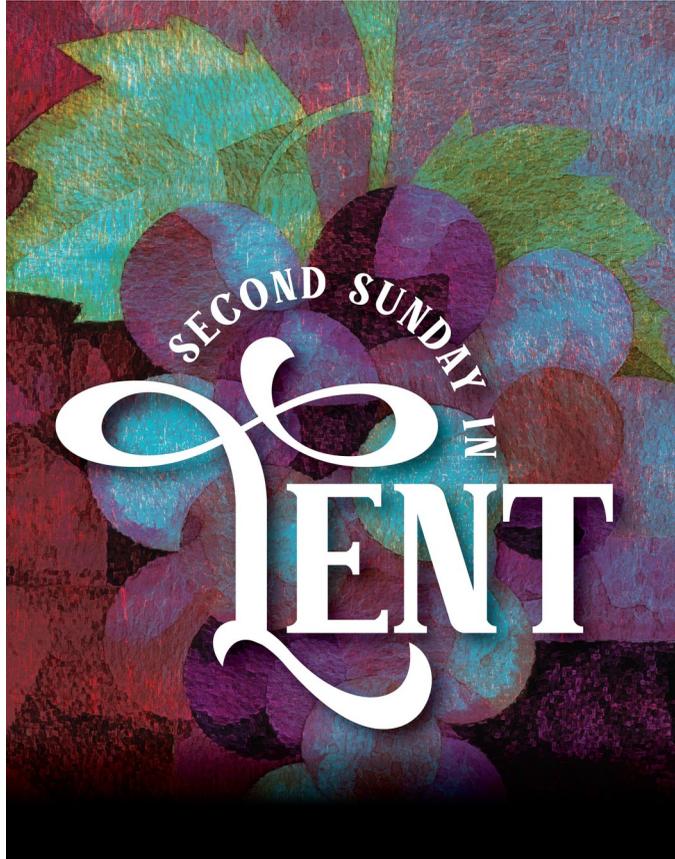


2ND SUNDAY IN LENT ~ MARCH 1, 2026



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”

Office..... (660) 668 - 3537
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YouTube.....www.youtube.com/stpaulscolecamp



If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

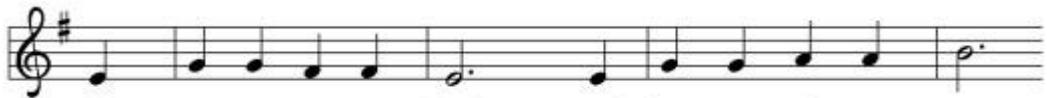
#660

Greeting

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.**

Kyrie

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1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹ The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**
³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**
⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.
⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**



That which is born of
the flesh is flesh, and
that which is born of
the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:6, ESV

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Special Music

"John 3:16"

Kid's Choir

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

"We are Turning"

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We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -

slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“God Loved the World”

#323

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering



please stand in body or spirit

Offertory

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

#188

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do
not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

Communion Hymns

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”	#334 vs. 1-3
“All Who Believe and Are Baptized”	#442
“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”	#759

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray..... God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal
that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the
journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become
Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into
existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose
breath sustains creation, ✝ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn	“How Firm a Foundation”	#796
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

“DRAW NEAR TO GOD”



Welcome: Welcome to the Second Sunday of Lent! As we journey deeper into this holy season, we gather to reflect, repent, and renew our hearts, focusing on the light of Christ's Transfiguration and his call to follow him. May this time of worship bring you closer to God's grace and mercy.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Kevin Tatum, Dennis & Claudia Moellman, Gene Beckman, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Ron Eickhoff, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Harold Brown, Junior Garr, Heidi Hopp (grandmother of Nicole Rice), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Debra Eichler, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eickhoff, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home & Homebound: Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash and Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *Anew*. Florence VonHolten & Arlene Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *Windsor Nursing Home*. Eugene Beckman: *Homebound*.

In the arms of our Lord: Please keep the families and friends of Roger Donnell, Vaneeta Rehmer and Mary Gates (aunt of Victoria Fox), who are now in the arms of our heavenly Father, in your prayers.



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



Lenten Supper

"Simple Soup Supper" for Wednesday, **March 4th at 6:00 p.m.** On the menu is potato soup, chicken noodle soup and pimento cheese sandwiches!! See you there...

Esther Circle: The next Esther Circle will be held on **March 16, 2026** at 7:00 PM at Janice Gerken's home.

Esther Circle



Family Swim Party: Join us Sunday, **March 22nd from 3-6 pm** at the Heckart Rec Center in Sedalia for an indoor pool party. We invite families of kids in both Luther League and Junior Lutherans to join us for the fun! Please sign up at church if you plan to attend.

Council Meeting: The Church Council will meet on **March 11 at 5:30 pm** in the Meeting Room.



Worship and Music Committee: The Worship and Music Committee will meet on **March 18 at 3:30 pm** in the Meeting Room

~ * ~ Community Events ~ * ~

St. Paul's Lutheran School Spaghetti Dinner & Auction: Join us for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on **Friday, April 24 at 6:00 PM** (*note the new day and time this year!*) Enjoy a delicious meal, bid on a variety of auction items, and support St. Paul's Lutheran School. A portion of proceeds will benefit the school's Hot Lunch Program. The address is St. Paul's Lutheran School, 701 S. Massachusetts Ave, Sedalia, MO All are welcome for a fun evening of food, fellowship, and giving!



Spring Concert: The State Fair Community Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble will perform their spring concert on **Tuesday, COMMUNITY March 10**, in the Stauffacher Theater on campus. The concert begins at 7:00 pm with the Jazz Ensemble, followed by the Concert Band. There are a few Cole Camp folks in the band so come and hear a great night of music!



SCHEDULE FOR LENT

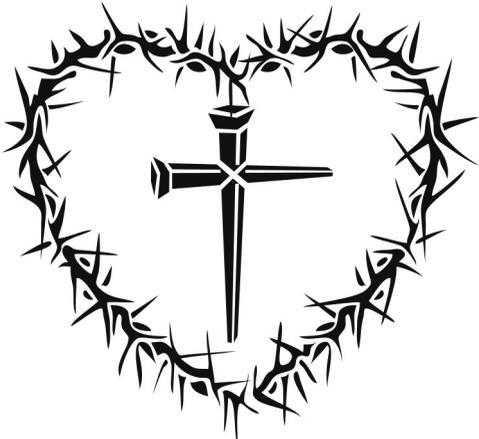
MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

1st week of Lent	February 25
2nd week of Lent	March 4
3rd week of Lent	March 11
4th week of Lent	March 18
5th week of Lent	March 25

All services will begin at 7:00pm

Midweek Worship Services: Throughout this season, we will gather on the five Wednesdays of Lent for midweek worship, weekly at 7:00 pm. This is a casual worship service that is held in the Fellowship Hall. Grounded by songs, scripture, and prayer we will be invited more deeply into the Lenten season. We hope that you'll take some time during this special season to join us.

This year's Lent midweek worship services will explore Jesus' Seven Last Words. These are the collections of phrases Jesus spoke in his final hours on the cross before his death. While these words are filled with the pain of Jesus' suffering, they can also bring great hope to our ears today.

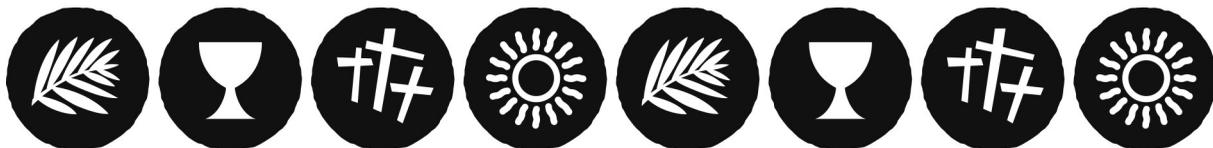


LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance will host a Lenten breakfast here at St. Paul's Church each Wednesday morning beginning at **8:30am**. **Please note the time change for this year!** Everyone is invited to attend each week. The following churches will host each week, offering food and a leader for devotions:

March 4.....First Baptist and Ionia United Methodist
March 11th.....Mt. Hulda and Trinity Lutheran
March 18th.....Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic and Grace Fellowship
March 25th.....St. Paul's Lutheran and Brauersville Lutheran

If Cole Camp schools are closed due to weather, the breakfast will also be cancelled that day.



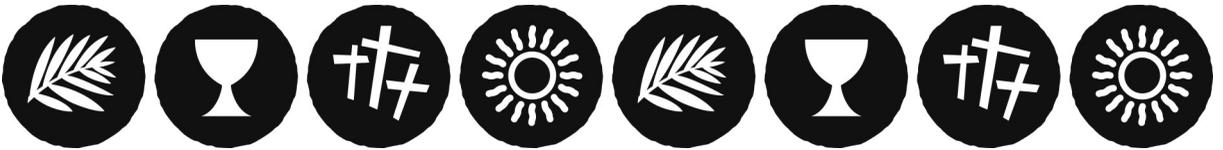
LENTEN "SIMPLE SUPPER"

Lenten "simple supper", as in past years, will be served prior to each Lenten service beginning on Wednesday, February 25 through Wednesday, March 25. Serving will begin at 6:00 p.m. Two choices of soups/chili will be served each along with sandwiches or hot dogs for your "simple supper". You will find on the offering insert an **opportunity for helpers** to set up/serve each week, along with **volunteers** to prepare soups/chili. The power of **YES!**

AFTER LENTEN SERVICE

There will be the traditional fellowship time (cookies, coffee and hot chocolate) following each Lenten Service beginning on **February 25th**. To ensure that there are enough cookies each week, each family is asked to provide cookies according to the following schedule (based on the first letter of your last name). Additionally, please note the organizations asked to serve after each of the five Lenten Services.

March 4.....F-H.....Evangelism Committee Serving
March 11.....I-P.....Congregational Council Serving
March 18.....R-T.....Esther Circle Serving
March 25.....V-Z.....St. Paul's Youth Serving



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Saturday.....March 28 at 5:30 pm.....Procession of Palms
Palm Sunday.....March 29 at 10:00 amProcession of Palms
Maundy Thursday.....April 2 at 7:00 pm.....Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday.....April 3 at 7:00 pm.....Service of Darkness
Easter Saturday.....April 4 at 5:30 pm.....Easter Vigil
Easter Sunrise.....April 5 at 7:00 am.....Breakfast to follow
Easter Sunday.....April 5 at 10:00 am.....Holy Communion

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, March 1:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar
Monday, March 2:	6:30 pm	Yoga
Wednesday, March 4:	8:30 am	Lenten Breakfast
	6:00 pm	Simple Supper
	7:00 pm	Lenten Service
	7:45 pm	Evangelism Committee
Thursday, March 5:	8:00 am	BCHD
Saturday, March 7:	5:30 pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, March 8:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by stations



~ * ~ **Coming Events** ~ * ~

March 4.....	Evangelism Committee
March 11.....	Council Meeting
March 18.....	Worship & Music Committee
March 22.....	Family Swim Party
March 25.....	Sunbeam Committee

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers..... The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister..... Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist.....Sandy Schlesselman
Pianist.....Jeannette VonHolten
AV TechniciansRuss Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild.....Glenalee Dillon and Suzanne Schlesselman
Ushers.....Melinda Strathman - Head Usher
... Mark Oelrichs, Chad Schlesselman, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett



2nd Sunday in Lent ~ March 1, 2026

Assisting MinisterDarin Oelrichs
Communion Assistants.....At the Altar
Reader Norma Schlesselman
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes Tristan Fox and Miranda Gerken
Flowers Tammie Heimsoth



3rd Sunday in Lent ~ March 8, 2026

Assisting MinisterAnne Goosen
Communion Assistants..... At The Altar
ReaderLogan Jackson
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
AcolytesFred Goosen and Lexi Goyette
FlowersSandy Schlesselman