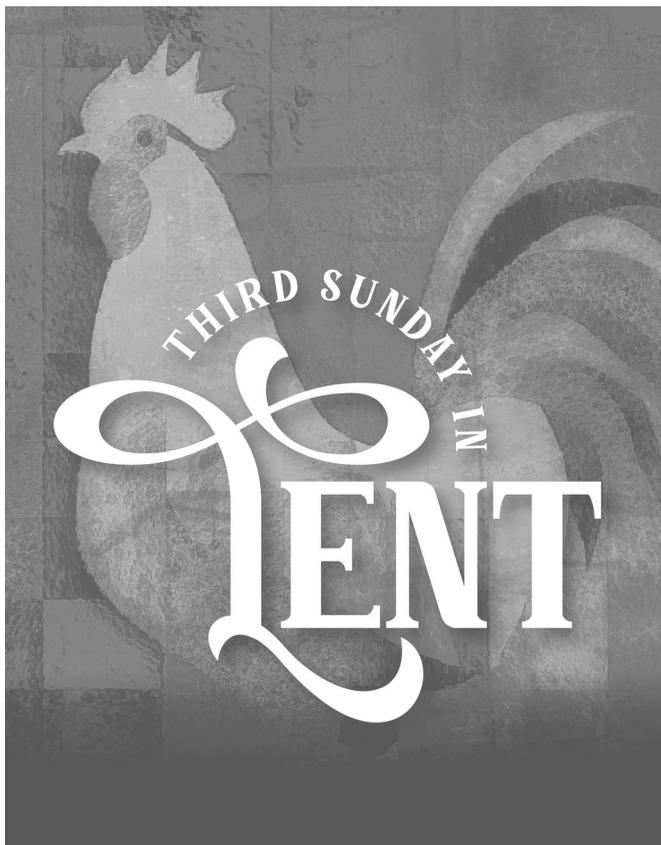


3RD SUNDAY IN LENT ~ MARCH 8, 2026



**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.”

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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

"Glorious Things of You are Spoken"
(to the tune of "Austria")

#647

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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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through 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

Exodus 17: 1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The LORD said to

Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 95

¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

² **Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³ For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand. Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

⁸ **“Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’**

¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’ ”

Second Reading

Romans 5: 1-11

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller

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.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him."²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all

things to us.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” ²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

#777 vs 1-3

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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

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.

Communion Hymns

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

#777 vs 4-6

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

#611

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

#623

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

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

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

#807

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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"DRAW NEAR TO GOD"



Welcome: "Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church! We are glad you have chosen to join us for worship on this third Sunday of Lent. May this be a day of blessing for you and your loved ones".

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.



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 Eckhoff, 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*.

With Sympathy: We also pray for those families who have lost loved ones; family and friends of Harold Brown (father of Donnie Brown).



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.



"Simple Soup Supper" for Wednesday, **March 11 at 6:00pm**. On the menu is cheeseburger soup, chili and chicken salad sandwiches!! See you there...

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



Esther Circle



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

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



Family Swim Party: Join us Sunday, **March 22 from 3:00-6:00pm** 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.

Sunbeam: The Sunbeam Committee will meet on **March 25 at 3:00pm** in the Gathering Space.



Memory Garden: Easter Lilies will be ordered for our sanctuary for the Easter Services. These plants may be given in memory or honor of a loved one or to the Glory of God. The cost is \$12.00 each. If you would like to donate one or more, please fill out a insert you will find on the ushers stands. The deadline for ordering is **March 29**.



Save the Date: There will be a retirement celebration for Lois Viebrock on **Sunday, April 26** after worship service. Please join us to show your appreciation for all the years of Lois's service to our Lord and our congregation!



Elevette Update: At the annual meeting we heard an update about the elevette in the Sanctuary. It has aged beyond its useful life and needs to be replaced if we want to continue to use it. We've received a significant pledge towards replacement cost (which also includes some construction work so that a new unit can fit) but would like to see if anyone else would be willing and able to pledge towards this project. Please speak with Pastor Stephen or Jake Jackson if you are interested. Thank you!

~ * ~ **Community Events** ~ * ~

Spring Concert: The State Fair Community Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble will perform their spring concert on **Tuesday, March 10**, in the Stauffacher Theater on campus. The concert begins at **7:00pm** 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!



Soup/Chili Luncheon and Silent Auction: The Antique Tractor Association will host a soup/chili luncheon and silent auction at the American Legion, 201 N. Maple St., Cole Camp, MO, on **March 15** from **11:00 am - 1:00 pm**. Free will donations are appreciated.

St. Paul's Lutheran School Spaghetti Dinner & Auction: Join us for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on **Friday, April 24 at 6:00pm** (*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!



SCHEDULE FOR LENT

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

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 the 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 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.*

AFTER LENTEN SERVICE

There will be the traditional fellowship time (cookies, coffee and hot chocolate) following each Lenten Service. 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 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 am Procession 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 SaturdayApril 4 at 5:30 pm Easter Vigil
Easter SunriseApril 5 at 7:00 am.....Breakfast to follow
Easter SundayApril 5 at 10:00 amHoly Communion

In addition to our regular Holy week worship schedule, we hope that the following activities will add to your Lenten journey:

Holy Week Virtual Devotions: Join Pastor Stephen at **noon each day** (Monday - Saturday) during Holy Week on Facebook Live for a short reflection.

Holy Week Children's Event: Join Pastor Kim on **Wednesday, April 1**, at **6:30pm** for a special Holy Week activity. This will be geared toward children and their families. A light supper will be served starting at 6:30, so an RSVP would be appreciated.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, March 8:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, March 9:	6:30 pm	Yoga
Wednesday, March 11:	8:30 am	Lenten Breakfast
	5:30 pm	Council Meeting
	6:00 pm	Simple Supper
	7:00 pm	Lenten Service
Thursday, March 12:	8:00 am	BCHD
Saturday, March 14:	5:30 pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, March 15:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by stations



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

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 and Todd Rusk
Altar Guild..... Glenalee Dillon and Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers.....Melinda Strathman - Head Usher
..... Mark Oelrichs, Chad Schlesselman, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett



3rd Sunday in Lent ~ March 8, 2026

Assisting Minister Anne Goosen
Communion Assistants..... Ruth Ann Kreisel and Sharel Wienberg
ReaderLogan Jackson
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
AcolytesFred Goosen and Lexi Goyette
Flowers.....Sandy Schlesselman



4th Sunday in Lent ~ March 15, 2026

Assisting Minister Melisa Balke
Communion Assistants..... Luther League
ReaderAdrienn Dieckman
Children's Sermon..... Paul Fuelling
Acolytes Lauren Jackson and Hudson Kullman
Flowers.....Joyce Webb