

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT ✕ FEBRUARY 18, 2018

## SILENCE FOR MEDITATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✕ son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours.  
Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your  
forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination*

Merciful God,  
**forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break  
free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.**

*Silence*

**We were silent when we should have said something.**

*Silence*

**We acted when we knew better.**

*Silence*

**We were still when we should have moved.**

*Silence*

**For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do,  
have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

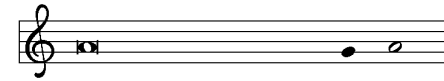
People of God, look to the ✕ Son, given to heal you and set you free  
because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal  
life! **Amen.**

### HYMN #326 "BLESS NOW, O GOD, THE JOURNEY"

#### GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### KYRIE ELEISON



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



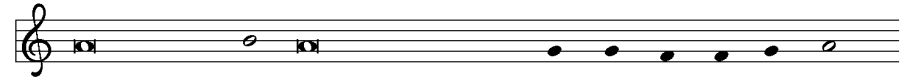
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The LORD be with you.

**And also with you.**

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING:

GENESIS 9:8-17

## PSALM 25:1-10

*Sung responsively*

*Psalm Tone #10*



<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love  
and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

## SECOND READING:

1 PETER 3:18-22

## VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

## HOLY GOSPEL:

ST. MARK 1:9-15

The Gospel of the LORD.



Praise to you, O Christ.

## THE SERMON

HYMN # 624

*"JESUS, STILL LEAD ON"*

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of  
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became  
incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with  
the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is  
seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.  
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
 He has spoken through the prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
 We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen

**PRAYERS**

Response: "hear our prayer."

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

**OFFERING — "AMAZING GRACE! (HOW SWEET THE SOUND)"  
 MATTHEW MCCONNELL**

*Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...Merciful God,  
 receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our LORD.  
 Amen.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains two phrases: "The Lord be with you." and "And also with you". The second staff contains two phrases: "Lift up your hearts." and "We lift them to the Lord." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the phrase "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The second staff contains the phrase "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, 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 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

## LAMB OF GOD



☒ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## HOLY COMMUNION - #325 "I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME"

### BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### PRAYER

Let us pray...Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our LORD. **Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☒ peace. **Amen.**

## HYMN #618 "GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER"

### DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the LORD.

**Thanks be to God.**

☒ ☒ ☒

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**WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!** We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. "God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond." – Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

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### THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR: FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

### ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

**Genesis 9:8-17:** Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story.

Because of human sin, the Lord destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures. **1**

**Peter 3:18-22:** As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

**Mark 1:9-15:** The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

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**BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering:** Anthony Abate, Maggie Fried, Doris Heiserman, Marie Miller, Shannon Silliman, Ron Stoudt

*Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of persons for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.*

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### LEADING OUR WORSHIP

**CELEBRANT**

The Rev. James Hammond

**ORGANIST**

Dr. Jennifer Dodd

**GREETER**

Warren & Lois Adams

**ASSISTING MINISTER**

Amy Ortwein

**LECTOR**

Amy Ortwein

**CANTOR**

Ron Fried

**USHERS**

Anne Nichols, Diane Wirth

**CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD**

**TODAY:** 9 AM Choir Rehearsal at Blue Church.  
9:30 – 10:15 AM Christian Education.  
10:30 AM Worship.  
**7 PM Catechism at Blue Church**

**WED.:** 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.

**NEXT SUN.:** 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.  
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM Christian Education at Blue Church.  
10:30 AM Worship/2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent.

*COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!*

**MARCH 11 – Daylight Savings Time begins. Turn your clocks ahead one hour.**

**MARCH 12 – 7 PM Church Council Meeting.**

**MARCH 25 – Palm Sunday – 10:30 AM Worship.**

**MARCH 29 – 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship.**

**MARCH 30 – 7 PM Good Friday Worship.**

**APRIL 1 – EASTER SUNDAY**

9 AM Breakfast - 10 AM Egg Hunt

10:30 AM Worship

**APR.7, 2018 – 9 AM – Work Party in the church.**

**Please plan to join us.**

**WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:**

**BULLETINS...**by Mike & Paula Clark.

**COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...**by Mike & Paula Clark

**THE CHARTS TO SPONSOR THE ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS, SANCTUARY LAMP AND THE WINE & COMMUNION BREAD FOR 2018 ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE NARTHEX.**

Simply fill in the date on the appropriate chart that you would like to sponsor (in memory of/in honor of, etc.) and an envelope will be sent to you prior to that week for your payment. Altar Flowers - \$25.00; Bulletins - \$15.00; Sanctuary Lamp -\$4.00; Monthly Communion Wine & Bread - \$20.00.

**PRAYERS FOR THE LENTEN SEASON**

This year we will attempt to share our faith journey together. A prayer will be listed in the bulletin each Sunday and on the Web Page. Once during the week you are to say the prayer at 4:00 PM and take a picture of where you are and send it to [bluechch@ptd.net](mailto:bluechch@ptd.net). During Sunday Service at prayer time, we will share the prayer again with the photos of the community's different settings.

**WEEK 1 – Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

**THE COAT DRIVE IS UNDER WAY.** Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them for the winter season. Coats can be dropped in the bin in the narthex.

**DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR COMMITMENT CARD AND TIME AND TALENT SHEET BACK TO CHURCH.** You can mail it or simply drop it in the offering plate. Even if you are using Simply Giving, please fill out a card so your commitment can be included in the total amount.

**ELIGIBLE THRIVENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE CHOICE DOLLARS AVAILABLE** have until **March 31, 2018**, to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Help support Blue Church. Last year Blue Church received **\$2,061** in charitable outreach funding from Thrivent. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more, or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

**BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

	<u>JAN.</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	\$ 5,821.00	\$ 5,21.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	\$18,745.85	\$18,745.85
<b>(DEFICIT)</b>	(\$12,924.85)	(\$12,924.85)

**ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES**

	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND</b>		<b>\$2,001.83</b>