



The promise
guaranteed to
the one who shares
the faith of Abraham

Romans 4:16

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (NALC)

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

Prelude

Gathering Hymn

“O God of Mercy”

G Hymn #425

Announcement

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- *Stand as you are able

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad to have you worship with us today.

Our prayers include those in nursing homes and home bound: Mary Ann McCallister, Helen Lyons, Sophie Beck, Servicemen: Andrew Gendron.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by John & Linda Pfeiderer.

If you would like to donate candy or small items such as pencils, erasers, stickers etc. for the children's Easter treat bag and egg hunt, there will be baskets on each coat rack. Thank you..

God Squad will be having Luther Uncorked at Pete's in New Washington March 5 beginning at 6 PM. Joins us for dinner, fellowship and conversation.

Cemetery Clean up will be March 28. Please remove anything you want saved before that date, also do not put any new items on until after the March 28.

God Squad will be frosting cookies with the residents of Carlisle on March 15, at 2 PM. All are invited to help and visit with the residents.

If anyone wants for reimbursed for providing food for the Lenten Meals, see Susie Sutherland.

Giving for The Lord's Ministry February 22, 2026

Benevolence	235.00
Current	4,289.00
Feed Crawford County	180.00
Filling Home	50.00
God Squad	40.00
Lutheran Home of Mercy	20.00
Missionary	150.00
NALC Seminary	95.00
Orphans and Old Folks Home	20.00
Special Projects	180.00
Women of the Church	50.00
Total	\$5,309.00
Attendance 112	
Ash Wednesday 79 Communion 75	\$992.00

Anyone wanting to donate to the NALC Disaster Response may mark your envelopes accordingly. Donations aid tornado and other natural disaster victims.

Looking to connect with Pastor Andrea? You're always welcome to stop by during office hours: **Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9:00 AM—Noon.** If another time works better for you, feel free to call the church office or reach out directly to Pastor Andrea (614) 256-4318 to set up an appointment. She'd love to hear from you!

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM
Monday	Dartball Home at Windfall UCC 7:30 PM
Wednesday	Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Lenten Meal 6 PM Lenten Worship 7 PM
Thursday	Luther Uncorked Suburban 6 PM
Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM

The St. Paul worship services and sermons are recorded and available to watch on the web page at www.stpaulsulphur.com or on St. Paul Lutheran Church Sulphur Springs, Ohio YouTube. A live feed of the worship service is available downstairs in the high school room.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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Pastor Brodie Taphorn
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Organist Kathy Sheets, Assistant Karen Schimpf
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All Generations Blessed

After the fall into sin, God promised to send His people a rescuer (Genesis 3:15). In the course of time and in keeping with the blessing of God to “be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:28), there were born children and their children’s children. Then came the great flood, and at Babel came the tumultuous confusion of languages and further separation of the people. Yet the promise remained in effect even as the people scattered. It was repeated before Abraham with a special blessing that, through his offspring, “all the nations of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 18:18).

Christ is the promised offspring, the seed of the woman through whom all nations are blessed. “All the promises of God find their Yes in Him. That is why it is through Him that we utter our Amen to God for His glory” (2 Corinthians 1:20). Christ is the fulfillment of the promise announced by the heavenly hosts: “Unto you is born . . . a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11). They proclaimed He was born for all people. And we are blessed to be included.

Praise the Lord! Everything in me, praise His name! Everything that has breath, join Abraham’s offspring in praise! May my soul never forget that Christ is our light! In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

About the Cover: Abraham trusted God’s promises and had faith in Him throughout his life. He followed the Lord into an unknown land, trusted that God would make his offspring great, and even offered up his own son, trusting that God can raise the dead. The source of Abraham’s faith was not in himself but in the Lord’s promises. Although we often falter throughout life, we live lives of faith built solely on the promises of God in Christ Jesus. The God of Abraham is our God. He has counted us as righteous by faith in His Son, Jesus, who sacrificed Himself on the cross for us.





2026 Easter Flower Sale

Easter Lilies \$13.00

Hyacinths ● Tulips ● Daffodils \$12.00

Please give orders to Bev or Amber Robertson or Mark or Doug Ebbeskotte by Sunday, March 8th
Make checks payable to St. Paul Helping Hands

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Flower	Quantity	Price	Total
Lily	_____	@ \$13.00 ea.	_____
Hyacinth	_____	@ \$12.00 ea.	_____
Tulip	_____	@ \$12.00 ea.	_____
Daffodil	_____	@ \$12.00 ea.	_____
Total Amount Enclosed			_____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____



Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

¹Now 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. ²And 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. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Psalm 121

- ¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills;*
from where is my | help to come?
- ²**My help comes | from the LORD,***
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³He will not let your | foot be moved*
and he who watches over you will not | fall asleep.
- ⁴**Behold, he who keeps watch | over Israel***
shall neither slum- | ber nor sleep;
- ⁵The LORD himself watches | over you,*
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand,
- ⁶**So that the sun shall not strike | you by day,***
nor the | moon by night.
- ⁷The LORD shall preserve you | from all evil,*
it is he who shall | keep you safe.
- ⁸**The LORD shall watch over your going out**
and your | coming in,*
from this time forth for- | evermore.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." ¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That

is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring – not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as 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.

Gospel: John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

For Hearing the Word

Almighty God, in your most precious Word you speak to us the words of life. As we seek to serve you day by day, grant us the grace to seek first that which shall not be taken from us, the salvation which you have given us in Jesus Christ. May we stand in confidence at the foot of his cross, listening as you speak to us. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Lent

God of majesty, sustain us through our Lenten journey of renewal, reflection, and repentance. Keep us faithful in our spiritual disciplines so that as we experience your presence you draw us more deeply into the center of your love. Grant us a holy and blessed Lent. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Freedom from Persecution

Spirit of strength, protect us with your love so that we might proclaim your glory to all nations. Be present in those countries that struggle to attain freedom from tyranny and persecution, and safety from violence. Keep us mindful of our connection with our neighbors in every land, and help us to work for justice and dignity for all people. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Healing

Holy and mighty God, around the world your children suffer in mind, body, and spirit. Pour out the healing power of your grace and love. Strengthen and give comfort to all who are in pain, grief, or suffering anxiety. May we be your presence for those who suffer and those who provide care. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

Lessons for Next Week: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95:1-9;
Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-26 [27-30, 39-42]