

**Christ Lutheran Beatrice – 8AM**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Plymouth – 10AM**

*March 19, 2023*  
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

**Welcome!**



**ST. PAUL'S**  
— PLYMOUTH —

[www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org)  
106 East Hwy 4  
Plymouth, NE  
402-656-3003



**CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
— BEATRICE —

[www.christbeatrice.com](http://www.christbeatrice.com)  
223 N 8th St.  
Beatrice, NE  
402-223-4250

# Welcome

**THANK YOU for joining us for worship today!  
We pray that your spiritual life will be nourished through Word and Sacrament.**

- † Offering plates can be found at the entrances. After the sermon, the offering plates will be brought to the altar during the singing of a hymn. This is a reminder that giving offerings for gospel ministry is an act of worship.
- † May the Lord bless the time we spend together around His Word this morning! If you are looking for a church to call home, please contact Pastor Berger ([pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com); call/text 402-239-4509) or Pastor Dauck ([justin.dauck@gmail.com](mailto:justin.dauck@gmail.com); call/text 402-806-9082) or stop by the church office. They would love to serve you with God's Word!
- † If you desire, there is a nursery in the back on the west side of the church, but please know that **your children are ALWAYS welcome** in our service no matter how much noise they make. We're happy to have them hear the Word and join us praising God with their voices!
- † Before you leave, please sign the **guest register**. It is located on the top of the stairs in the church entryway.
- † Please talk to one of the **Elders** (seated in the back of the church) if you have questions about the service or the congregation.
- † **Large print service folders** are available. Please speak to one of the Elders if this would be of assistance to you.
- † **Listening assist devices are available at St. Paul's. Please speak to one of the elders if you would like one for this morning's service.**
- † Our Sunday morning service can be heard on KWBE 1450AM (94.7FM) and viewed live and archived at [www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org). Please share this information with those who are not able to attend.
- † **Prayers before Worship** can be found in *Christian Worship: Hymnal*, pp. 255-258.

## Focus for Worship

### ***Our Greatest Need—“Sight for the Blind”***

We know that unbelief will have consequences in the future—eternal separation from God. But unbelief also has consequences now. It makes you blind, in a sense. The unbeliever is unable to see the world as it really is. That which is harmful the unbeliever considers good; that which is good he considers meaningless. The unbeliever cannot see the danger that lurks behind temptation. He cannot see the blessing contained in God's Word. The unbeliever cannot see the tragic fate that lies ahead, and he certainly cannot see the Savior.

The Old Testament said that restoration of sight to the blind was one of the works of the Messiah. In his ministry, Jesus healed those who were physically blind. But even if our eyes work just fine, we still need Jesus to give us spiritual vision. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” Christ comes to shine his light into our darkened eyes that we might see him and live. Jesus meets our greatest needs. He provides sight for the spiritually blind.

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# The Service, Setting 1

## Christian Worship 21 – page 154

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**St. Paul's School PreK-1** “Oh, How He Loves You and Me” – Kurt Keiser

### Glory Be to Jesus

CW 402



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, who in bit - ter pains  
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal in that blood I find;  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for venge - ance plead - ed to the skies,



poured for me the life - blood from his sa - cred veins.  
blest be his com - pas - sion, in - fi - nite - ly kind.  
which from end - less tor - ment did the world re - deem.  
but the blood of Je - sus for our par - don cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting  
lifts its praise on high,  
angel hosts rejoicing  
make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
swell the mighty flood;  
louder still and louder  
praise the precious blood!

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Italian, c. 18th cent.  
Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## **Absolution**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, 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 worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**A - men.**

## Glory Be to God



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther 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 on-ly 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.

## The Word

### Salutation

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **First Reading**

*Isaiah 42:14–21*

*God promises to lead the blind to safety and turn their darkness to light.*

<sup>14</sup>I have been silent for a long time.  
I have kept still. I have restrained myself.  
But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream.  
I will gasp and pant.  
<sup>15</sup>I will dry up mountains and hills.  
I will make all their grass wither.  
I will turn rivers into islands.  
I will dry up pools.  
<sup>16</sup>I will lead the blind on a way they do not know.  
Along paths they do not know I will direct them.  
Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light  
and rough places into level ground.  
These are the things I will accomplish for them.  
I will not abandon them.  
<sup>17</sup>They will be turned back and completely disgraced—  
those who trust in an idol,  
those who say to molten images, “You are our gods.”  
<sup>18</sup>You deaf ones, listen!  
You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see!  
<sup>19</sup>Who is as blind as my servant?  
Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent?  
Who is as blind as my associate,  
as blind as the servant of the LORD?  
<sup>20</sup>You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe.  
Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear.  
<sup>21</sup>Because of his own righteousness,  
the LORD was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day

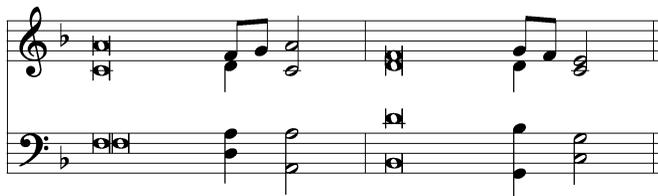
Psalm 27C

## Refrain



The LORD is my light and my sal - va - tion— of  
whom shall I be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

## Tone



Hear my voice when I / call, LORD;  
be merciful to me and / answer me.  
Do not hide your / face from me,  
do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my / helper.  
Do not reject me or for- / sake me,  
God my / Savior. *Refrain*

Though my father and mother for- / sake me,  
the LORD will re- / ceive me.  
I remain confi- / dent of this:  
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the / living.  
Wait / for the LORD;  
be strong and take heart and wait / for the LORD.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: David Haas

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## Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

*Those who have seen the light of Christ strive to leave deeds of darkness behind.*

<sup>8</sup>For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. <sup>10</sup>Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, <sup>11</sup>and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. <sup>13</sup>But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. <sup>14</sup>Therefore it is said, “Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”



The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 12:2



*Refrain*



Glo - ry, praise, and hon - or to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

*Tone*



Let us fix our eyes on Je - sus, the pioneer and perfect - er of faith.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711841

## Gospel

John 9:1–7,13–17,34–39

*Jesus miraculously enables a man who had been born blind to see the Christ both physically and spiritually.*

As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that God’s works might be revealed in connection with him.

<sup>4</sup>I must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World.”

<sup>6</sup>After saying this, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and spread the mud on the man’s eyes. <sup>7</sup>“Go,” Jesus told him, “wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means “Sent”). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.



<sup>13</sup>They brought this man who had been blind to the Pharisees. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight.

“He put mud on my eyes,” the man told them. “I washed, and now I see.”

<sup>16</sup>Then some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath.” Others were saying, “How can a sinful man work such miraculous signs?”

There was division among them, <sup>17</sup>so they said to the blind man again, “What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were entirely born in sinfulness! Yet you presume to teach us?” And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had thrown him out. When he found him, he asked, “Do you believe in the Son of God?”

<sup>36</sup>“Who is he, sir,” the man replied, “that I may believe in him?”

<sup>37</sup>Jesus answered, “You have seen him, and he is the very one who is speaking with you.”

<sup>38</sup>Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” and he knelt down and worshipped him.

<sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, in order that those who do not see will see, and those who do see will become blind.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

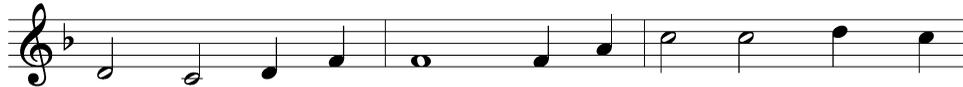
CW 517



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness with a lib - er -  
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren with a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; praise the one who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing  
gen - tle, word; praise the one who drove out de - mons with the  
in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we



blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the  
pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool  
may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, calm - ing  
wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand; from this  
glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done; let us



storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the Fa - ther's word of peace.  
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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Tune: Public domain

## Sermon – Ephesians 5:8-14

“Light in the Darkness—Christ Will Shine on You”

*Please stand*

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Please be seated*

*The offering is brought forward during the hymn.*

## I Hear the Savior Calling

CW 743 sts. 1, 3



1 I hear the Sav-ior call - ing! The gos - pel comes to me;  
3 I hear the Sav-ior call - ing! He gives this charge to me:



my eyes, once closed in blind - ness, are o - pened now to see  
to serve the best I'm a - ble, what - e'er the call may be.



that I my-self was help-less to live e-ter-nal-ly,  
Thus hand in hand with oth-ers who share the gos-pel key



but, dy-ing, Christ did save me, and now he calls for me!  
we spread the gos-pel ti-dings; my Sav-ior calls for me!

Text: John C. Lawrenz, b. 1943

Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–1874

Text: © 1993 John C. Lawrenz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711841

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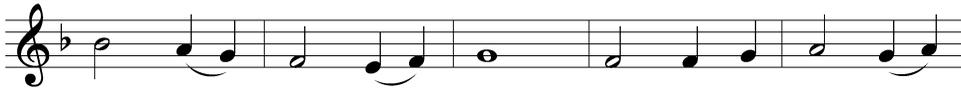
## Prayer of the Church

### When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

CW 407



1 When I sur-vey the won-drous cross on which the  
2 For-bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor-row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na-ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo-ry died, my rich-est gain I  
death of Christ, my God. All the vain things that  
love flow min-gled down. Did e'er such love and  
trib-ute far too small; love so a-maz-ing,



count but loss and pour con-tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac-ri-fice them to his blood.  
sor-row meet or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?  
so di-vine, de-mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

## **Prayer**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## On My Heart Imprint Your Image

CW 405



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



that life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures have no pow'r to hide your face.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, and my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

Text: tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.; Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.

Tune: Johann B. König, 1691–1758

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### Acknowledgments

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**Organist:** Rachel Schroeder

**Broadcast Announcers:** Don Wurm, Barry Weichel

**Teen Ushers:** Andrew Sasse, Jason Wehrman

**Greeters:** John & Marcie Vossler

**Sunday Childcare:** Patti Schwab, Deb Weichel

**Broadcast Sponsor:** Our broadcast this morning is sponsored by Kent Hummel and his children in honor of Joan's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday and Kent & Joan's 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Joan's birthday is March 20, and Kent and Joan were married in the University Lutheran Chapel in Lincoln, NE on March 20, 1959. They have six children. Kent lives at home and Joan is at the Heritage Care Center in Fairbury.

## **St. Paul's Church Family**

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Today** – Lane Hoffmann, Mikayla Wurm

**Monday** – Joan Hummel, Wanieta Schroeder, Reid Siebrandt, M/M Kent Hummel

**Tuesday** – Daryl Bergmeier, Alayna Bice, Michael Wells      **Wednesday** – Dean Keim, Darren Sasse

**Thursday** – Barb Freese, Joann Kerwood, M/M Ross Wollenburg

**Friday** – Fred Koch, Logan Scheele, Paisley Siebrandt, M/M Travis Reith

**Saturday** – M/M Aaron Niederklein      **Sunday** – Kelcie deKoning

### **MARCH 8<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> OFFERINGS**

“We Give Thee but Thine Own!”

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Gifts Received</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Gifts Received</u>
Home Fund	\$4,686.10	NELHS Operating	\$90.00
Missions	\$987.10	NELHS Debt	\$50.00
Building Fund	\$55.00	Cemetery Fund	\$30.00

### **LET US ENOURAGE ONE ANOTHER (HEBREWS 10:25)**

**324** were present to receive God's grace in worship last week: Sunday-219; Wednesday-105

**96** were present to learn God's Word in Bible Study last week: Sunday Bible Class-56;

Sunday School-40

## **Christ Lutheran Church Family**

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Monday** – Ben Dwerlkotte

**Saturday** – M/M Bruce Freese

### MARCH 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> OFFERINGS

“We Give Thee but Thine Own!”

Fund	Gifts Received	Fund	Gifts Received
Home Fund	\$1,040.00	NELHS Operating	\$90.00
Missions	\$170.00	NELHS Debt	\$25.00
Ed. Fund	\$50.00		

#### LET US ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER (HEBREWS 10:25)

71 were present to receive God’s grace in worship last week: Wednesday-24; Sunday-47

13 were present to learn God’s Word in Bible Study last week: Bible Class-8; Sunday School-5

#### THIS WEEK, BY GOD’S GRACE (Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>)

Today	Worship at Beatrice Sunday School and Bible Class Worship at Plymouth Open House at School	8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am-1:00pm
Mar. 20 - 27	Pastor Berger at BHM Meetings in Milwaukee	
Monday	Faculty Meeting Church Staff Ministry Meeting CRC Honors Choir/Band at NELHS	7:15am 10:00am
Tuesday	Faculty Devotion School Chapel LES Catechism	7:15am 8:30am 9:00am
Wednesday	Homestead House Bible Study Public School Instruction Class Lenten Meal at Plymouth Lenten Worship at Plymouth (Junior Choir Sings) (Greeters: Deb Wells, Lisa Scheele) Choir Practice at Plymouth	10:30am <b>5:45-6:45pm</b> 6:00-6:45pm 7:00pm 7:45pm
Thursday	Faculty Devotion LES Catechism NELHS Mailing Compiled Ladies Aid Lenten Worship at Beatrice	7:15am 8:30am 12:30-1:30pm 1:30pm 7:00pm
Friday	PreK-1 Books 4 Bedtime/Meet and Greet	6:00-7:00pm
Saturday	St. Paul’s PTO Bowling (Family Bowl & Social, Beatrice)	6:00-9:00pm
Sunday	Worship with Communion at Beatrice Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion at Plymouth (Greeters: Andrew & Jaime Danner) (Childcare: Andrea Weichel, Steph Wehrman) NELHS Easter Concert	8:00am 9:00am 10:00am  4:00pm

## In Our Prayers

- † **Elaine (Liz) Schroeder** — Elaine was a patient at Bryan East for a procedure she underwent on Thursday.
- † **Kent & Joan Hummel** — Joan will celebrate her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday on Monday and Kent & Joan will be celebrating their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary that same day.

## Prayer Updates

- † **Joan Hummel** — Joan returned home to the Heritage Care Center in Fairbury last week.

**Desserts** – St. Paul’s will be supplying desserts for the NELHS Easter Concert on March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you’d like to help provide a 9x13” pan of dessert (preferably in a disposable pan), please sign the sheet on the table in the front entrance of church. Please have desserts to the church basement by Sunday morning, March 26<sup>th</sup>, so they can be transported to NELHS that afternoon.



**Preschool Enrollment** – After having given our church member families the first opportunity with preschool enrollment, we are now opening enrollment up to anyone in the community. Please spread the word to any neighbors, friends, or coworkers of yours who might have young children. Spots are limited and will continue to go fast. You can contact our preschool teacher, Tracie Hueske, at [hueske@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:hueske@stpaulsplymouth.org) or 402-230-

0607.

**School Janitor** – The following recommendation was accepted at the Annual Voters’ Meeting: Recommendation from Board of Education and Church Council (and was also talked about on Planning Committee) to look into options for a new cleaning service at school. One option would be to find someone in our congregation that might be willing to serve in a janitorial position. This could start with the funds that we already have designated for school cleaning (around \$600/month) and it could expand into a Bus Driver/Coordinator, Grass Cutter, Church Cleaner, Hot Lunch Driver, and other duties in the future as are needed. If anyone has interest in this position, please contact Chairman Steve Freese by March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Connecting Our Youth Group with Our St. Paul's Senior Members** – Our youths will be preparing a meal they would like to share (over lunch or supper) with our senior members. If you would be willing to have 2-3 youths bring and share their prepared meal with you, please contact Pastor Berger or the church office by Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope that our seniors can build a relationship with these youths and have them over again sometime in the summer either to socialize or do some work around their home or property. Thank you for considering this!

**NELHS Mailing** – Anyone interested in helping compile the NELHS Easter mailing is asked to meet in the church fellowship area at St. Paul’s on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 12:30-1:30pm.

**Save the Date** – St. Paul’s Youth Group members are reminded that they will be meeting on **Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> (from 9am-Noon)** to prep for Easter breakfast and prepare meals for our seniors.

**Cemetery Mowing Bids** – The Cemetery Committee is now accepting mowing bids from anyone interested in mowing the cemetery grounds. April 9<sup>th</sup> is the last day to submit a bid. If you are interested, please give your sealed bid to one of the members of the Cemetery Committee (Dennis Weichel, Daryl Bergmeier, Forrest Freese) or drop it off at the church office. Please note that you would provide the mower, gasoline, trimmer, etc. Thanks!

**Holy Week Devotions** – MLC is offering a set of devotions for Holy Week: **7+1 Words from the Heart of God**. These devotions focus on the seven words from the cross – plus an additional Easter word. **Devotions are not available in hard print but can be accessed in several online formats, beginning March 27.**

- Read them online – [www.tinyurl.com/MLCSeasonalDevotions](http://www.tinyurl.com/MLCSeasonalDevotions)
- Download the series as a PDF
- Use the link within each devotion to listen to an audio recording by the author.

You can also request that the eight devotions be sent to your personal email on a daily basis, Palm Sunday to Easter, April 2-9. In the email, you will receive the written devotion and the link to the author’s audio recording.

**Broadcast Dates** – Anyone interested in sponsoring one of St. Paul’s broadcasts is asked to note that the following Sundays are still available in 2023:

March 26	April 9, 16, 30	June 11, 18, 25
July 2, 9, 16, 23	August 13, 20, 27	September 17, 24
October 22, 29	November 5	December 3, 10, 17

The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$150. Please contact Craig Scheele or the church office to reserve a date.

**LWMS Rally Donations** — LWMS helps fund non-budgetary items in connection with mission work. If you would like to give a donation to help with their projects, there is a donation box located on the table in the front entrance at St. Paul’s.

**VBS** – St. Paul’s Vacation Bible School dates for this year will be June 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be available soon.

## LENTEN SERIES 2023



The theme for the 2023 Lenten sermons is “His Final Steps.” The series ponders the significance of the people and places on Jesus’ resolute final steps to the cross and three days later, his first steps from the tomb.

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

February 22 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

February 23 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

March 1 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

March 2 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

March 8 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

March 9 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

March 15 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

March 16 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

March 22 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

March 23 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

March 29 ~ Plymouth ~ 7pm

March 30 ~ Beatrice ~ 7pm

April 6

Maundy Thursday in Beatrice ~ 7pm

April 7

Good Friday Worship in Plymouth ~ 8pm

April 9

Easter Sunrise Worship in Plymouth ~ 7am

April 9

Easter Festival Worship in Beatrice ~ 8am

April 9

Easter Festival Worship in Plymouth ~ 10am

**Supper at 6PM on Wednesdays**

**Worship at 7PM on Wednesdays**

*Beatrice will have the same Lenten worship services (no suppers) at 7PM on Thursdays.*

### PLYMOUTH LENTEN MEAL SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday – February 22

Lenten Meal Servers – Steve Freese’s Group

Lent 2 – March 1

Lenten Meal Servers – Wendell Gronemeyer’s Group

Lent 3 – March 8

Lenten Meal Servers – Mark Wells’ Group

Lent 4 – March 15

Lenten Meal Servers – Wes Schroeder’s Group

**Lent 5 – March 22**

**Lenten Meal Servers – Dennis Weichel’s Group**

Lent 6 – March 29

Lenten Meal Servers – Rob Orth’s Group

Easter – April 9

Easter Breakfast Servers – Youth Group

Group Leaders will be contacting those in their group prior to their scheduled serving date.

# St. Paul's School Open House & Recital

Sunday, March 19th, 2023  
11:00am - 1:00pm

Classroom visits/School tours

Displays of student artwork & crafts

Piano students recital



Classroom instrument performances  
(ukuleles, recorders, resonator bells, handbells)



Refreshments

Please stop in for some great live music, a donut, and samples of student activities and accomplishments this school year!



**Hungry for Kindergarten?  
Join Us for Kindergarten Round-Up!**

It's time for Kindergarten Round-Up at St. Paul's!  
This is a day for any children coming into kindergarten.

Join us on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, for Kindergarten Round-Up from 8:30-11:30am. Your child is invited to come spend the morning to see what it is like to be in kindergarten in our K-1 classroom. You are invited to join us with your future kindergartener for lunch at 11:30am in the school gym.

If you have any questions or would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran School, feel free to contact Mr. Danner (402-656-4465; [danner@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:danner@stpaulsplymouth.org)) or Mrs. Frey (402-841-3099; [kimberlyaaberg@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberlyaaberg@hotmail.com)).

## 2023 Synod Convention Planning Underway

Every two years, our synod holds its synod convention. This year the convention will meet at Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Mich., July 31–Aug. 3. The theme of the convention is “Embrace the Cross—Anticipate the Crown.” Planning for the convention has already begun.

**Rev. Phil Hirsch, president of the Nebraska District**, will deliver the essay that expands on and articulates the convention theme. Rev. James Huebner, first vice president of the synod, will preach for opening worship.



One high point of the convention will be the declaration of fellowship with the Obadiah Lutheran Synod in Uganda. This declaration of fellowship is possible because in-depth doctrinal discussions over the past several years have shown that our two synods are united in biblical doctrine and in our adherence to the Lutheran Confessions. Rev. Musa Makisimu, president of the Obadiah Lutheran Synod, will give a presentation to familiarize delegates with his synod’s history and ministry.

Another high point will be the public affirmation of fellowship between WELS and *Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional*. This is a newly formed synod in Latin America, comprised of a merger of national churches that have already been in fellowship in WELS. (That’s why fellowship is being “affirmed” rather than “declared.”) In the future, new house churches forming out of *Academia Cristo* efforts also will be joining this synod. Rev. Tonny Quintero, secretary of the governing board of his synod, will address the delegates and give a presentation describing *Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional*.

This convention will feature elections for the offices of synod president and second vice president. Other elections will be held to determine membership on various synod boards and commissions. About 400 voting delegates from around the country will attend the convention. Roughly half of the delegates are lay members while the other half are pastors, teachers, and staff ministers. The convention will also be attended by advisory delegates from the Synodical Council, the Conference of Presidents, and various areas of ministry. All voting delegates will be assigned to a floor committee. Each floor committee deals with a specific part of the synod’s mission and ministry and brings reports and resolutions to the convention for action. Memorials, which are calls for action on specific topics, will be assigned to the appropriate floor committee for discussion and recommendations.

All business to be considered by the convention will be published in the *Book of Reports and Memorials* (BORAM). The BORAM will be available on the convention website, [welsconvention.net](http://welsconvention.net), by May 5, and all delegates and WELS congregations will receive hard copies by the end of May.

Serving with you in Christ,  
WELS President Mark Schroeder

A delegate from St. Paul’s in Plymouth will be attending this year’s convention. Our delegates and alternates are ratified at our annual meeting. Wes Schroeder will be attending Synod Convention in Saginaw, MI.

If you would like more information about St. Paul's or Christ Lutheran Church, feel free to speak with Pastor Fred Berger ([pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com); call/text 402-239-4509) or Pastor Justin Dauck ([justin.dauck@gmail.com](mailto:justin.dauck@gmail.com); call/text 402-806-9082) after the service or anytime during the week! If you think you might be interested in joining the St. Paul's or Christ Lutheran church family, either pastor would be more than happy to take you through some Bible studies at whatever time or location is most convenient for you to learn more about what we teach.

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran School, feel free to speak with Mr. Andrew Danner! ([danner@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:danner@stpaulsplymouth.org); call/text 402-433-5349). He would love to give you a tour of the school and answer any questions you might have about the excellent Christ-centered education we offer students of our church and community.

**Please contact us! We would love to serve you!**

**Church Office** 402-656-3003      **School Office** 402-656-4465  
Pastor Fred Berger 402-239-4509  
Pastor Justin Dauck 402-806-9082  
Church Secretary Mrs. Deb Wells 402-853-2035  
Mrs. Tracie Hueske (Preschool) 402-230-0607  
Mrs. Kim Frey (K-1) 402-841-3099  
Mrs. Rachel Schroeder (2-3) 402-239-1206  
Mrs. Beckie Bekemeyer (4-5) 402-239-7667  
Mrs. Heather Malchow (Principal Release) 402-613-3241  
Mrs. Cari Schroeder (Music Coordinator) 402-239-9054  
Principal Andrew Danner (6-8) 402-433-5349

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

*In an ever-changing world, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to build Christ's kingdom in people's hearts with the un-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

106 East Highway 4  
Plymouth, NE 68424  
402-656-3003  
[www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org)

## Christ Lutheran Church

We preach Christ crucified and risen for SALVATION!  
223 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
402-223-4250  
[www.christbeatrice.com](http://www.christbeatrice.com)