



**St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point**  
**5th Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020**

**Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church!!**

**Prayer before the Service-**Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**Opening Hymn .....420**  
**Order of Service-Vespers.....pg 229**

**Psalm 130 (responsively whole verse by whole verse)**

**Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD;**

**Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive**

**To the voice of my supplications.**

**If You, LORD, should mark iniquities,**

**O Lord, who could stand?**

**But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.**

**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,**

**And in His word I do hope.**

**My soul waits for the Lord**

**More than those who watch for the morning—**

**Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.**

**O Israel, hope in the LORD;**

**For with the LORD there is mercy,**

**And with Him is abundant redemption.**

**And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world**

**without end. Amen**

### **Old Testament Lesson-Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

So I answered, “O Lord GOD, You know.”

Again He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.” ’ ”

So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came

together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

Also He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.’” ’ ” So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ Therefore prophesy and say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it,” says the LORD.’ ”

### **Epistle Lesson-Romans 8:1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

### **Gospel Lesson-John 11:1-53**

Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, “Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.”

When Jesus heard that, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”

The disciples said to Him, “Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?”

Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” These things He said, and after that He said to them, “Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.”

Then His disciples said, “Lord, if he sleeps he will get well.” However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

Then Jesus said to them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him.”

Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with Him.”

So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

Now Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. And He said, "Where have you laid him?"

They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It

was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation."

And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death.

**Hymn.....419**

**Sermon**

**Text: John 11**

**Theme: Two priests, one standing up to death, one standing up for death**

**I. Caiaphas, the high priest that year, one standing up  
for death**

**II. Jesus, the final high priest, came standing up to  
death**

**Canticle-Te Deum**

**Prayers**

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn.....685**

**The following are the themes** of the services that comprise Lenten Midweek and Holy Week Services, however, at the present time our ability to gather is on hold, given the pandemic and state mandates. **The elders met today, and we are not having services this week, March 29-April 4th. Confirmation and examination, will be private. We will again reevaluate the schedule for Holy Week, next Sunday, but for right now, if the state limits on gatherings remain at 10, we will be offering Holy Communion to groups of 10 or less throughout the day on Maundy Thursday, April 9th and Good Friday, April 10th by appointment.** Please call the church office. Watch the facebook page, the bulletin and website [www.stpaulbluepoint.org](http://www.stpaulbluepoint.org) for further news. (Presently, the website host is down, so this information is being linked to facebook. We will also be putting up sermons and links to bulletins on Youtube, link coming). More information will be coming in a pastoral letter the week of March 29th. If you would like a physical copy of the bulletin, please call the pastor and he will put it in your mailbox. If you have prayer requests please call the pastor and he will put it in the bulletin for services. There will also be **daily sermons** posted with brief bulletins each day on the internet. So the Lenten series will be completed and preached, as will other sermons and lessons during this time.

**Lenten Midweek Services** —The theme will be **Walking with Paul to the Cross and Beyond**. The lessons will be the Epistle lessons from the previous Sunday;

**Lenten Midweek 5, April 1st**-Roman 8:1-11, Theme-The Lord provides pilgrims on their way to the Cross with the Spirit

**Palm Sunday, April 4th**-Philippians 2:5-11, Theme-The mind of Christ enables us to follow Christ to the Cross humility and faith

**Maundy Thursday-1 Corinthians 11:23ff**, The Lord richly feeds His children, as they make their way to the Cross

**Good Friday-Isaiah 53; John 19**, Theme-We have arrived at the Cross and ponder what this means for us!

**Easter Sunrise-1 Corinthians 15:1-11**, Theme-The Lord is Risen!

**ALIS Auction** will has been postponed until May 8th.

**Ladies Aid** has placed **flower order** forms in your mailbox.

They have to be returned to the Ladies Aid mailbox, with a check made

out to the Ladies Aid, by March 22.

**Immanuel LYF** are selling pork loins and ribs (\$25 each) now until March 31st. Pick up will be Saturday afternoon before Easter, April 11th, in back parking lot behind Immanuel. Contact Amy Shepard 618-267-9882 or Mindie McManaway 217-343-4081 for info. or to order.

**Central Illinois District 75th Annual LWML Convention** will be held on April 30th – May 2nd at Bethel Lutheran Church, 325 E. Queenwood Rd., Morton, IL 61550. **This event has been cancelled for now.** If there are any questions you can contact Annie Guerrettaz, Jo Ellyn Tappendorf or Elaine Stuckemeyer.

**The Ladies of St. John's, Effingham Lydia Guild** is hosting the Joint Spring JOY Shop for all ladies, pastors, and guests of the Altamont & Effingham/Shelby Zones. The JOY Shop will be held Thursday, April 23rd at St. John's Effingham. There will be a free will donation. The meal begins at 6:00pm. The program will begin at approximately 6:45 in the church sanctuary. Theme: "A Time for Everything" based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Presentation: Haiti mission trip presentation. Ingathering: Non-perishable food items for the St. John's Effingham Food Pantry. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin if you plan to attend.

**Arrangements for the funeral** of Gene Moeller-The family of Gene Moeller will be having a funeral/memorial service sometime in the future, when conditions allow.

**Prayers**-For the family of Gene Moeller who died this past week; For the family of Donald Burks, the father of Charles Burks, who died; for the family of W. Wayne Arnold, the grandfather of Spencer Hammer; for those afflicted with the viruses this year, and those working in health care. For the school closings.

### **This Week at St Paul**

Sunday:	Matthew 20-21
Monday:	Matthew 22-23
Tuesday:	Matthew 24-25
Wednesday:	Matthew 26-28
Thursday:	Mark 1-3
Friday:	Mark 4-6
Saturday:	Mark 7-9

### **Those participating-**

Pastor-Rev. David Speers

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