

LENT

A time to remember God



Wednesday Evening Lent Services at St. Paul

Ash Wednesday, February 14th @ 7 PM

Wednesday February 21st @ 7 PM

Wednesday February 28th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 6th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 13th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 20th @ 7 PM



Each Wednesday night in Lent join us for supper before the worship service from 5:45 - 6:45 pm. Suppers are simple and easy and for a free-will offering. All are welcome.

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001

www.stpaulamherst.com (440) 988-4157

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30AM & 10AM

In-Person or Live Stream @ www.stpaulamherst.com

Church/Office: 440-988-4157 Fax: 440-988-5436

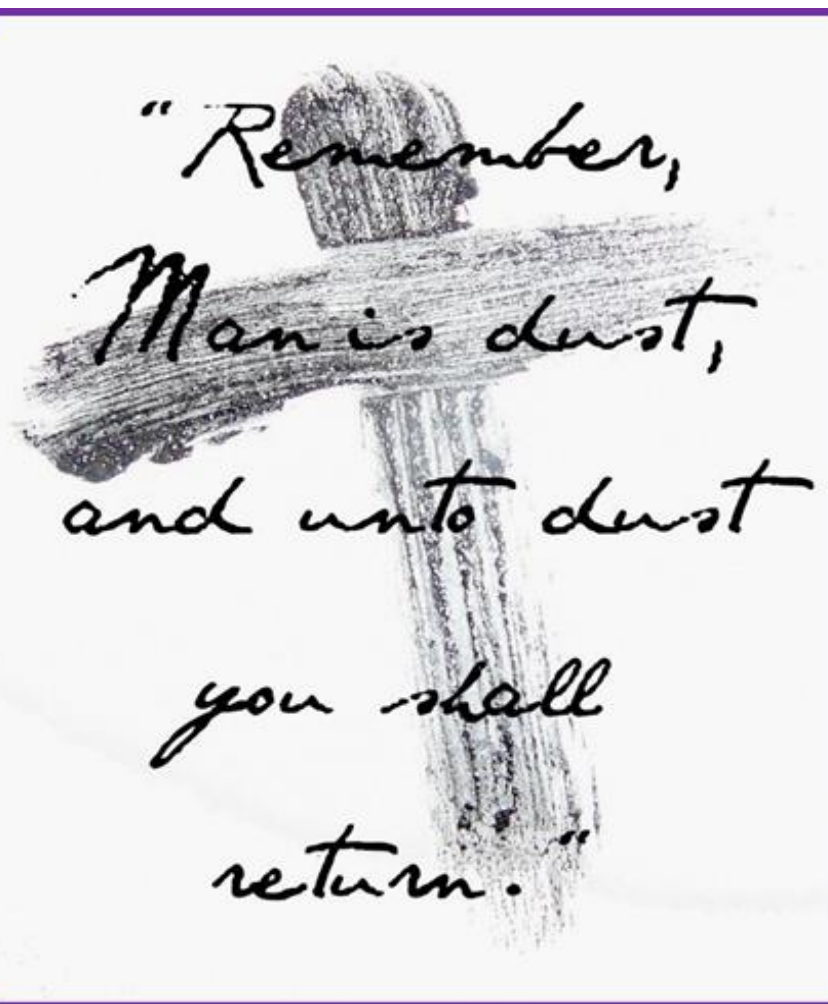
E-Mail: churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com Church Website: stpaulamherst.com

Rev. Paul G. Werner, Pastor - Office: (440)988-4157 Cell: (586)201-3302

Mike Warnock - Director of Worship Technology

Owen Reyda - Director of Music Ministries

Beth Naro, Preschool Director - Preschool Phone: (440)988-5427



CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 14, 2024 7:00 PM

Welcome Guests! We're honored that you've chosen to be with us at St. Paul. We hope you'll see that our welcome mat is out to you. Please relax, get to meet others, and experience God's love.

ABOUT TONIGHT’S WORSHIP: Since ancient times Lent has been a time of preparation for the celebration of Easter, a season of spiritual spring-cleaning. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians battled against the powers of darkness and their sinful self by the practice of fasting and self-examination, meditation and prayer. Since it was a time of repentance, they often wore sackcloth and covered themselves with ashes. The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This day gets its name from the custom of marking a cross with ashes on the forehead as a sign of mortality, repentance, and faith in Christ. We invite you to join in repeating this ancient custom today as a mark of your acceptance of God's just sentence of death on you as a sinner and your reliance on Jesus for the gift of eternal life. *“The wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 6:23*

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE ASHES as a symbol of genuine confession before God, you may receive them before or after tonight’s worship service. The ashes are normally placed on the forehead, although if you wish to have the ashes placed on the back of your hand, please raise your hand to the pastor. The ashes form a small cross. The cross placed on your forehead or hand reminds you of Jesus who is our hope. The pastor addresses each person with the words, *“Though you mourn you sin with ashes, through the cross of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.”*

TONIGHT WE RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION firmly believing that Jesus’ Words, *“This is My Body... This is My Blood”* mean what they say, namely that with the bread and wine of Holy Communion is really given Jesus’ Body and Blood. Holy Communion is more than a “memorial” or a “representation” of Jesus. God’s promise to us in the Bible is that Jesus is really present to forgive your sins and strengthen your faith. Furthermore, receiving Holy Communion is not a good work we perform and offer up to God. Rather, Communion is Jesus coming to you personally to give and work in you His forgiveness won on the cross.

Since scripture instructs us to examine ourselves before receiving g Holy Communion, please sincerely reflect on these questions before receiving Communion:

- Am I so sorry for my sins that I don’t want to go back and repeat them?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my personal Savior from sin because He gave His life on the cross for me? Am I depending on Him, and not my own goodness, as the way to Heaven?
- Do I believe that Jesus gives His Body and Blood and His gift of forgiveness in the eating and drinking of the bread and wine of Communion?
- Do I sincerely intend, with the help of God, not to return to a life of sin but to live for God and love others deeper?

All who have been instructed in what the Bible teaches about Communion, who are in agreement and unity with the beliefs of St. Paul and congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe the statements of belief above are welcome to receive communion. If you have not investigated our beliefs in our *“New Life With God”* class, we ask that you do so before receiving Communion.

An INVITATION from St. Paul’s new Director of Music Ministries!

"Greetings to the People of St. Paul. My name is Owen Reyda, a student at Oberlin Conservatory studying organ, and I am happy that I will be the new Music Director starting in February. I would like to reincorporate a church choir to sing at the traditional 8:30 am service, and a hand bell choir to play at various services throughout the year. Responsibilities of participating in one or both choirs would likely include a weekly rehearsal in the evening, and a brief vocal warm up before the worship service for the church choir. Don't worry - it will not be a stressful commitment, just an opportunity to make music and have some fun. All are welcome to join these choirs, including youth, and if you are interested, please do not hesitate to speak with me in person, reach me through cell phone (716-224-2681), or email (oreyda@oberlin.edu). No audition is required.



You Can Help St. Paul as we Team Up with Good Knights

Build & Deliver Beds -- Bed build dates are the second Tuesday (Feb 13th & March 12th) of the month at 6pm. Sign-up online or on Facebook for bed builds. If you would like to volunteer to build or want more information visit Good Knights website <https://goodknightsoflc.org/>

Donations of NEW Pillows, Twin Bedding, or Twin-Size Sheets -- Bedding items can be dropped off in the Narthex (just look for the bed 😊). Deadline is Sun. March 10th.

Good Knights is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to providing complete beds to children in need in Lorain County Ohio. The work this group is doing in Lorain/Amherst area and throughout Lorain County is amazing.

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
2/14 Lenten Supper 5:45 PM Ash Wednesday 7 PM 2/15 Handbells 6 PM Choir 6:45 PM	2/18 Holy Communion 8:30 Worship / Kids’ Church 10 AM 2/20 Seasoned Saints 10 AM 2/21 Lenten Supper 5:45 PM Lenten Service 7 PM 2/22 Handbells 6 PM Choir 6:45 PM

Serving in God’s House:

Pastor	Rev. Paul Werner	
Organist	Owen Reyda	
Elder	Chuck Draga	
Reader	Bryan Draga	
Greeter	Karen Anderson	
Altar Guild	Donna Kemmerle	
Head Usher	Ron Fisher	Ushers Bryan Draga

This Lent at St. Paul

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



A Forgiven Person is a Forgiving Person

Forgiving Challenge takes you on a life-changing journey to experience the fullness of God's grace so that you can share it with others. The forgiveness that Jesus has already won for you assures you of eternal life with Him. It also offers you the opportunity to live with purpose today. So come. Be forgiven. Be free. And watch how God works through you to change the world.

SIN Experiencing Freedom starts by acknowledging we have all missed the mark.

CONFESSION God invites us to bring our sin to Him and experience Freedom.

ABSOLUTION Every sin of every person has been paid in full by the blood of Jesus Christ!

RESTORATION Jesus' forgiveness restores our identity and we live with purpose.

SANCTIFICATION We walk in complete freedom bringing His kingdom to this earth now.

YOUR WORKBOOK for daily reading and every day challenges are available to pick up today. Your workbook is waiting in the narthex (lobby). The workbook is the practical application for your 40 days of Lent.

Sunday Sermons in Lent and Wednesday Eve Lenten Services

will help you grow in the five Phases of Freedom (**S.C.A.R.S.**)

Join us for each worship experience.

Be Forgiven. Be free. Live with Grace. Experience fulfillment.