

February 25, 2024 ~ 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gathering Music ~ Karen Danke, guest

Welcome and Announcements ~ Jan Lapenta, liturgist

Prelude

Call to Worship ~ *responsive*

Leader: From the mountains to the valleys and from the rivers to the oceans,

People: **Creation sings the greatness of our God.**

Leader: For God has created our world beautifully and made us in God's image.

People: **So we lift praise to the Most High as we marvel at the wonders of creation and majesty of the Lord. Amen.**

*\*you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

*\*Hymn ~ "All the Poor and Powerless" (L. Jordan & D. Leonard)*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison*

Jesus, you have called us to follow you with our whole hearts and selves. Yet we confess that we have held onto other things and practices as if those could save us as well. Forgive us and reach us that you alone are our hope and salvation. Amen. (A time of silent, personal prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #368 ~ *"We Fall Down"*

*We fall down; we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus:  
the greatest of mercy and love, at the feet of Jesus.*

*And we cry holy, holy, holy. And we cry holy, holy, holy.*

*And we cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.*

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus #519 ~ *"You Are My Strength When I Am Weak"* (refrain x2)

*Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!*

*Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!*

Offering Prayer

\*Offertory #735 - *"I Need Thee Every Hour"* (refrain)  
*I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!*  
*O bless me now, My Savior- I come to thee!*

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Psalm 22:23-31

Special Music ~ *"All Good Gifts"* (D. Schwoebel) ~ Celebration Choir

Christian Scripture ~ Matthew 5:29-32, 6:19-21

Message ~ "What Do You Love More"

\*Hymn #450 ~ *"Be Thou My Vision"*

A time for sharing the joys and concerns of our community.

Congregational Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

\*Hymn #826 ~ *"Lift High the Cross"*

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response #743~ *"O God, You Are My God"*  
*O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.*  
*O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.*  
*I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.*  
*And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.*

Postlude

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#505455650

St. Paul's Lenten Wednesdays will begin on February 28 and meet each week through March 20th. Pastor Nate will lead a study entitled *Immediately: A Crash Course in the Gospel of Mark*. We will meet over a simple soup lunch at NOON followed by the study. Bring a Bible! Invite a friend! Please sign up.

**Highlights from the February 20, 2024 Session Meeting:**

- 1. Firestorm A Cappella will hold a day camp at St. Paul's the week of August 12-16, 2024.**
- 2. St. Paul's will host the Youth Mission Trip from Zion United Church of Christ of Tonawanda NY from July 8 -14, 2024.**
- 3. March 10 will be the ROMANS 12 project of packing kits for the Clean Love Project. Thy Word is Truth Ministry has been invited to participate.**

**From The Board of Deacons... Easter Flowers are offered for sale through Monday, March 4, 2024.** Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths, and Azalea plants with pricing between \$15.00 and \$20.00 Order forms are available in the office. Or you may call the office to place an order and you may send your payment by mail. **Payment by cash or check made payable to the Board of Deacons.**

**From Kathy Potter...**Our next **ROMANS event is Sunday, March 10** right after worship! Our project that day will be assembling kits that will then be delivered to **The Clean Love Project** based out of Romulus. From their website: The Clean Love Project (TCLP) launched in 2015 with the mission to help women and young girls feel clean, loved, and empowered. TCLP distributes kits containing essentials - including feminine hygiene projects - to those who need them most. Kits are delivered to homeless & women's shelters, transitional housing programs, food pantries & school districts. To date, TCLP has distributed more than 40,000 kits. The Clean Love Project was highly recommended to us by Steve Boyak, friend of St. Paul's & son of Arnie & Doris Boyak. Steve's home congregation has been supporting this organization for a while. Part of the mission is to collect the items needed to supply the kits over the next 5 weeks! So, we are requesting donations of the following items. **Our goal is 80 kits.** If we receive more, we will assemble more! **Please consider donating items or, if you prefer, funds** (so that the Faith Formation Committee can purchase additional items not donated). **Please make your donations by Monday, March 4th** so that we will know how much we will need to fill in. Numbers indicated next to items are the total number we will need to complete our goal of 80 kits. **Individually wrapped toothbrushes (80); Travel sized toothpaste (80); Deodorant, neutral or women's (80); New socks (80 pair); Travel size Flushable Wipes packs (80); Tampons, individually wrapped (800); Sanitary napkins, individually wrapped (400).** **Each kit must include the above & are priority.** Other items, listed here, are welcome, but **not** essential. Lip balm, travel size soaps, combs, bandages, hair ties, tissues.  
**There is a box in the Narthex in which to place donated items.**  
We will assemble the kits on March 10th following lunch!

**Thank you to all who have contributed to the 2024 Annual Per Capita and/or Shared Mission requests.** All PCUSA churches are assessed Per Capita for each member listed on their rolls. St. Paul's assessment is \$37.00 per member. By requesting each member to contribute their share, the impact on the General Fund is reduced. And each year, all PCUSA churches are asked to make a contribution to the Shared Mission global efforts of the PCUSA. A donation to this request, on behalf of St. Paul's, like the Per Capita, is voluntary, but greatly appreciated.

**Please hold those listed in prayer... and REVIEW and REPORT updates, PLEASE!**



Bill Garvey, Mike Graham, Janet Frank, Grace Erwin  
August and Faith Kornowicz, Karen Bright, Steve Boyak, Sheldon Davis, Pam Phillips  
Suzanne Tabaka, Jim Roye, Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell  
Susan Grant, Bruce Phillips, Anna Richardson, Nate Statly (MSU shooting victim) ~ friend of Joey Nicholas  
Kris Purdy ~ niece of Grace Erwin; Julie Newell ~ cousin of Pam Phillips  
Elizabeth ~ sister-in law of Pat Garvey and Andy ~ nephew of Pat Garvey  
Linda Thompson and her sister, Shirley Kircoff  
Joan Velis and family; John Branch ~ father of Christie Piastowski  
Dave Schulz ~ nephew of Carol and Mike Graham  
Cousins of Terry Earnley and Jennifer Speiles ~ friend of Terry Earnley  
Lois Wludyka and John Candiloro ~ friends of August Kornowicz  
Ray and Mary Clark ~ neighbors of Don and Meta Tulley  
Richard Rosenberg and Mike Hyatt ~ friends of Judy McGregor  
Sarah and Mason Young ~ family of Judy McGregor  
Ben Abela ~ son-in-law of August and Faith Kornowicz  
Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie and Marc Whitlock  
Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen, Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck  
Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean  
Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit; Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt  
Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike and Carol Graham  
Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of the late Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda Seymour  
David Bonandrini ~ son of Ben; Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook  
Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips; Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo  
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling and Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron and Janet Frank  
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon and Marion Davis