

✠ St. Paul's Lutheran Church ✠
Kenesaw, NE

Pastor Paul S. Duffy

402-752-3421, 3536; 308-216-1254

Mrs. LaMoine Fischer, Organist Sunday School 9:00am; Bible Class 9:30am

Acolyte: Shelbi Goldenstein

Divine Service 10:00am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

As We Gather

In this difficult and uncertain period in our land, God's people realize all the more that we need His help. Only the Lord can heal and restore hope and life. And He will, according to His plan and purpose!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SENTENCE FOR THE SERVICE

Pastor: Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster. *Joel 2:13*

People: **Jesus said: If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.** *Matt. 16:24*

CONFESSION

(Silence for reflection)

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People: I confess to almighty God, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.
Amen.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

People: Amen.

PSALM 130 *(Read responsively)*

Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness,

that You may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in His word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than watchmen for the morning,

more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

and with Him is plentiful redemption.

And He will 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 WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Let us pray...one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." Then He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O

dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy 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 the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

VERSE

John 11:25

ALL: I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL John 11:46-53

But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do

you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON "Dry Bones Come Alive" (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

OFFERING *(If you are making an offering today, please place your gift in offering plate as you leave)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

DOXOLOGY



If You Wish to Tithe at This Time: As most of you are aware, St. Paul's has not been gathering our regular tithes to the Lord, yet, the financial end of the church continues. If you are wishing to tithe, please send your offering by mail (Box 36). Thank you and God bless!