
Worship & Holy Communion
Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 3, 2024 9:30 a.m.



The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

In God's Service

Worship Leader:	Pastor Jane Harris
Ministers:	All Baptized People of God
Music:	Joe Chodur
Reader:	Lori Angell
Ushers:	Lori Angell & Mike Rasmussen

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have special prayer requests, you would like included in the Prayers of the Church, please write them on a purple slip from the table by the offering plate in the Narthex. The prayers will be brought forward during the Offertory.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly stands (or kneels) as able or comfortable.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

Amen.

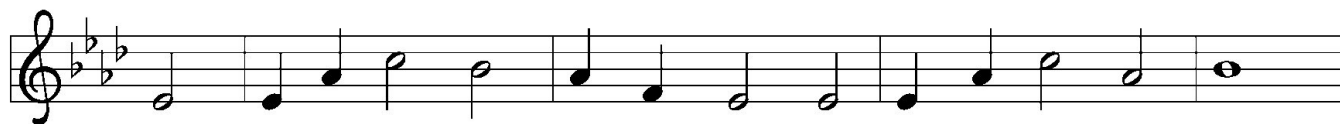
Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.

Amen.

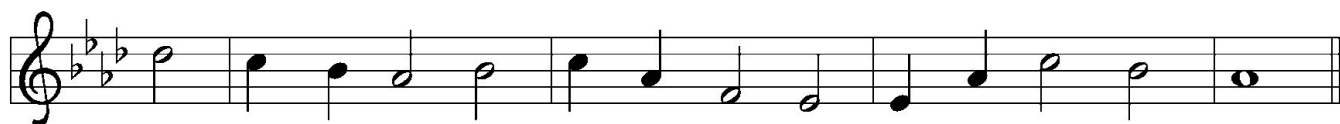
GATHERING HYMN

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

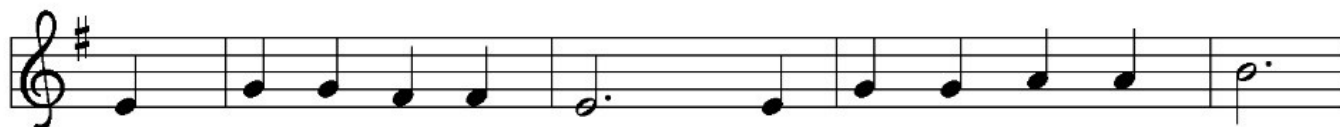
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

ALL VERSES



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God,

through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Exodus 20:1-17

The commandments are given at Sinai

Psalms 19

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Christ crucified, the wisdom of God

John 2:13-22

The cleansing of the temple

A reading from Exodus:

¹God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his

name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: (PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY.)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get
dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

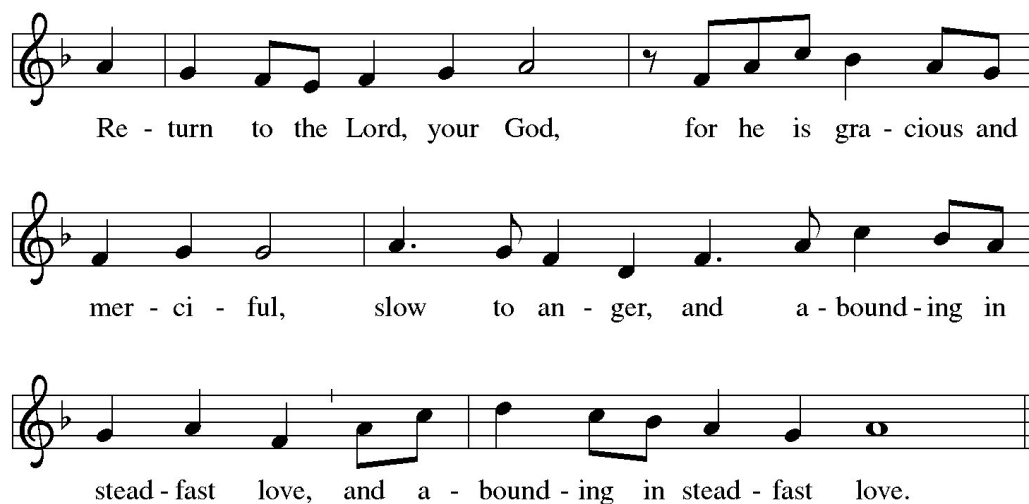
¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I
will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the
discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the
scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the
wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did
not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of
our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs
and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a
stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who
are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the

wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us

for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.
The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - dianc e stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,**

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY*)

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence. You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest.

C: Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance.

P: You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace.

C: Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

P: You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land.

C: Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict.

P: You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness.

C: We pray for any who are sick.

P: You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family.

C: . **We pray for those preparing for baptism.**

P: You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you.

C: **May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love.**

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

Please stand as able or comfortable.

OFFERTORY

How Great Thou Art

ELW 856

vs 1

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider
all the works thy hand hath made. I see the stars, I hear the mighty
thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou
art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to
thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

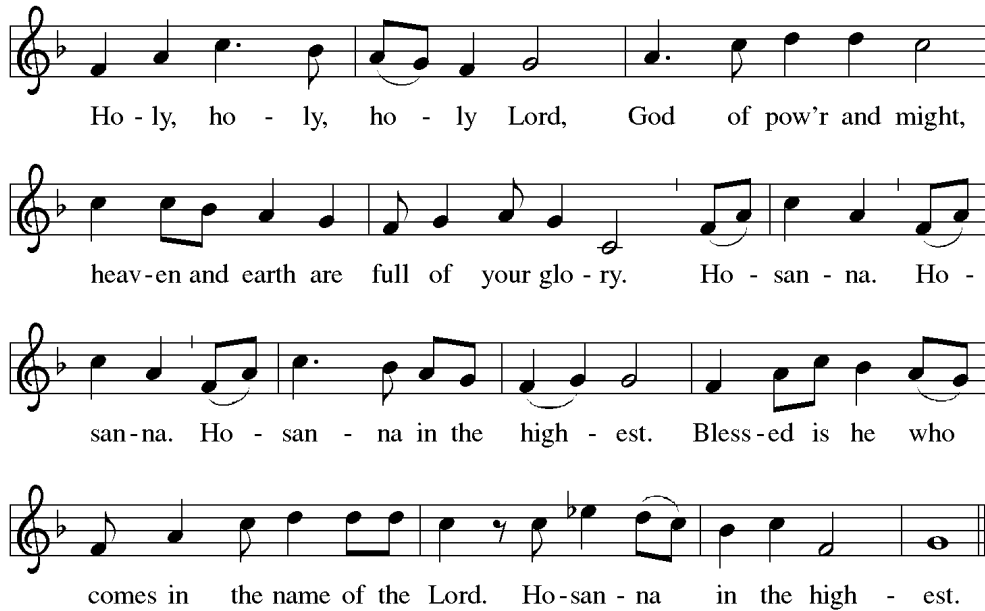
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Each side will be ushered forward down the center aisle. Those on the pulpit side will kneel at the communion rail at the front and fill into the back. Those on the lector side will kneel at the communion rail at the back and fill in to the front. Pastor will distribute the elements from the pulpit front and around the back. Communion is continual. Return your cups to the trays by the pews

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG***God of Grace and God of Glory*****ELW 705**

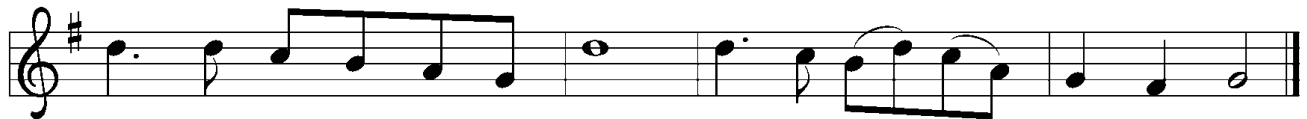
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Share your bread.****Thanks be to God.**

This Week:

Sunday, Mar. 3	9:30 am Worship/Communion @ SP 10:30 am Fellowship
Monday, Mar. 4	9:00 am Quilters OS 9:30 am Quilters SP 5:00 pm Bell Choir Practice
Tuesday, Mar. 5	Noon Worship Planning SP 5:15 pm Council Meeting SP
Wednesday, Mar. 6	9:30 am M & M's/ WELCA SP 5:15pm Lenten Meal/6:30 Lenten Service @ SP

Upcoming:

Sunday, Mar. 10	9:30 am Worship@ OS 10:30 am Fellowship 2:00 pm 2/4 Stitchers SP
Monday, Mar. 11	9:00 am Quilters OS 9:30 am Quilters SP 5:00 pm Bell Choir Practice
Tuesday, March 12	7:00 pm Council Meeting OS
Wednesday, Mar. 13	9:30 am M&M's SP 5:15pm Lenten Meal/6:30 Lenten Service @ OS

Announcements

Lenten Meal & Service Schedule:

Midweek Mar. 6	St Paul	Soup	Lenten Meal 5:15 Worship 6:30
Midweek Mar. 13	Our Saviour's	Soup	Lenten Meal 5:15 Worship 6:30
Midweek Mar 20	St Paul	Taco Bar	Lenten Meal 5:15 Worship 6:30

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday March 24 th	Our Saviour's	9:30 am
Maundy Thursday March 28 th	Our Saviour's	6:30 pm
Good Friday March 29 th	St Paul	6:30 pm
Easter Sunday: March 31 st	St Paul	9:30 am

Brunch following the worship service and egg hunt.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids and an Easter Brunch for all after the church service at St. Paul on Sunday, March 31st. If you are interested in helping or supplying items there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!!!

100 Years! Next year (2025) Our Saviour's will be celebrating one hundred years of being a church! A 100th Anniversary Committee is being formed to start working on this special celebration. We welcome anyone who either has knowledge of the history of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church **OR** is ready and willing to learn more! Also, anyone who enjoys planning celebrations and events is needed and most welcome! (St Paul members are welcome to join in!) Contact the church office or Pastor Jane if you would like to be a part of it.

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day."

Attention all Music Lovers! We have been so blessed through this last year to have members of our congregations sharing their musical gifts during our worship services - both vocal and instrumental. *Thank you!* We welcome you all to do the same - if you have a love for singing or playing an instrument and would be willing to share that gift with the congregation - please contact the church office or Pastor Jane to arrange for some special music for our worship services. *Let your light shine for God's glory!*

There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for serving coffee hour and the Community Kitchen. **Please help where you can.**

Contact information for Pastor Jane: phone number is 641-242-0337 and her email address is janeharris2010@gmail.com if anyone in our church family wanted to contact her.

Please be sure to sign friendship registers located at end of pews.

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St Paul Lutheran Church

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