



# St. Paul

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Welcome to worship! Please use the yellow card to communicate with us. We would gladly receive your prayer request or other information you want to share. Those online may share in the comments section.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026 | 11:00am WORSHIP

[youtube.com/@StPaulUMCLouKY](https://youtube.com/@StPaulUMCLouKY)

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

### GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome

Rev. Darren Brandon

Ministry Moment

Faith Quilting

Marg Suffill

Prelude

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

arr. J. William

Dr. Jim McFarland, organ

\*Call to Worship

Rev. Jim Murphy

Grace to you and peace, from the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end,

Who was, and who is, and who is to come;

from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead,

**To Christ who loves us and liberates us by his blood, and makes us priests of his God and Father,**

**Be glory, and dominion, forever and ever! Amen!**

\*Opening Hymn 400

*Come Thou Fount*

NETTLETON

\*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, Father, Creator; who gives us steadfast love, and shares with us our joy,  
Our God sustains us in our weakness, and empowers us with His strength. We trust Him.

We follow Jesus Christ, God's Son. His death is our victory, His resurrection is our hope;  
in Him the Word became flesh; in Him we find forgiveness, renewal from failure,  
reconciliation from brokenness, and release from despair. We are saved through Him.

We are guided by the Holy Spirit, God's presence in the world. That same Spirit calls us to be the Church,  
to celebrate love, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen.

We are empowered through Him.

We are disciples, pilgrim people. We joyfully covenant to walk together in love. To live in fellowship,  
in life, in death, in life beyond death. God is with us! We are not alone! Thanks be to God!

Anthem

*Song of Forgiveness*

A. Pote

Wesleyan Choir; Soloists: Arthur Pieroni, Melody Krause

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Jim Murphy

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# PROCLAIMING

## Children's Moment & Quilt Blessings

Tracy Martin & Faith Quilters

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

Jacques Berthier | Community of Taizé | © 1981 Less Presses de Taizé; GLA Publications | CCLI License # 828092

All children are invited to participate in worship by choosing materials from the Children's Worship Center located in the Narthex. Childcare is available for infants through pre-k in room 200.

## Prayer for Illumination

Wes Edwards

## Epistle Lesson

Romans 5:1-11 (New Testament p 145)

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Lesson

John 4:5-42 (New Testament p 89)

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*When Living Water Finds Us*

Rev. Darren Brandon

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## \*Hymn 375

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

BALM IN GILEAD

## Offering

*Christ My Beloved*

B. Chilcott

Chancel Choir; Gabriella Galletti, soloist

## \*Doxology (Hymn 94)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.**

**And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

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## \*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Jim Murphy

# SENDING FORTH

## \*Hymn 382

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

ADELAIDE

## \*Benediction

Rev. Darren Brandon

## \*Choral Benediction

## Postlude

*Invention No. 4*

Bach/McFarland

Dr. Jim McFarland, organ

\*Please stand as you are able.

### Next Week in Worship

Koinonia 9:00am – Gym | Traditional 11:00am – Sanctuary

Livestream at 11:00am on Youtube

Sermon: *Seeing What We've Been Missing*

Rev. Darren Brandon

Scriptures for the Week: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;

John 9:1-41

Lay Reader: Mary Hartman – Ephesians 5:8-14

Acolytes: Evelyn Aten & Josephine Dock

Liturgist: Lori Brandon

### Lay Reader Schedule

March 15: Mary Hartman – Ephesians 5:8-14

March 22: Bruce Elbert – Ezekiel 37:1-14

March 29: Debbie Wesslund – Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

April 5: Cathy Miller – Colossians 3:1-4

### Liturgist Schedule

March 15: Lori Brandon

March 22: Rev. Darren Brandon

March 29: Weslie Willis-Voigt

April 5: Graeme Donovan

## WORSHIP TODAY

**ONLINE GREETER** is Sara Ferebee

**ACOLYTES** today are Jack Meadows & Arthur Pieroni

**YELLOW CONNECTION CARDS** are a way you can request more information about our church or ask for prayer. You may place your card in the offering plate or give it to an usher after the service. You can also fill out an online connection card using the Flowcode below.



**CHILDCARE** is available for infants through pre-k from 8:45am-12:15pm in room 200.

## CHILDREN

All children are invited to participate in worship by choosing worship materials from the Children's Worship Cart located in the Narthex.

**TO ADULTS WITH KIDS:** Relax! God put the wiggle in children, and you don't need to suppress it in God's house. Consider sitting toward the front where it might be easier for your kids to see and hear. If you need to leave the service at any point, feel free to do so - but please come back! We want you and your kids to feel welcome and cherished. You're also welcome to spend time in the Mary-Martha room (rear of the sanctuary) or the Parlor, where there are speakers and you can listen to the worship service.

**TO OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH:** the presence of children is a gift and a reminder that our faith is alive! Please welcome our kids and give a smile of encouragement to their adults.

## THIS WEEK: MARCH 8–14, 2026

<b>TODAY</b> 8:30am Coffee & Donuts (CC) 9:00am Worship - KOINONIA (Gym) 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary) 12:00pm Prayer Beadding (CC) 5:00pm Tweens (312) 5:00pm Youth Choir (302) 6:00pm Youth Group (MSH, Gym, YC) 8:00pm AA Meeting (100)	<b>MONDAY</b> Office Open 10am-2pm (208) 5:30pm AA Meeting (100) <b>TUESDAY</b> Office Open 10am-2pm (208) 10:00am United Women in Faith (113) 7:00pm AA Meeting (100) 7:00pm Scouts (Gym) 7:30pm DBSA (110, 113) <b>WEDNESDAY</b> Office Open 10am-2pm (208) 10:00am Women's Bible Study (113) 6:00pm Wesley Night Activities (see below)	<b>THURSDAY</b> Office Open 10am-2pm (208) 12:00pm SPAMS St Patrick's Day Lunch (MSH) 6:00pm AA Meeting (111) 7:00pm Chancel Choir (302) <b>FRIDAY</b> Office Closed 7:00pm Youth Lock-in (YC) <b>SATURDAY</b> 10:00am AA Meeting (100) 10:45am Mobile Resource Center (Fourth Ave United Methodist) 8:00pm AA Meeting (100)
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MSH - McAdams Social Hall;  
CC - Common Cup; YC - Youth Center

### WESLEY NIGHT | Wednesdays | 6-9pm

Dinner | 6-7pm | McAdams Hall | Meal: Mexican

RSVP for Dinner here: <https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/ministries/wesley-night/>

Music Milestones (Ages 3-K) | 6-6:30pm | Room 306

Open Gym and Homework Help for 1st-6th Grade | 6-6:30pm | Gym

Youth Jam and Hangout | 6:30-8pm | Youth Center

Joyful Song Choir (1st-3rd Grade) | 7-8pm | Room 306

Wesleyan Choir (4th-6th Grade) | 7-8pm | Room 302

Adult Study | *Sharing Our Story* | 7-8pm | Room 113

Bells of St. Paul Handbell Choir | 8-9pm | Room 303

**Finance and Board meeting** | We are in the process of identifying new meeting dates for the Finance Team and the Board. We'll be sharing those dates with you soon.

Check the St. Paul Website ([stpaulchurchky.org](http://stpaulchurchky.org)) for more information on these and other activities or scan the QR code to the right for quick links to lots of St. Paul info!



Prayer requests can be sent to [prayer@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:prayer@stpaulchurchky.org).

Sign up for the St. Paul weekly email, Pastor Darren's Weekly Phone message, and Tower newsletter at the website (bottom of homepage) or by emailing [info@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:info@stpaulchurchky.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Quilt Blessing** | Today in both services | The quilts made by the Faith Quilters will be blessed during both services, and the quilts will be displayed for viewing. These quilts will go to children who are in a time of crisis.

**SPAMS** | March 12 at 12:00pm in McAdams Social Hall Join us for the SPAMS St. Patrick's Day party! Lunch will be provided and activities will include Bingo and trivia. Prizes will be awarded for best St. Patrick costume!

**Youth Lock-in** | March 13-14 | Youth will enjoy a fun-filled night of food, fellowship, bowling, and all manner of silliness. Check your weekly email to RSVP or contact Billy and Janet at [youth@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:youth@stpaulchurchky.org)

**Game Day** | Thursday, March 26, 1-3pm (last Thursday of each month) | All ages and stages are invited to come together for an afternoon playing games, such as Rummy-Cue, Rook, Pit, and more. Bring your friends! If there is a game you enjoy, please bring it with you!

**One Service Sunday and Potluck Lunch** | March 29 | We will gather in the Sanctuary on Palm Sunday (the 29th) at 10:00am for a service focusing on Jesus triumphal entry and foreshadowing his death on the cross. Join us for the waving of palms and music by our children's choirs! Our potluck lunch takes place immediately following the service. Main dish will be provided. Signups for the potluck will be available Sunday March 15 and March 22.

**Easter Egg-stravaganza** | March 29 | 12:00-2:00pm | Join us for bounce houses, spin art, crafts, cookie decorating, photo booth, door prizes, sensory corner, and egg hunts for preschool through high school! Bring your friends, and don't forget to have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny!

## CONFIRMATION NOTES

Our four confirmands: Eli Aten, Kayla Martin, Alex Newton, & Juliette Pieroni are learning about Baptism and Belonging today with Rev. Tom Grieb. We invite you to be in prayer for them as they continue their journey.

## SERVE

**Current Resource Center Needs** | Men's jeans (esp. small sizes, 29-33); Men's shoes (all sizes); Men's short-sleeved t-shirts; sweaters, sweatshirts, and hoodies; Long underwear; Backpacks; Large women's clothing (3X and up); Bras (esp. larger sizes). Our Amazon wish list can be found here: <https://a.co/hULmRMs>

**The Mobile Resource Center needs more books** | Our MRC guests, as well as those having lunch at the Open Door Ministry at Fourth Ave UMC, have proven that they love our Little Library. We need donations of all genres of books: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, spiritual, self care, cookbooks, and game books (crosswords, Sudoku, etc.). We are frequently asked for Bibles, especially large-print Bibles. Look for donations bins in both building lobbies.

**United Methodist Mountain Mission** | The UMMM provides affordable items and employment opportunities throughout southeastern Kentucky. Their truck will be here to collect donations in March. Please have all donations delivered to St. Paul no later than Monday, March 23 at 2:00pm. UMMM accepts donations of clothing and household items. Visit our website to see specific needs: <https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/united-methodist-mountain-mission/>

## WESLEY NIGHT: SHARING OUR STORY ON THE LENTEN JOURNEY

At the heart of this semester's Wesley Night gatherings is a simple but powerful practice: sharing our story. When we tell our stories we discover that faith is not abstract. It is lived, walked, questioned, practiced, and renewed over time. That's also the heart of Lent.

- March 11 - Sarah and Brandon Aten share about their experience on the Camino de Santiago
- March 18 - Meanings and Understandings of the Labyrinth with Darren Brandon and Sara Ferebee
- March 25 - Labyrinth Walk in the gym, 6-8pm
- April 1 - Holy Week, No Wesley Night activities

## LENTEN SERMON SERIES

March 15 | Fourth Sunday in Lent | Sermon Title: Seeing What We've Been Missing - Rev. Darren Brandon | Gospel: John 9:1-41

March 22 | Fifth Sunday in Lent | Sermon Title: From Despair to Hope - Rev. Gary Gibson | Gospel: John 11:1-16

March 29 | Palm Sunday | Sermon Title: Hosannas and Hard Truths - Rev. Darren Brandon | Gospel: John 12:12-16

April 5 | Easter | Sermon Title: Courage to Live Again - Rev. Darren Brandon | Gospel: John 20:1-18

April 12 | Second Sunday of Easter | Sermon Title: Blessed Are Those - Rev. Tom Grieb | Gospel: John 20:24-29

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## CONTACT US



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