



# Saint Paul's

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## APRIL 2026 EPISTLE

*The earth shook with the news.*  
**HE IS NOT HERE;**  
**HE IS RISEN!**

And in that moment,  
*joy* REPLACED DESPAIR  
*hope* PUSHED PAST FEAR  
*life* CONQUERED DEATH

not just that day, but for eternity.  
We celebrate the *resurrection* **of Christ**

for what it meant then and  
what it means for us every day;  
*a sacrifice*  
that brings

**FORGIVENESS, RENEWAL, AND PEACE**  
to any of us  
who put our *faith* **in Jesus.**

APRIL 2026

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ELIZABETH

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Christ is (almost) Risen! He is (almost) Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Easter is right around the corner. As we get ready to proclaim Christ crucified and risen from the dead, we must first walk through the Great Three Days. Thank you to all who have signed up to help with our Holy Week services. I appreciate those who work behind the scenes making sure everything is ready to go for each of these very different services. And those who help lead the services as we walk together toward Christ's resurrection. While Easter Sunday is just one day, the Easter Season lasts for 50 days until we celebrate the day of Pentecost on May 24. Each week we will continue to celebrate the resurrection during our worship services with our prayers, the scripture readings, and liturgical music and hymns. You will notice that the Pascal candle will be lit each week, as a reminder that Christ is the Light of the World.

A prayer for the Season;

Almighty and eternal God, who through the death of Your Son has destroyed sin and death, and by His rising to life again restored innocence and everlasting life, that being delivered from the power of the devil, I might live under You in Your kingdom, grant that I may be forever comforted by true faith in the resurrection of Your dear Son. Do not let the thought of death fill my heart with terror, but give me the blessed assurance that, just as You raised Christ from the dead, I will not remain in the grave but will rise again at the end of days. And when, by Your grace, I have finished my course, let Christ's resurrection be for me a sure pledge that an inheritance that does not fade is reserved for me in heaven. While I live, guide me with Your holy counsel, and when I die, give me the crown of life, that with all the holy angels and the elect I may praise and glorify You, world without end. Amen. (Kinnaman, Scot. Lutheran Book of Prayer: Fifth Edition)

Wishing you Peace and Blessings in this Easter Season!

The Rev. Elizabeth A Cummings

## ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT:

We of St. Paul's Lutheran Church believe in God's grace given to us freely. We are called to faithfully follow God's Word, sharing in the good news of this grace. We are to be God's hands helping those in need—those we know, and those we do not know.

When we say, "Here I am Lord," we express our desire to become disciples of Christ, accepting the mission to do what is asked of us. Our prayer on this journey is to walk with faith, to love one another, to share God's love and to be the hands of God.

## *2026 Holy Week Schedule*

March 29 – Palm Sunday, 10:00 am

April 2 – Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm

April 3 – Good Friday, 7:00 pm

April 5 – Easter Sunday, 10:00 am



**Saint Paul's**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



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# APRIL 2026

## APRIL GOSPEL READINGS

April 5th:                   Matthew 28:1-10  
**Easter Sunday**

April 12th:                 John 20:19-31

April 19th:                 Luke 24:13-35

April 26th:                 John 10:1-10



## SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

If you would like to host on a Sunday morning, there is a sign-up sheet hanging on the white board in Fellowship Hall. Check the list on the Whiteboard for availability. Jerry Hansen will help you make the coffee and there are goodies available for your use or you may provide your own. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Hansen.



## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

**THIS MONTH THERE IS A NEED FOR COFFEE, CANNED TUNA, CANNED SOUPS, WHITE RICE, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, MAC-N-CHEESE & RAMEN NOODLES**



**Let's make our Easter Sunday Special!**

**We need your assistance in decorating the large cross in the Sanctuary on Easter Morning. Each family is asked to bring in a single fresh flower to place on the cross while transforming the cross.**

**Mark your calendar for April 5th as a reminder and join us in our Annual Easter tradition!**

APRIL 2026



NewLife Christian Fellowship Church located at 1155 Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield will host a National Day of Prayer Service with other Church Leaders from the community on Thursday, May 7th, 2026 at 12 Noon.

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This day observance, designated by the United States Congress, asks people "to turn to God in prayer and meditation."

THE  
*Wednesday*  
GROUP

The Get-Together Group will now be known as The Wednesday Group and will return to meet on April 8th. Please remember to bring your sharp scissors.

Starting in May, we will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

We look forward to seeing you there!



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE **MAY** EPISTLE are due by **APRIL 19TH** .

Please send your article to me exactly the way you would like it to appear to: [office@stpaulswethersfield.org](mailto:office@stpaulswethersfield.org)

Thank you!  
Lorraine



A special thank you to everyone who helped make the Cookie Walk/Bake Sale a success. What a nice boost for our St. Paul's Food Pantry.

We are helping to feed over 300 needy men, women and children weekly.

Thanks again for all your hard work and devotion in keeping the spirit of St. Paul's flowing.

Jerry Hansen and Our Volunteers

# APRIL 2026

## VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE DURING APRIL THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

### APRIL 2nd - Maundy Thursday

ASSISTING MINISTER: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
READER: Joan Kratzer  
ALTAR: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTER: Dave Hourigan

### APRIL 3rd - Good Friday

ASSISTING MINISTER Joy Hansen  
Readers: John 18:1-11 Joan Kratzer  
John 18:12-27 Matt Perry  
John 18:28-40 **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
John 19:1-7 Rory Cummings  
John 19:8-16a Lynne Matteson  
John 19:16b-22 Dave Hourigan  
John 19:23-30 **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
John 19:31-42 Carol Bruce

### APRIL 5th - Easter Sunday

ASSISTING MINISTER: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
READER: Jerilyn Roy  
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Rupp, Martial Roy & Sophia  
ALTAR: Patty Bengtson  
COUNTER: Rory Cummings  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

### APRIL 12th

ASSISTING MINISTER: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
READER: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Rupp, Martial Roy & Sophia  
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker  
COUNTER: George Howe  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

# APRIL 2026

## VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE DURING APRIL THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

### APRIL 19th

ASSISTING MINISTER: NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
READER: NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia  
ALTAR: Carol Bruce  
COUNTER: Judy Gerken  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### APRIL 26TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen  
READER: Joy Hansen  
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia  
ALTAR: NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTER: Heather Christensen  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: NAME \_\_\_\_\_



**APRIL 2026**

**AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S  
BAKE SALE/COOKIE WALK  
MARCH 28, 2026**



**Our Bake Sale Workers: Judy Lundin,  
Karla Pergande, LeAnn Power, Jan Pergande,  
Elaine Strecker and Lorraine Gianakos**

**THREE VERY  
HAPPY  
COOKIE  
CUSTOMERS**



APRIL 2026

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S  
PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL,  
MARCH 29, 2026



# APRIL 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00  MAUNDY THURSDAY SVC. 7:00 PM  CHOIR REHEARAL 7:00 PM	3 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7:00 PM	4
5 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>  10:00 AM WORSHIP  COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP	6	7 WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG 4:30 PM	8 WEDNESDAY GROUP 10 AM  CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 PM	9 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	10	11
12 10:00 AM WORSHIP  COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP	13 PASTOR ELIZABETH ON VACATION	14 PARISH ADMIN 6:30PM	15 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 PM	16 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	17	18
19 10:00 AM WORSHIP  COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP  11:30 AM OUTREACH MTG.	20	21 PROPERTY MTG. 5:30 PM  CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7:00 PM	22 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00PM	23 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00  COMMUNICA-TIONS MTG. 6:00 PM	24	25
26 10:00 AM WORSHIP  COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP	27	28	29 CHOIR REHEARAL 7:00PM	30		

# APRIL 2026

**PASTOR:**

The Reverend Elizabeth Cummings  
pastor@stpaulswethersfield.org

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

Lorraine Gianakos  
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

**MINISTER OF MUSIC:**

Melissa Cheyney  
missycheyney@yahoo.com

**SUPERINTENDENT OF  
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Alice Rupp  
arupp@sbcglobal.net



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

Matt Perry  
mperry0905@aol.com

**COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT:**

Heather Christensen  
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**COUNCIL SECRETARY:**

Mary Baumgartel  
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**TREASURER:**

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**BOOKKEEPER**

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**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

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**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Office Hours -

Tuesday — Friday

9am — 1 pm

