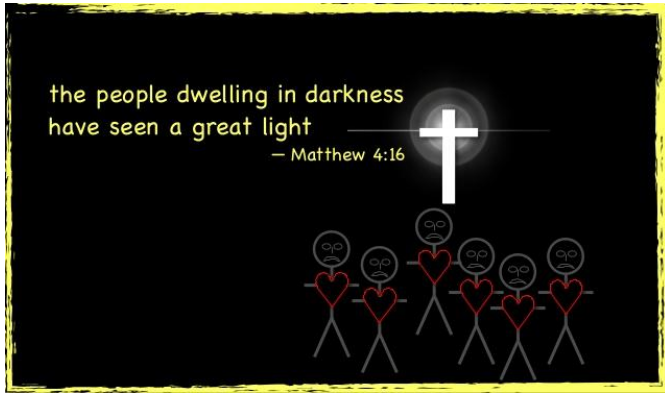


## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 25, 2026

8:30 AM



Following the Light of the World

### AS WE GATHER

Epiphany is about a growing revelation—beginning with the Magi’s visitation & worship of the infant Jesus and continuing to Jesus as adult, where he shows Himself as the Son of God in the waters of the Jordan River and then in today’s Gospel where we see Jesus beginning His preaching & teaching ministry & calling His first four disciples. Throughout these first few Sundays of the new year, the light shines upon Jesus, identifying Him to us as the Son of God and The Savior of the Nations. The Prophet Isaiah predicts that an EPIPHANY – a **‘bright light’ will shatter the DEEP DARKNESS in which the people of Zebulun and Naphtali live.** In the same way, we look for that same bright light of Jesus to shine in the darkness of our present-day world and to rescue each of us from the clutches of sin, death and the devil. In this Epiphany season we look for the light of Jesus and His Gospel message to shine on us, and through us, on all whom we meet.

**WELCOME** – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

### 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and King su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
 And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God - head man - i - fest;  
 Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
 Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
 That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

### INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

**People: to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .

**People: on them a light has dawned.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to our gracious heavenly Father.

**People: Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We have transgressed Your Law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not always been good friends, faithful neighbors, or caring family members. Our motives and thoughts have not always been pure. We deserve Your punishment now and for eternity. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct our days by Your Holy Spirit, that we joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments as Your redeemed people.**

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Be at peace.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**You Are My Alleluia***St Paul's Choral Ensemble***SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, You sent Your Son, the Word made flesh, to call us to Yourself. In response to His call, those He summoned as His disciples followed Him. By the working of the Holy Spirit, help us to hear His call, to believe in Him, and to follow where He leads, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 9:1-4* (A great light is seen by those in darkness.)

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 4:12-25*

(Jesus Begins His Ministry.)

Reader: Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth He went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

**People:** **"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."**

Reader: From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,

*Pastor: "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

Reader: While walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And He said to them,

*Pastor: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Reader: Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed Him.

**People:** **And He went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.**

Reader: So His fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought Him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and He healed them. And great crowds followed Him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Sing a New Song**

*St Paul's Choral Ensemble*

### **THE APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**



## Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore  
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones.  
You only asked me to follow humbly.

O Lord, with your eyes you have  
searched me,  
and while smiling, You have spoken  
my name.

Now my boat's left on the shoreline  
behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

You know so well my possessions;  
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;  
You will find there, my nets and labor.

O Lord, with your eyes you have  
searched me,  
and while smiling, You have spoken  
my name.

Now my boat's left on the shoreline  
behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

You, who have fished other oceans,  
Ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
My loving friend, as thus You call me.

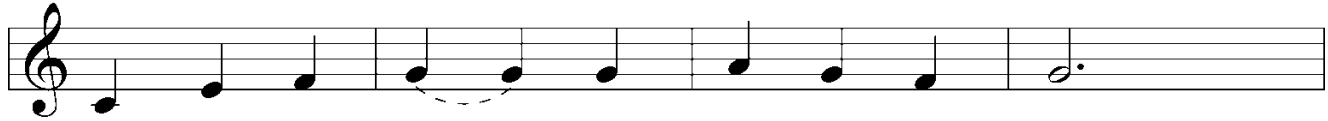
O Lord, with your eyes you have  
searched me,  
and while smiling, You have spoken  
my name.

Now my boat's left on the shoreline  
behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

(2x)

**THE MESSAGE** – *Pastor Christopher Fairbairn*

## 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## THE PRAYERS

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, that the light of the Gospel of salvation be proclaimed and the gifts of God be shared. Lord of the Church,

**People: in mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray this day for our nation and for all nations of the world, that there be an end to hostilities and that times of peacefulness everywhere prevail. Lord of all times and all people,

**People: in mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for our families and our neighbors. Grant that we walk in the light of Christ and together praise our gracious God for all He has done for us. Lord of all generations,

**People: in mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for all sorts and conditions of people, especially for the hospitalized and those who are shut in during this season. We pray for those whose lives are in transition, the unemployed, those who are downcast or grieving, and all those for whom our petitions are desired, [*including . . .*]. Lord of care and grace,

**People: in mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As a community of the faithful, we remember those who have shared the faith with us and now have departed this earthly life in hope and joy. Direct our ways on earth that we complete our journey of life in faith and rejoice together with them eternally with saints and angels and all the company of heaven in life everlasting. Lord of eternity,

**People: in mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**People: Amen.**

### **OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering box you will find at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

**We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card** during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

### **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.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **THE INVITATIONS**

## 412 The People That in Darkness Sat



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

## DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



**Need some PRAYER?** Anyone who desires special private prayer with a pastor or a Stephen Minister may do so by coming forward after service to one of the front pews.

**Our Vision** — a place to come for comfort, support, answers, opportunities to serve, and to strengthen a salvation relationship with Jesus



**WHERE WE SERVE**

Preacher	Pastor Christopher Fairbairn
Officiant	Pastor Jim Frusti
Music Director	Paul Ventimiglia
Family Life	Jeanette Koch
Elder	John Hasse
Greeter	Jenter Family
Reader	Jan Faerber
Welcome Center	Pat McGuigan
Ushers	John Hasse Charleen Hill Bob McGuigan Pat McGuigan
Coffee Hour	Board of Elders
Counters	Jan Greulich Frank Newman George Foor
Tech Team	Thomas Kutz
Guest Artist / Woodwinds	Mark Kieme
<hr/>	
St Paul Choral Ensemble	Lisa Fairbairn Cheryl Bailey Nancy Berg - Crenshaw Anne BurgessChris Burgess John Hasse Barbara Hoffmeier Will Hoffmeier Linda Johnson Rich Johnson Chris Englert Sue Roman Alexandra Vago

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**Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities**

WEDNESDAYS: Women’s Bible Study- Wednesdays @ 9:30am in the church Parish Hall.

SUNDAYS: Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.

SATURDAYS: Men’s Bible Study – Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall

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**Attendance** Last week: 1.18.2026– Attendance – 8:30am – 106 + 11:00am – 75 = 181

Communion - 81

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Received week of 1.18.2026 for Church (Envelopes + loose plate)- **\$23,350** total includes online giving **School - \$215.60**

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**Remember Our Homebound**

Dorothy Schneider

41215 Fox Run Drive -216 Rose Court

Novi, MI 48377

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***Altar Flowers***

In memory of Lora Schmidt’s birthday 1/27 from her daughter Margo Schmidt.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11 am service.

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**WANTED - Calling All Chili Cooks** If you have a famous (or not so famous) chili recipe you would like to make and share at the 2026 Chili Cook Off this is your chance to win prizes and bragging rights for your recipe. The Spicy Show Down will take place on Saturday, January 31, 2026 from 5:00- 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. If you would like to donate a crock pot of your ready to eat chili to the 2026 El Salvador Mission Trip, please contact **Beth Hempel at 734 347-1381**, call or text. There will also be a sign-up board in the Narthex. We only have room for 10 Chili’s so make sure you get your chili registered. All proceeds go toward the 2026 El Salvador Mission Trip.

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**💰 Endowment Fund News 💰**

It’s amazing to think that our St. Paul Endowment Fund began in 2011 with a single donation of \$1,000. God has truly blessed this ministry! At the close of 2025, the Fund balance has grown to **\$109,234.86**, which will provide **\$5,450 in grant dollars for 2026**.

We are now entering our **fifth year of awarding grants**, and to date the Endowment Fund has shared more than **\$16,285** to support ministry, mission, and community outreach. Here are just a few of the projects that have been blessed through these funds:

- National Youth Gathering (Texas)
- Belize Mission Trip
- Protect Young Eyes Technology Event
- Handbell Choir Storage Cases
- New Church Website
- Science & Chemistry Learning Materials
- Christmas Decorations
- Church Roof Repairs
- Church Office Construction
- VBS T-Shirts
- Bible Quizzers
- Church Sign Refurbishment
- Marketing & Ministry Materials

Your generosity — past, present, and future — makes this possible. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Endowment Fund and continues to support it so faithfully.

Please watch for details as the **2026 grant application window opens in April**. Together, we continue to plant seeds that will bless generations to come.

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 **COME AND SING** Join the Church Choir No auditions. No experience needed. Just a willing voice.

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Why join the choir?

 **Good for your health**

Singing strengthens the lungs, improves breathing, supports heart health, and gently exercises the whole body.

 **Good for your mind**

Choir singing reduces stress, boosts mood, improves memory, and helps keep the brain active and resilient.

 **Good for your soul**

Singing together builds friendship, belonging, and a powerful sense of community — no matter your age or background.

 **An act of worship**

When we sing, we offer prayer with breath and voice, joining a tradition of praise that spans centuries.

 **A place for everyone**

You don't have to be "musical." You just need to enjoy singing with others.

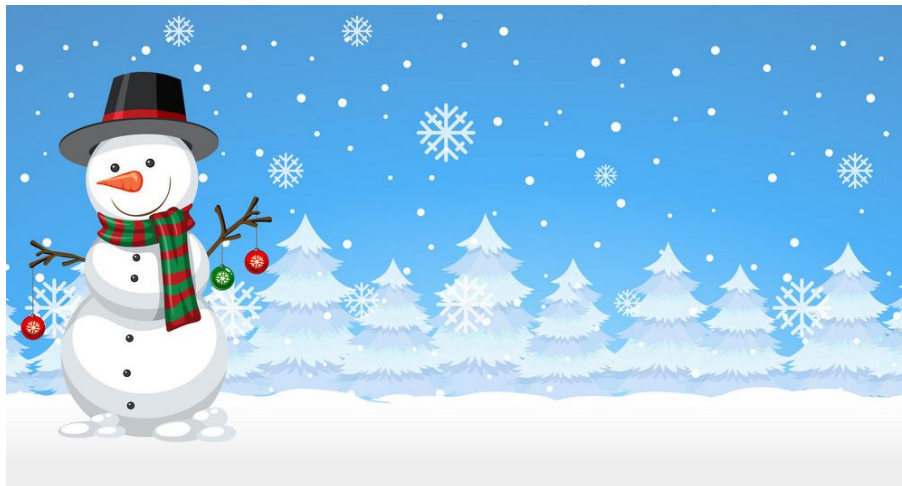


### SOMETHING NEW for OUR MEMBERS

If you have a business or service you would like to advertise for free to other members, we will share your information on a bulletin board in the church hallway and email to the congregation a couple times a year a directory of what our church family has to offer each other. This is a new endeavor we hope benefits each other.

To make a submission for approval, please email [pastorchrism@ameritech.net](mailto:pastorchrism@ameritech.net) the basic details of your contact information and a brief description of what your business provides.

You make serving a dinner at Family of God fun. thank you church family for all your support. Our Chicken Tetrizzini Casserole Makers were Julia Smith, Mary Lou Jaussi (thank you for making 2), Kathy Verseman, Gretchen Hasse, Pat McGuigan, Kathleen McFall, and Brittany Fairbairn (first time casserole maker. Go Brittney). The salads were made by Beth Hempel and Sue; Bill & Janet Kovalak brought in the dressing. Katy Baetz-Matthews supplied 100+ rolls, that were already sliced, wonderful, we added butter that Carolyn purchased, we are stocked for a couple months. Cheryl Bailey bought clementines and Kathleen McFall purchased clementines and bananas. Beverages were from Marti Gilchrist, Anne Burgess and Jan Faerber, desserts Jan Faerber, Charleen Hill and Tim Haubenstricker. Our servers were Shelly Walldorff-Ernst, Pat McGuigan, Julia Smith (driver) and Sue. Margo is our kitchen organizer and Marcy assembles our paper. With all this food and two bags full of new hats, scarfs, gloves, socks, warmer kits supplied by Margo, we were off. We served about 85 including to-go's and seconds and we enjoyed ourselves very much while serving. We learned the next day that Pastor Jim was hospitalized for minor strokes and testing, we all missed him Tuesday night but we thought he was taking a well deserved day off. Please keep him in your prayers. Thank you.





## Dates to Save for Youth Events

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 9am - until finished Sub Making (Super Bowl Sub Fundraiser)

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2p-4p Hawk Island - sledding \$5

March 15<sup>th</sup> 1pm Bowling Plaza Lanes \$15

March 29<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Palm Sunday Breakfast

April 19<sup>th</sup> Youth Bake Sale 8:30am & 11am services

April 11<sup>th</sup> Noon- 5pm Super Mario Smash Tournament \$10

May 16<sup>th</sup> 4pm-6pm Nerf Wars

June 14<sup>th</sup>- June 18<sup>th</sup> 9am-Noon VBS – Volunteers needed

June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup> High School Youth Gathering –Mackinaw Island - \$450

July 11<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> Appalachian Servant Event \$210 includes whitewater rafting (\$60)

July 28<sup>th</sup>-July 30<sup>th</sup> Junior Youth Gathering Frankenmuth & TBD

Bring a friend to some or all of the events. All are welcome!!!!



**ORDER BY FEB 4TH**

# SUPER BOWL SUB SANDWICH



**ORDER BY FEB 4TH**

**YOUTH FUNDRAISER**

**ORDER BY FEB 4TH**

ORDER FORMS AVAILBLE

<https://forms.gle/1z3cuPak4JBDq9CQ6>



**\$12 EACH**  
▶ **ITALIAN,**  
**TURKEY/CHEESE &**  
**VEGGIE**



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LIKE. COMMENT. ENGAGE.



[spschoolnorthville](https://www.instagram.com/spschoolnorthville)



## **Padawan Bible Quizzing Tournament**

Looking for Bible Quizzers, *young and old!*

This FREE Bible Quizzing tournament will be hosted at **St. Paul Church**. There is **no age limit**, which means everyone can test their Bible Quizzing skills. No prior knowledge of the material is required. All ages welcome on teams of 3 people each. Lunch will be provided.

**Saturday, February 21, 2025 @ 12PM-3PM**

**1 Corinthians 10, 12, & 13**

**@ St. Paul Northville Church!**

**Lunch provided**

For info or to register, visit [stpaulnorthville.org/quizzing](https://stpaulnorthville.org/quizzing) or talk to Jake Fairbairn <[jakecfairbairn@gmail.com](mailto:jakecfairbairn@gmail.com), (248) 231-9684>. Register by Sun, Feb 15.



## LENT SCHEDULE 2026

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### WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

12 NOON LENT SERVICES – PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH-  
FARMINGTON HILLS

LUNCH AFTER SERVICES

2/18/2026– ASH WEDNESDAY 7PM

2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

7PM LENT SERVICES - ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-  
NORTHVILLE

5:30PM LENT DINNER

2/18/2026– ASH WEDNESDAY 7PM

2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

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**PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST – 3/29/2026 - 8:30AM-9:30AM**

**PALM SUNDAY 3/29/2026– 10AM SERVICE**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY – 4/02/2026– 7PM SERVICE**

**GOOD FRIDAY – 4/03/2026– 1PM & 7PM SERVICES**

**EASTER SUNDAY 4/05/2026 – 8:30AM & 11:00AM SERVICES**

We need boards, groups or families to sign up to **sponsor and serve the Lent Dinners**- if you are able to sign up for a dinner, please call the church office! Ash Wednesday is taken but the next five are open! 248-349-3140 ext. 10