



# The Epistle of St. Paul's

March 2024

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## *From The Pastor's Desk...*

It's that time of year again—time to celebrate bunnies, chocolate, chicks from the hardware store, and the start of another season of baseball. There is spring cleaning to be done, graduations and weddings to attend, and summer vacation plans to be made. Oh, and there is also something that will get a lot of attention in most churches as well—the annual bringing of lilies to adorn the chancel area of the sanctuary.

One thing you'll notice that I didn't mention in the list above is Easter. Like Christmas Eve/Day, Easter is no longer the worship festival it once was as other priorities have emerged to compete for the affections of too many Christians. Why is this? What happened that the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord has come to this? I would suggest that a significant part of the challenge facing the celebration of Easter is that we live in a finite world. There is only so much time, money, energy, and other resources to go around. Or so it would seem. In this worldview, Easter becomes just another note on the calendar and one among many activities clamoring for our attention.

And yet, God does not call Christians to experience life as a zero-sum game. Our God is extravagant, creating a universe of endless possibilities, bestowing grace upon grace to each and every one who draws breath. We are not a people limited by anything in this life or in the life to come. In an interview for UMC.org's podcast *Get Your Spirit in Shape*, noted United Methodist scholar Paul Chilcote says, "Death seems to be a final word in the life of every human being. Seems to be, I say, a final word because it isn't. The final word is life, not death. The final word is resurrection. The final word is eternal life with God who loves us." Our faith, summed up in the expression "Jesus Christ is Lord," is contained in the Christmas and Easter observances. From the very beginning of the Christian movement, the message has been that God is with us both in life and in death.

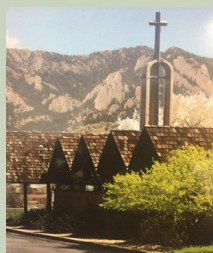
As we gather for worship on Easter morning, we will sing "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" and together celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and with it the good news that life is stronger than death. As believers who live and work in the world today, we add our voices to the songs of triumph of the resurrection and invite the world around us to share in the ever-present unfolding of life that is God's offering to all through Jesus.

Every blessing, *Pastor Charles*

## St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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## Holy Week Observances

On March 26, a blog post on St. Paul's blog ([www.bolderstpauls.blogspot.com](http://www.bolderstpauls.blogspot.com)) will list Holy Week worship opportunities at area United Methodist Churches. Please make this week a highlight of your Easter preparations.

**Guest speaker Rev. Mike Mather, formerly of Broadway United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, will visit St. Paul's on Sunday, March 10,** from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to share inspiring stories about inner-city ministry and community-building. Mike is a friend of the Glancys. The presentation will begin at 4:30, followed by a light dinner in the fellowship hall at 5:30. This evening is presented by St. Paul's Learning Team.

**Ladies Lunch Bunch** will meet on Thursday, March 7, at Murphy's Tap House (585 McCaslin Blvd., Louisville) at 11:45. Please R.S.V.P. by March 5 to Michele Matthews ([mlmatt@comcast.net](mailto:mlmatt@comcast.net) / 303-817-2541).

**Breakfast Fellowship will meet on Saturday, March 9,** at 8:00 a.m. at Le Peep (2525 Arapahoe Ave, Boulder, next to McGuckin's hardware). No reservations necessary. All are welcome!

**Sew What will meet on Friday, March 15,** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Joan Cooper's home. Please R.S.V.P. by March 13 to Joan via text, email, or phone call ([ajcooperjr@comcast.net](mailto:ajcooperjr@comcast.net) / 303-898-8034). Folks are encouraged to bring their own lunches/preferred drinks. Some drinks will be provided. Sew What is for those who love to sew, knit, crochet, embroider, and/or enjoy visiting with one another.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Bishop Karen plans to be at St. Paul's for worship on April 7 (the Sunday after Easter). The Fellowship Committee is planning a potluck luncheon after the service that day. Mark your calendar for the service and luncheon. Watch for details in the bulletin and News You Can Use.

**Boulder High Theater will present its spring musical *Big Fish* March 13-16** (Wednesday through Saturday with a matinee AND evening show on Saturday). Tickets are on sale for \$15 at <https://gofan.co/app/school/CO11655> under “Performing Arts.” Mawce Glancy is the co-head of the Props crew and would appreciate your support. *Big Fish* the musical is based on the novel *Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions* by Daniel Wallace. *Big Fish* was also adapted into a film starring Ewan McGregor.

### **Yoga Class at St. Paul’s is Growing**

But there’s still room for *you* to roll out your mat at St. Paul’s **free** Saturday morning yoga class! We meet from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Join your church family and meet our neighbors for movement, stretching, and meditation. The class is led by Jovanka Jones. This is a mixed-gender class—men, women, and nonbinary people are all welcome! Contact Rebecca Glancy with questions.

*St. Paul’s UMC welcomes and affirms people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.*



### March Birthdays

3-4 Jim Vander Vorste

3-9 Lily Berlin

3-9 Bets Daniels

3-11 Elise Cook

3-20 Diane McKnight

3-25 Jovanka Jones

3-30 Alexandra Muckle

### March Anniversaries

Suzanne and Ron Polacek

March 6, 1976

### **MARCH PREACHING SCHEDULE**

#### **March 3**

*"Facing the Cross: Mary and Mary Magdalene"*

John 19:26-27, John 20:16-18

#### **March 10**

*"Facing the Cross: Simon of Cyrene and a Bystander"*

Psalms 48, Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21, Luke 23:26

#### **March 17**

*"Facing the Cross: Judas and Peter"*

Psalms 50:1-15, Mark 14:10-11, 17-21, 27-31

#### **March 25 / Palm/Passion Sunday**

*"Facing the Cross: Pontius Pilate and Barabbas"*

Mark 15:1-15, Matthew 27:11-26

#### **March 31 / Easter—Joint service with BBKC**

*"Is this enough for you?"*

1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18

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