

# St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point

Saturday of the 3rd week of Lent March 21, 2020

Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church!!

Prayer before the Service -O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our wickedness and live. Graciously behold Your people who plead to You and spare us. Withdraw the scourge of Your wrath and be moved in mercy to turn away this pestilence from us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Invocation

### Psalm 91

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High  
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.  
I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress;  
My God, in Him I will trust."  
Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
And from the perilous pestilence.  
He shall cover you with His feathers,  
And under His wings you shall take refuge;  
His truth shall be your shield and buckler.  
You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,  
Nor of the arrow that flies by day,  
Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness,  
Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.  
A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand;  
But it shall not come near you.  
Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.  
Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge,  
Even the Most High, your dwelling place,  
No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;  
For He shall give His angels charge over you,  
To keep you in all your ways.  
In their hands they shall bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.  
You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra,  
The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.  
"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;  
I will set him on high, because he has known My name.  
He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation.”

## Old Testament Lesson—Jeremiah 21

The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying, “Please inquire of the LORD for us, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes war against us. Perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful works, that the king may go away from us.”

Then Jeremiah said to them, “Thus you shall say to Zedekiah, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who besiege you outside the walls; and I will assemble them in the midst of this city. **I Myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger and fury and great wrath. I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence. And afterward,**” says the LORD, **“I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, his servants and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence and the sword and the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life; and he shall strike them with the edge of the sword. He shall not spare them, or have pity or mercy.”**”

“Now you shall say to this people, “Thus says the LORD: **‘Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death. He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence;** but he who goes out and defects to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be as a prize to him. For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good,” says the LORD. “It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.””

“And concerning the house of the king of Judah, say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD, O house of David! Thus says the LORD:

“Execute judgment in the morning;  
And deliver him who is plundered  
Out of the hand of the oppressor,  
Lest My fury go forth like fire  
And burn so that no one can quench it,  
Because of the evil of your doings.

“Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley, And rock of the

plain,” says the LORD, “Who say, ‘Who shall come down against us? Or who shall enter our dwellings?’ But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings,” says the LORD;  
“I will kindle a fire in its forest,  
And it shall devour all things around it.” ’”

### **Epistle Lesson-Romans 5:17-21**

For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

Therefore, as through one man’s offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man’s righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Gospel Lesson-Matthew 24:1-15**

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.

“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. **And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in**

all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

## **Sermon**

**Text: Jeremiah 21; Matthew 24**

**Theme: How do we respond to a Pestilence?**

- I. Throughout the Scriptures, a Pestilence was a sign that man should be ever-ready to die**
- II. That is why it was considered by the Church as a call to repentance**
- III. So we today respond in the same way**

## **Prayers**

For the family of Eugene Moeller, who was called to his eternal rest this past week

For Madeline Anne Kemme born today to Matt and Faith Kemme

For our shutins

For those suffering from the Coronavirus

For those serving those with the virus

For those leading our country

## **Benediction**

**Definition of pestilence—**

**Merriam-Webster**

**a contagious or infectious epidemic disease that is virulent and devastating especially : BUBONIC PLAGUE**

**Cambridge Dictionary of English**

**any very serious infectious disease that spreads quickly and kills large numbers of people**

**Oxford American**

**a fatal epidemic disease**

Telephone-618-483-6993  
Pastor Speers' Cell-618-367-2697

[www.stpaulbluepoint.org](http://www.stpaulbluepoint.org)

Scripture taken from the New King James Version. Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.]