

# St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point

Monday of the 4th week of Lent March 23, 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 137

**By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept  
When we remembered Zion.**

**We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it.  
For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song,  
And those who plundered us requested mirth,  
Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"**

**How shall we sing the LORD'S song In a foreign land?  
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, Let my right hand forget its skill!  
If I do not remember you,**

**Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth—**

**If I do not exalt Jerusalem Above my chief joy.  
Remember, O LORD, against the sons of Edom**

**The day of Jerusalem,  
Who said, "Raze it, raze it, To its very foundation!"**

**O daughter of Babylon, who are to be destroyed,  
Happy the one who repays you as you have served us!**

**Happy the one who takes and dashes  
Your little ones against the rock!**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was  
in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen**

## 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.”’

## **Second Lesson-2 Chronicles 36:11-14**

Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the LORD. And he also rebelled against King

Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear an oath by God; but he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD God of Israel. Moreover all the leaders of the priests and the people transgressed more and more, according to all the abominations of the nations, and defiled the house of the LORD which He had consecrated in Jerusalem.

### **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; Lamentations 3**

**Theme: Why does God promise such terrible things, even to His people?**

- I. There comes a time, in the life of God’s people, when they have succumbed to the thoughts of man, of the world, and are wholly impenitent**
- II. So The Lord does not answer the request with words of grace and mercy**

### **III. However, the Lord's mercies are new every morning**

#### **Prayers**

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

For Madeline Anne Kemme born 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**

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