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come to (

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

Worship Focus: First things first. In the beginning, the devil's temptations led to the fall into sin and death for all. He is at work tempting each of us already first thing every morning. Don't bother listening to God. Trusting God doesn't make sense. Do whatever makes you feel good today. Serving others isn't worth your time. Here on the first Sunday in Lent, we look at our Savior's first task after his baptism: confronting the devil's temptations. His victory is ours. "Jesus Conquers the Devil for Us".

[10:30] Anthem

More Than Conquerors

Sung by St. Paul's 3K & 4K & Soloist

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship, persecution or famine, dishonor, or danger, or sword? No!

Refrain: In all these things we are more than conquerors, through him who loved us.

Neither life nor death, angels nor demons, present nor future, nor any powers, height nor depth, nor all of creation can separate us now. *Refrain*

If God Himself Be for Me

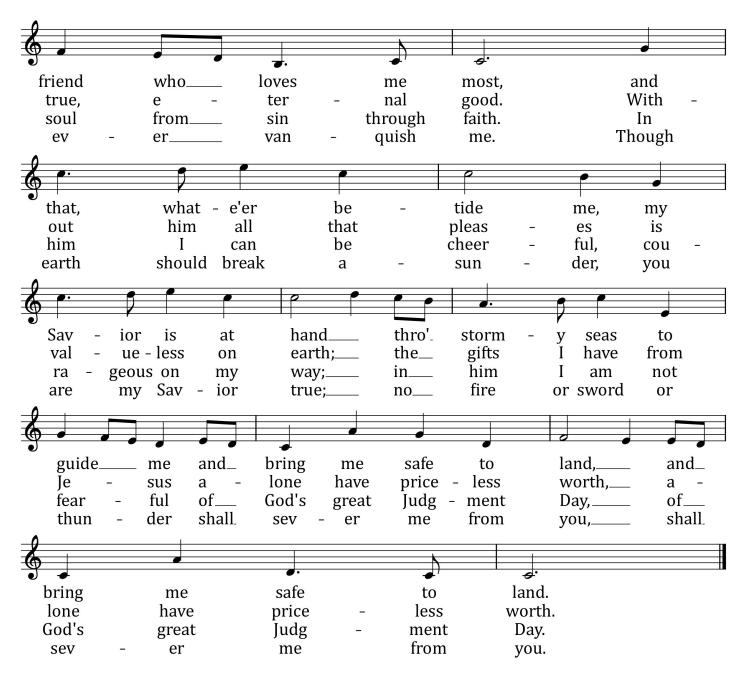
CW 819 sts. 1-4, 6

Set to a new tune and led by soloist Soloist:

1 If God himself be for me, I may a host defy; for when I pray, before me my foes, confounded, fly.
If Christ, my head and master, befriend me from above,

what foe or what disaster can drive me from his love?





Stand

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy. Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child.

But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will. **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be Seated

FIRST LESSON Genesis 22:1–18

By faith in the LORD's promise through Isaac, Abraham conquered his testing; the LORD provided the sacrifice.

¹Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

²Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

³Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."

⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

⁸Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

⁹When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

¹²"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

¹³Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Remember Your Mercies, O Lord

Psalm 25

We conquer because the LORD remembers his mercy and love rather than our sins and rebellion.

Soloist: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

ALL: Refrain



Soloist: Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior.

ALL: Refrain

Soloist: Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not; in your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

ALL: Refrain

Soloist: Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.

ALL: Refrain

We are more than conquerors through God who loved us in Jesus Christ; neither demons nor any powers can separate us from his love.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

VERSE OF THE DAY



Stand

GOSPEL *Mark* 1:12–15

Jesus conquered the devil's temptations in the wilderness and by his proclaiming the good news.

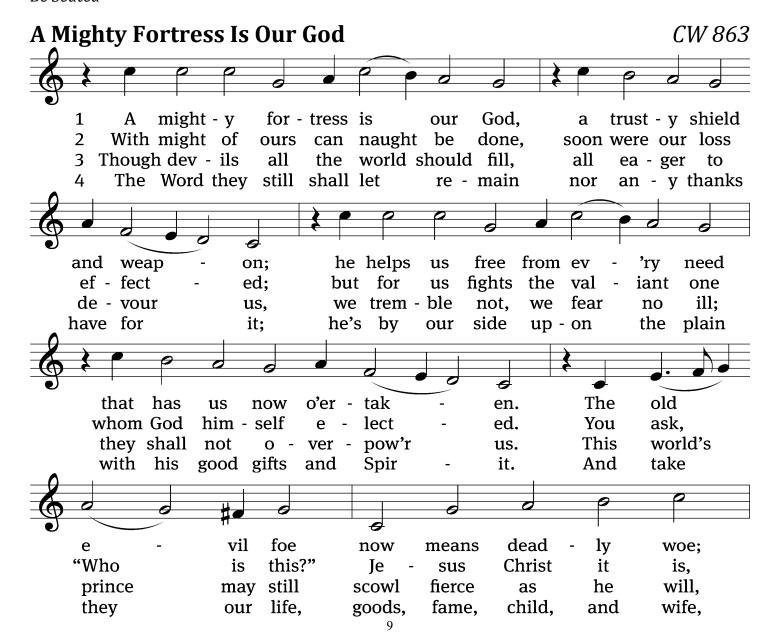
¹²At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

The Gospel of our Lord.



Be Seated





SERMON Mark 1

Survivor! Jesus apart from us – Jesus among us

Stand

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.

Be Seated

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Father, after his baptism your Son faced the stern attacks of Satan who tried to derail his journey to the cross. On this day we rejoice in Jesus' victory in the wilderness and praise him for his ultimate triumph over the works of the devil.

Send us your Spirit that we may believe this truth and apply it in our lives.

Satan and his followers seek to overturn our faith and love every day. Their goal is to separate us from your presence and destroy our relationship with your Son. Give us wisdom to be alert for their attacks and recognize the danger they bring.

Protect us as we endure temptation. Keep us from becoming Satan's victims. Forgive us and restore us when we give in to him.

Make our faith stronger than it is now so that we might know more and more that Jesus matters most to us in life and death. Give us wisdom and power to follow him and do his will.

Keep us from thinking that sins are harmless and cannot lead us away from him.

According to your will, Lord, curb the influence of Satan in our world and society. Help people to grasp the appalling effects of his power and to refrain from doing wicked and harmful deeds.

Come to the aid of those who are the objects of devilish power.

Give us courage to warn those we love about the dangers of the devil's temptations. Lead us to speak the truth in love so that family members and friends may discern evil and step back from error and sin.

Move us to share the horror of Satan's power honestly and to offer your forgiveness in love.

Keep in your care all who are struggling with pain, battling with sickness, and facing death. Spare your people from Satan's temptations in their difficult hours and strengthen them with the promise of your Son's ultimate victory over sin, death, and the grave.

Help us to support them when we can and to keep them in our prayers.

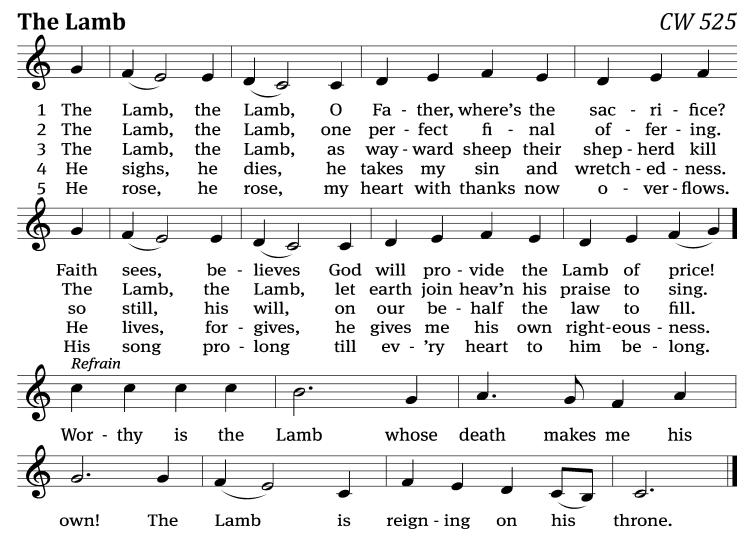
Special prayers

Protect us, gracious God, from the power of Satan, the allure of the world, and the seduction of our sinful nature.

Cause us to believe that we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.



Stand

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



Be Seated



If you are visiting us today or would like to update your information, please scan the QR code to fill out our form.



SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PREACHER: Pastor Adam Bode

Service Accompanist: Luke Bramstedt

Musicians: Paschal Curia, Stan Grzonka, Greg Johnson, Nikki Leahy, Nick & Tanya Schmidt,

Brylee Schuenemann, Sue Vant Hul, and Jim Van Alstine

ALTAR GUILD: Sandra Weber, Konni Harbach, Dawn Marten.

USHERS: 8:00a.m.- Cory Schroeder, Clay Schroeder, Brian Stauss, Andy Sprenger, Kevin Oleck. 10:30a.m. – Jeff Plass, Todd Marten, John Marten, Dave Probst, Nathan Kracht.

6:00 p.m. Eric Vant Hul.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

Offerings: 2/11 & 2/12 - \$10,900 (needed each week \$19,200). \$2,200 Growing Forward. \$250 Faith for the Future.

ATTENDANCE: 2/11 & 2/12: 8:00 A.m. - 209. 10:30 A.m. - 165. 6:00 P.m. - 56. ASH Wednesday - 202.

In our prayers this week...

- 1. Nathan and Molly Meitner, as Nathan received a divine call to teach at Sola Fide Academy in Lawrenceville, GA.
- 2. Bennett Mason Schroeder, born to Logan and Leah Schroeder this week and baptized in the hospital. Thankful for good health.
- 3. Thanksgiving for Sharon Pahl's successful surgery last week.

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times
Sunday, February 18	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship 3K & 4K Sing 10:30 a.m. Service
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour
Monday, February 19	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship
	6:00 p.m. Bible Information Class
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
Wednesday, February 21	9:00 a.m. Bible Study
	4:15 p.m. Public School Catechism
	5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Dinner before Worship
	6:30 p.m. Lent Worship
	7:30 p.m. Officers
	7:30 p.m. School Board
Thursday, February 22	6:00 p.m. PTF Meeting (Meal @ 5:00 p.m.)
Saturday, February 24	8:00 a.m. Pizza Assembly Day!
Sunday, February 25	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour
Monday, February 26	4:30 p.m. Trustees
	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship
	6:00 p.m. Bible Information Class
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Grow with Christ

Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- 1. **Sunday Bible Study** In light of recent events and questions that have come up from individuals, the congregational leadership is planning to have adult Bible study in the church today. We will address several things from God's Word, including the qualifications for a called worker, the peace we have through forgiveness, and ways our members can walk together under God's grace moving forward. Our leaders will also announce the plans that are being developed for ministry staffing in the short-term and longer-term.
- 2. **Bible Information Class -** Our current Bible Information Class is on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm. We are very blessed to have 19 enrolled this time around!
- 3. **Wednesday Bible Study** resumed last week. Our study is on *predestination* and *election*. It is still a great time to jump in. Class begins at 9:00 am.
- 4. **Lent -** Our Wednesday evening worship series is entitled "God on Trial". As our society becomes increasingly secular, we Christians become more aware of the many ways that God and his people are judged. We will look at scenes from Jesus' trial during Holy Week and find forgiveness for ourselves, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth. Once again our area WELS pastors will rotate around to the different churches.
- 5. Marriage Retreat Staff Minister Luther Curia is hosting another marriage enrichment retreat March 15-16. This year's retreat will be held on campus to make use of our new facilities and to accommodate those who aren't able to get away for a weekend. Flyers with event details and registration forms are available in the member room! Register by Wednesday, February 28 either by dropping off your form in the office or online using the QR code. Feel free to contact Luther Curia with any questions: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

In Other News

1. **Call Updates:** Emily Panzer has accepted our call to be our permanent 4K teacher. Andy Dais returned his call to Oshkosh and will continue serving as

our 5-6 grade teacher and athletic director. On February 5, our 1st grade teacher, Dawn Johnson, received a call to teach Kindergarten at Salem Lutheran in Milwaukee. On February 11, our member Nathan Meitner, who teaches at Manitowoc Lutheran High School, received a call to teach at Sola Fide Academy in Lawrenceville, GA. Nathan's wife Molly teaches Kindergarten at St. Paul's. Please pray for our teachers and encourage them as they consider opportunities for service in God's kingdom!

- 2. **Worship Service Ushers:** Thank you to those who regularly volunteer to serve as ushers for our worship services. As we prepare the usher schedule, please consider serving for at least one month each year. A request for additional ushers in certain months (like July) will soon be sent via Church Community Builder (CCB). Please sign up via a response to this request or by placing your name next to a vacant position on the "Usher List" in the Member Room. Please contact Will Belitz (920-693-8837 or Cellular 920-946-6617) as questions arise. Thank you for serving your congregation.
- 3. **Lenten Meals** Thank you to the following groups that have signed up for a Lenten meal! Dinner will be served from 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. each week before worship. The following meals will be served:

February 21st - Bushman Family - PULLED PORK & HOT BEEF February 28th - Pioneers: FRENCH BREAD PIZZAS March 6th - Teachers: BUILD YOUR OWN SUB March 13th - Ladies Aid - SLOPPY JOES March 20th - Youth Group - CHILI

4. **ATTENTION ALL ARTISTS!** St. Paul's will be holding a special event for both our school families and congregation members called a Night of the Arts on Friday, March 1st! We are excited to be able to showcase a variety of student artwork, but we'd also love to display some art from the many talented artists in our congregation (watercolors, oil pastels, pyrography, glasswork, etc.) Grab something from the past or create something new! We know you're out there and we're excited to share your work! Please sign up by scanning the QR code_or contact Molly Meitner at (608)-498-7605 or molly.meitner@stpaulshowardsgrove.org to learn more!

- 5. **Pi Night:** The Activities Committee invites you to Pie Night Thursday, March 14 (3.14) from 5:30-7:30 pm! Do you have a tried and true pie recipe? Enter the pie baking contest! Prizes will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. Don't know how to make pie but like to eat it? Come and enjoy some delicious pies and pizza for the whole family. There will also be plenty of activities for all ages (pin the toppings on the pizza, uno, trivia, etc.). For those of you who get a little mad for March, we will be projecting the game on the big screen. **Sign up online using the QR code or in the member room by Sunday night, 3.10.**
- 6. **Urgent Housing Request for MLHS:** Weekend host families are still needed! We are excited to host the East Regional WELS Band Festival on March 14-17, 2023. **Seventy-one** students from 11 WELS high schools around the country will be coming for the event. Would you have space and are you willing to host 2 or more students for 2-3 nights? (Please note that the dates are at the end of the MLHS spring break.) If you can help or have questions, please scan the QR code or go to www.mlhslancers.org/finearts to sign up as a host or learn more information. Hosting students is very rewarding and helps make the event possible for these talented musicians! Thank you for considering!
- 7. **Easter Egg Hunt:** The Activities committee is hosting another Easter Egg Hunt this year! **Date:** Saturday, March 30 **Schedule:** 9:30 arrival (head into our new gathering space through the school entrance) & Easter Egg Hunt (ages 0-12) 10:00 Activities (crafts and coloring pages galore). This year as a way to try and make the hunt equally fun for all, children will exchange 10 empty eggs they find for a treat bag full of yummy snacks and candy. There will also be donuts, juice, milk, and coffee. If the weather is bad, the children will do their hunt throughout our building. **Register by March 18 using the QR code to help the committee plan for the event.** There will also soon be a paper signup in the coatroom. Contact Luther Curia with any questions: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org; 920.287.8575
- 8. **Howards Grove Fire Department Brat fry** is on Sunday, February 25th and they are looking for donations of cakes or tortes! Please have your UNCUT cake or torte in the kitchen by 9am that morning. Please mark your cake pans with your name or use disposable ones. Sign up sheet can be

- found in the member room. If you have any questions, please contact Trevor Wehrmann, wehrmannt@gmail.com or 920-980-1871.
- 9. **Double Kwik Trip** Earn funds for our school twice as fast because Kwik Trip is doubling the discount given to us through the month of February. (Now 10%). You can buy your Scrip between services or by calling or visiting the office.
- 10. We had a RECORD PTF Pizza Sale this year, selling 4,748 pizzas! WAY TO GO! We still need LOTS of volunteers for Assembly Day on Saturday, February 24th! We have about 50 people signed up...BUT we need at least 100 to make things go as smoothly and quickly as last year! Sign up in the member room or scan the QR code. Members who ordered through a student will have their pizzas delivered. If you placed your own order, you should pick up your pizzas on Feb. 24. We will call you when they are ready! We could also use some donations of paper grocery bags for pizza packaging (please bring to the office). Contact Katie Meyer with any questions!
- 11. **Easter Flowers** It's that time again to order plants to decorate the church for Easter. There will be a list of available blooming plants in the Narthex. Please make out your check to the St. Paul's Altar Guild or exact cash and place your payment in an envelope. Payments can be placed in the marked drawer in the member room. If you have any questions, please call Eileen Perronne at 920-838-4307.