



1301 Hogan Lane • Waco, Texas 76705

Sunday Worship
8:00am & 10:30am

**Sunday School &
Bible Class**
9:15am

Church office
254.799.3211

Church Fax
254.412.0529

On the Web
www.splcwaco.com

Senior Pastor
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St. Paul Lutheran WacoTx



Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church
The Church on the Highway... Where Life and Jesus Intersect

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 29, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONSITE WORSHIP will not be conducted at St. Paul Lutheran Church, in accord with CDC and local government COVID-19 guidelines. Currently, this will be until Sunday, May 10, unless the guidelines change before that date. We will continue to monitor and follow the CDC and local guidelines through this time to determine when we can resume our regular worship gatherings. In the meantime, we will continue providing live-streaming and archived copies of our 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service. Plus, Lenten Home Worship Guides will be provided on the church Web site for use in place of the Midweek Lenten services. Additionally, "Countdown to Easter" devotions will be posted Monday through Friday on the St. Paul Facebook page until Easter.

LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP SERVICES: Our 10:30 am Sunday worship service is streamed live on the Internet. To view the 10:30 am service, go to the church Web site at www.splcwaco.com, click on the link "LIVE STREAMING" on the home page, and select which service you would like to view (current or archived). You may also view the live-stream via the church Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/StPaulWaco.

REMEMBER OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN PRAYER:

The weekly prayer list will continue to be shared via email every Monday and Friday. If you are currently not receiving emails through Constant Contact, please contact the church via email: wecare@splcwaco.com. We will also include a condensed version of the News & Events bulletin insert in the emails.

FLOWERS were placed on our altar today to the glory of God by Garland & Janis Haverkamp in loving memory of their son, Travis Haverkamp; and in thankfulness for God's many blessings.

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PRAYER BEFORE DIVINE WORSHIP

Almighty God, grant to Your church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

(Please silence your cell phones and mobile devices during our worship time.)

Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn, 686: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

1. Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love.
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, I take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.
4. Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.

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Invocation

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution (based on Psalm 130, ESV)

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

Response: O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

Pastor: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Response: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God be merciful to me a sinner.

Response: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: Amen.

Litany of Response (based on Psalm 130, ESV)

Pastor: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

Response: My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning.

Pastor: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

Response: And with him is plentiful redemption.

Hymn of Praise: "He Is Exalted"

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;

I will praise Him.

He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;

Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name;

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

(Repeat)

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Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹ Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'

¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:1-11

¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus^l was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, O Christ!

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.**

Hymn of the Day: "You Are My All in All"

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking you as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name

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Sermon: "Dry Bones"Ezekiel 37:1-14
Pastor Hardaway

Offering Announcement

Prayer of the Church

*The petitions of the prayer will conclude with "Lord, in Your mercy,"
after which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."*

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 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 Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Response: Amen.

Closing Hymn: 687: "Thine Forever, God of Love" vv. 1-3

1. Thine forever, God of love!
Hear us from Thy throne above;
Thine forever may we be
Here and in eternity!

2. Thine forever! Oh, how blest
They who find in Thee their rest!
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend,
O defend us to the end!

3. Thine forever, Lord, of Life!
Shield us through our earthly strife.
Thou, the life, the truth, the way,
Guide us to the realms of day.

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Post-service Music

MEETING AND ACTIVITY NOTICES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29 - APRIL 5, 2020

SHELTER IN PLACE: On Monday, March 23, 2020, in response to COVID-19, McLennan County declared "Shelter in Place" restrictions, that went into effect at midnight of the 23rd for at least 14 days. This means that the church office will be closed for that 14 day period until April 6, or until further notice. In accord with these county directives, staff members will be working from their homes. Fortunately, the "Shelter in Place" guidelines will still allow the live-stream of our worship services on Sunday mornings at 10:30 (see directions below). So, those on-line services will continue.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: In the event of an emergency during this time, please contact Pastor Krueger or Pastor Hardaway (contact information available on the cover of the Sunday worship folder). We will continue to serve the congregation as well as we can during this time.

PORTALS OF PRAYER: With "Shelter in Place" restrictions in place, which includes a stoppage of non-essential travel, the April-June Portals of Prayer will now be mailed to your household. So, please do not come to the church to retrieve your copy, as was previously announced.

COUNTDOWN TO EASTER: A daily devotion from our pastors will be posted Monday-Friday during Lent on the [St. Paul Lutheran Church \(Waco, TX\)](#) Facebook page. These Countdown to Easter devotions will be focusing on the Gospel of Matthew starting from Matthew 16:21, where Jesus speaks of going to Jerusalem for His upcoming death and resurrection.

LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP SERVICES: We will live-stream our Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. during this time. To live-stream from the Internet, simply go to the St. Paul Web site at www.splcwaco.com and click on the LIVESTREAM & ARCHIVES button. Then, follow the directions from there. A copy of the worship folder is available by clicking on the link provided on the home page. Live-streaming may also be viewed via the church Facebook page: [St Paul Lutheran Church \(Waco, TX\)](#).

Those of you who enjoy reading the weekly News & Events insert will still be able to view a condensed version of that information through the weekly email through Constant Contact. If you are not currently receiving those emails, please contact the church office by email: wecare@splcwaco.com.

We pray that everyone will take the necessary precautions to stay healthy during this time. Wash those hands, keep your distances, and, for now, avoid assembling in groups. Mostly, keep on praying for the St. Paul family, our community, state, nation and the world, especially those serving to supply our daily bread, to protect us from harm, and to address the medical needs of all.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday: Deuteronomy 1-3	Thursday: Deut. 13-16
Monday: Deuteronomy 4-6	Friday: Deuteronomy 17-19
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 7-9	Saturday: Deut. 20-22
Wednesday: Deut. 10-12	