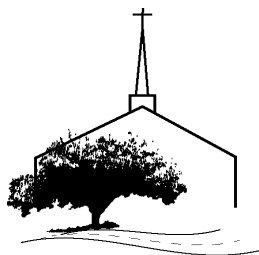


St. Paul Lutheran Church
Sunday Worship



*Loving others
into the Love of Christ*

8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School & Bible Class
9:15am

**Our Church Infant/Toddler
Nursery is available during
the 9:15am Sunday School
hour, and during our
10:30am Worship.**

Church office
254.799.3211

On the Web
www.splcwaco.com

Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Brian Hesse
pastorhesse@splcwaco.com

Vicar
Rory Fry
VicarFry@splcwaco.com

Deaconess
Dcs. Suzanne Krahn
dcskrahn@splcwaco.com

Organist/Music Dir.
Steve Randolph

Administrative Asst.
Cindy Byrd
wecare@splcwaco.com

**Use your smartphone camera
to download our church app:**



Follow us on Social Media:



FACEBOOK
St. Paul Lutheran WacoTx



YOUTUBE
St. Paul Lutheran WacoTx





St. Paul Lutheran Church

The Church on the Highway

Loving others into the Love of Christ

Easter Sunday ✝ March 31, 2024

"Be thoughtful - be silent - be reverent; for this is the house of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord; During the service, let the Lord speak to you; After the service, speak to one another."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LORD IS RISEN! HALLELUJAH! Today we celebrate the foundation of our faith: The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is with exceeding joy that we welcome all who have come to recall Christ's victory over sin and death. Rejoice, dear friends! Members, please remember to fill out a "White Registration Card" so we can have a proper soul-accounting, and Guests, please sign the guest book and complete a "Yellow Visitor Card" located in the hymnal rack. Please place your completed card in the offering plate or in the card collection slot at the end of each pew (center aisle side).

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED TODAY!

God's word says that in this Sacrament we receive Christ's real Body and real Blood in, with, and under the Bread and Wine. Our Lord Jesus makes these 4 elements present so that we might receive the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. Because Jesus expresses His love to us in such a real presence, He asks us to prepare ourselves and examine ourselves in the following manner before receiving His sacrament.

In Preparation To Receive the Sacrament:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinful person without any hope of eternal life except for God's mercy to me found only through Jesus?
2. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and also a true human being who is my personal Savior from all sin?
3. Do I believe that His true Body and Blood are really present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with the bread and the wine?
4. Do I hope by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a Godly life?

As you come to Holy Communion you are affirming a steadfast belief in the statements above. In this belief and by receiving the Sacrament you are affirming that Jesus Christ is your Savior and that you are in unity with those who commune with you. Following the above guidelines allows you to take Holy Communion in a worthy manner. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm and bring God's wrath and judgment on themselves (1 Corinthians 11:27-30), we ask that any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession different from the congregations of **Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod** are requested to refrain from receiving the Sacrament. Each person may come forward for a blessing with hands folded as an indication to the pastor that they wish to receive a blessing. An alcohol-removed wine (distinguished by its lighter color) is offered in the center of each communion tray as an option. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request during distribution at the altar. The Common Cup will also be offered with each table. If you do not take an individual cup, the pastor will serve the Chalice. If you have any questions regarding the reception of Holy Communion please speak to a pastor or one of the elders of our congregation before the service.

FLOWERS were placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by Linda Mitchell in loving memory of her husband, Randy Mitchell, and her daughter, Elizabeth Mitchell McCullough, and her brother, Kenneth Watson; and in honor of her son, Jonathan Mitchell; and her grandchildren, Katherine McCullough and Dustin McCullough.

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE: We offer childcare for infant and nursery age children **during our 9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Class hour and our 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service.** We also offer a weekly **children's bulletin**, quarterly devotion books and activity bags for children during our worship located as you enter the Narthex (please return all items to the activity bag after worship and return to the hooks on your way out of worship).

AS WE GATHER

When Isaiah wrote about God's plans in terms of a feast, people may have wondered, "Says who?" The prophecy wasn't clear, and the resurrection of Jesus was still centuries in the future. If the women at the tomb decided to tell someone later, they might not have been believed. But today's Epistle includes a list of those who did hear and see Jesus Himself, including Paul, who had persecuted the church. We are here because untold millions of our brothers and sisters heard God's Word, came to faith, and couldn't keep the news to themselves. Who told you? Whom will you tell? And if anyone asks, "Says who?" invite them to join us in worship to hear for themselves.

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

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

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

EASTER ACCLAMATION AND INVOCATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN, 457: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We cannot enter God's presence as we are. Our sinful condition falls short of the glory of God. Let us therefore give voice to those sins, confessing our faults and failures to one another and to God Himself.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad! God has not merely overlooked your faults; He became one of us as Jesus, who died to pay for every sin or yours and your sinfulness itself. Jesus not only paid the penalty; on this day our heavenly Father proclaimed to all the world that He accepted the payment. Your sins are forgiven indeed! In the stead and by the command of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Was It A Morning Like This"

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN'S BANNERS)

HYMN OF THE DAY, 465: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>2 Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>4 Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |
|--|---|

SERMON: "Skipping Easter" – Mark 16:8

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. He lives to intercede for us before the Father. With confidence, let us present to God our petitions for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus.
For the holy Christian Church throughout the world, that it may be found without fault at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all believers in the Lord Jesus that their lives may testify to His resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, that a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those in positions of public trust in all levels of government, that they may serve justice and promote the welfare and dignity of every person, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who suffer because of poverty, persecution, or sickness, especially..., and all others we name in our hearts..., that they may know the healing power of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who grieve because of the death of their loved ones, that through the sure hope of the resurrection of Christ, God would wipe away the tears from their eyes and give them comfort, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth God's glory in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who come this day to the feast of our Lord's body and blood, that their faith be strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

OFFERING

PREFACE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You.

LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Hymn, 463: "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today, Alleluia"

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Hymn, 474: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

- 1 Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! Refrain
- Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!
- 2 Walking the way,
Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread,
Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain
- 3 Jesus the vine,
We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain
- 4 Weeping, be gone;
Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
"O grave, be open!"
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain
- 5 City of God,
Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life,
Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005286

Hymn, 475: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 3 Praise we in songs of victory
That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;
Let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |

Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005286

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, that You have refreshed us through this gift of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Strengthen us by this Sacrament to live in the startling reality that Christ is alive and with us each day until we join saints and angels around His banquet table; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

DEPARTING HYMN, 461: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Public domain

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.
Copyright © 2023 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Classes for All Ages

Please join us for Sunday School and Bible Classes at 9:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Study (Albers Family Life Center)

Today we will explore the Old Testament Reading from Isaiah. Starting in April, we will begin a short series on the Old Testament Festivals that point us to our risen Savior.

ASK PASTOR HESSE: Outside Pastor Hesse's office you will find a box to place any questions that you would like Pastor Hesse to answer during the Adult Bible Study class on Sunday mornings.

Men's Bible Class (classroom behind the Parish Hall)

This class is studying, *The Messiah: Revealing Jesus in the Old Testament*. This Bible study works through all 39 books of the Old Testament and identifies crossovers between New Testament themes and ideas.

Ladies Bible Class (Conference Room)

This class will begin a new study on Sunday, April 7, "God's Provision in a Wilderness World" by Lindsay Hausch. This book will lead you through the Book of Exodus as the Israelites wander through the wilderness, pointing you to what God wants you to know and apply to your own life. Our culture is a wilderness where our effort to satisfy our needs with things of this world leaves our hearts empty and aching for more. Every day, no matter where you wander, God invites you to take time in His Word and recenter your heart on Him. God's provision for you is personal. He meets you where you are. And He gives you what you need.

Children & Youth Sunday School Classes (Nursery—12th grade/College)

This morning all Children and Youth Sunday School classes will meet in the Youth Room for ***Pancakes & Pillows***. This will include a pancake breakfast, an Easter devotion and pillow service project for the Bellmead Police Department. These classes will all return to their studies next Sunday, April 7.

Other Bible Study Opportunities:

College Student Evening Bible Study/Fellowship

This group meets on Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. in the Rogers Engineering Building, room 207, at Baylor University. Please see Karen Shelton with any questions.

Ladies Bible Study Group in the Conference Room

This group meets in the Conference Room on the First and Third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. They are studying, "CHOSEN: A Study of Esther." In this study, see that God's presence is ever-abundant in your life, and that God gives you the courage to live fearlessly as Esther did. Learn the historical context of the Book of Esther to enrich your understanding of God's Word.

Youth Confirmation/Catechesis Training and Music (grades 5-8)

These classes meet every Wednesday. Students in grades 6-8 meet in the Youth Room at 6:30 p.m. with Pastor Hesse, and students in 5th grade meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room with Deaconess Krahn. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Hesse.

There's a place for EVERYONE to be immersed in God's Word and fellowship with other Christians!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31 - APRIL 7, 2024

EASTER BANNERS: St. Paul writes, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come." (2 Corinthians 5:17) Our Easter banners were consecrated for use in our worship sanctuary at our Easter sunrise service 2024. The banner depicts numerous butterflies. The butterfly transforms within a cocoon from a caterpillar taking on new life. Butterflies are the Christian symbol for the new life we have in Christ. The Easter lilies in white depict the purity of Christ, the one who has risen from the dead. Just as lilies rise from the earth each spring so Christ has risen. The cross and its shadow remind us that Christ died for our sins. They are depicted in gold and silver reminding us of I Peter 1:18-19, "You were ransomed from the futile ways you inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ." Living in the shadow of the cross and the hope of the resurrection we have eternal life! The banners were custom-made for our worship space by Irene Degner, Janet Hurta, Mari Kubitza, Claudia Luedke, Linda Mitchell, Bobbie Reinhardt, Margie Shelton, Ray Shelton, and Jacqueline Uptmore.

WE THANK THOSE WHO SHARED THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS IN OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING: REMEMBER OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN PRAYER:

The weekly prayer list is shared via email every Monday and Friday. If you are not receiving emails through Constant Contact, please contact the church via email: wecare@splcwaco.com.

PIZZA & PUTT-PUTT: The Children's Ministry will host an afternoon of Pizza, PuttPutt and games at Putter's Waco (320 S. 2nd St., Waco) at **Noon on Sunday, April 14, 2024**. Please join us for pizza, putt-putt, arcade games, Jenga, cornhole, and fun! **Please sign-up by Sunday, April 7.** A sign-up sheet is located in the church foyer and registration is also available on the Children's Ministry page of the church website (www.splcwaco.com).

CHURCH OFFICER ELECTIONS will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2024, during both worship services. The slate of nominees will be introduced during both worship services on Sunday, April 21, 2024, for the offices of: Secretary of the Congregation; Chair, Bd. of Children's Ministry; Chair, Bd. of Ushers; Chair, Bd. of Building & Grounds; Chair, Bd. of Fellowship; and Four Elders introduced. Please continue to be in prayer for the Call Committee (a list of those serving is available in the church office) and our church family as we prepare for church elections this month.

CALL FOR DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE: As we continue to seek the Lord's guidance in our call process for a Director of Youth and Family Ministry, we have officially received a Call List of 14 eligible candidates to consider. As required by St. Paul's bylaws, the Call Committee is giving the congregation a 30 day window to provide comments regarding any candidate on the list. A list of the 14 candidates is available through the church office (wecare@splcwaco.com). Please submit all comments on any of the above candidates to the church office. Comments must be submitted in writing with the church member's name attached. This comment period will close on Monday, April 8, 2024.

CENTRAL TEXAS LWML ZONE invites ALL WOMEN to the Spring Event 2024! This year's theme will be "A New Spring Wardrobe" based on Colossians 3:12-14: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." The guest speaker will be Joy Cowan, Vice-President of Christian Life. We will meet at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Whitney, Texas on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the event beginning at 9:30 a.m. The cost will be \$10 per person (which will include a light breakfast and lunch). There will be an in-gathering to benefit Hill County CPS - Rainbow Room (diaper rash cream, baby lotion, baby wash, and disposable diapers size 3, 4 & 5). Please RSVP by Monday, April 15, 2025 to Debbie Dollins (number available through the church office).

YOUTH SUMMER TRIP: There will be a trip planning meeting on Sunday, April 21, 2024, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. All youth (those finishing up 6th grade in 2024 through 12th grade) and their parents are encouraged to attend to discuss destinations and activities. Lunch will be provided, so **please RSVP** on the church website (www.splcwaco.com) **by April 14** for meal planning. Please contact Hannah Galler (number available through the church office) with any questions. This will also serve as our Youth Spring Hangout! All youth please plan to come and join the fun!

THANK YOU:

- ☛ Steve Randolph extends his heartfelt thanks to the St. Paul family for all of their calls, cards, prayers, and words of encouragement following his recent heart procedure; with special thanks to the Ol' Sew 'n' Sow Quilting Group for the lovely quilt and Pastor Hesse for his prayers and encouraging words.

MEETING AND ACTIVITY NOTICES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31 - APRIL 7, 2024

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 ~ Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m.: Easter Sunrise Worship
7:00 a.m.: Easter Pancake Breakfast (sponsored by the St. Paul Men's Club)
8:00 a.m.: Easter Worship in the Sanctuary
9:15 a.m.: Adult Bible Classes (Albers Family Life Center)
9:15 a.m.: Ladies Bible Class (Conference Room)
9:15 a.m.: Men's Bible Class (classroom behind the Parish Hall)
9:15 a.m.: Children & Youth Pancakes & Pillows Service Project (Youth Room)
10:30 a.m.: Easter Worship in the Sanctuary

MONDAY, APRIL 1

Church Office Closed in observance of Easter

10:00 a.m.: Quilting Group (Parish Hall)
7:00 p.m.: AA/Al-Anon Meetings (Classrooms)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

10:00 a.m.: Tri-Cities Ministries (Parish Hall/Classrooms)
12:00 p.m.: Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry (parking lot/building)
7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

9:30 a.m.: Ladies Bible Study Group (Conference Room)
12:00 p.m.: Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry (parking lot/building)
6:00 p.m.: Children/Youth Hand Chimes Rehearsal
6:15 p.m.: Adult Choir Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.: Confirmation/Midweek Classes (Grades 6-7 in the Youth Room, Grade 5 in the Conference Room)

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

7:00 a.m.: Lawn/Building Maintenance
12:00 p.m.: Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry (parking lot/building)
7:00 p.m.: AA/Al-Anon Meetings (Classrooms)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

12:00 p.m.: Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry (parking lot/building)
7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:00 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary
9:15 a.m.: Adult Bible Classes (Albers Family Life Center)
9:15 a.m.: Ladies Bible Class (Conference Room)
9:15 a.m.: Men's Bible Class (classroom behind the Parish Hall)
9:15 a.m.: Simply Loved Sunday School (grades Nursery through 4th Grade, Music Room/classrooms)
9:15 a.m.: Enduring Faith Sunday School (grades 5-8, Music Room/classrooms)
9:15 a.m.: College/High School Youth Bible Study and Fellowship (Youth Room)
10:30 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

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

ATTENDANCE TOTALS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship	137
Sunday School/Adult Bible Class.....	62/100
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship	174
Live Stream Sunday Worship.....	26