



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

BUILD THE HOME, CHANGE THE WORLD

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Board of Elders

Malcolm Head (Chair)
Adam Mize (Chair-Elect)
Bob Fleck
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ITEMS NEEDED FOR EASTER BREAKFAST

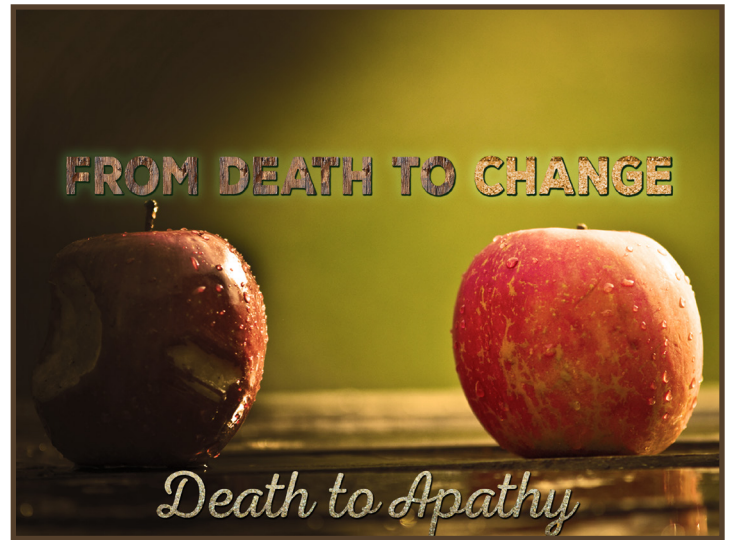
Donations of pastries, fruit, and juice are needed for Easter Breakfast (3/27). Contact the Church Office if you can donate.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 18th** Power shut-down begins 3/17 at 6pm
Church Building and Early Learning Center Closed
- March 19th** Early Bird pricing still available for ISI - register today!
Iron Sharpens Iron Conference (Springfield, IL)
SHiNe Family Easter Event (10:00am @SPL)
- March 20th** Be sure to get your "Transformed" book order in TODAY!
Special Voters Meeting (9:30am @SPL Great Room)
- March 23rd**
Rehearsal for Good Friday (All Musicians/Vocalists @6:30pm)
- March 24th**
Maundy Thursday Worship (7:00pm @SPL)
- March 25th** Featuring Rehoboth Christian School & SPL Choirs
Good Friday Tenebrae Service (1:00pm & 7:00pm @SPL)
- March 26th** **No Saturday services on 3/26**
Rehearsals for Easter Sunday (Choir 10am, Praise Team 11am)
- March 27th**
Easter Sunday Worship (6:30, 8:00, 10:30am @SPL)
New Member Welcome at 10:30am Worship
Easter Breakfast (Serving begins at 7:30am)
- March 30th** Contact Mary Peck if interested at 217-428-4228
Hands Only Compression CPR Instruction (6:30pm @Great Rm)
- March 31st** Visit our ELC website at ELCDecatur.org
ELC Preschool Open House (6:00-7:00pm @SPL ELC)
- April 2nd & 3rd** "Transformed" - Church-wide series kickoff



Visit our website at spldecat.org
Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stpaulsdecatour
Follow us on Twitter at [@SPLDecatur](https://twitter.com/SPLDecatur)



6:30 PM LENTEN WORSHIP
MARCH 16, 2016

Pastor Doug Bender

Pastor Eric Trickey

Pastor Wray Offermann



For what will it profit a man if he gains
the whole world and forfeits his soul?
Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?
MATTHEW 16:26

Preparing for Worship

As we continue to follow Jesus toward the cross, toward the death that ultimately brings resurrection life, our Lenten journey draws to a close. We look to our Father to draw us close to Him, through His Son Jesus. Even as Jesus did, we ask for His help in surrendering to Him the areas of our lives where we are struggling, where we need to follow His will. Whatever continues to be before you, we pray that you may persevere and hold strong as you press on.

We come together to acknowledge our sin, to acknowledge our mortality. We come to glimpse the Christ who offers forgiveness, who offers everlasting life.

As part of our last Lenten worship, we continued our study into the sins that may plague our lives by taking a deeper look at lust. We continue to put these sins to death on the cross - they die as Jesus died on the cross. May that be a reminder for us to be conscious of our sin, urging us to have our hearts and minds open to how God can speak into our lives as we walk with Jesus in this season of Lent.

Let us begin our time of worship by focusing our minds and hearts on God's presence with us.

Welcome

Invocation



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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PH: 217-423-6955 | INFO@SPLDECATUR.ORG
SPLDECATUR.ORG

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Confession of Sins

Almighty God, You desire me to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You and in harmony with Your perfect Will. Your Word is the final authority over my life, and commands me to lay my agenda down and follow You. Often, Lord, I simply do not care. I don't care about what You have to say and what Your Will requires of my life. I explain away the hard parts of Your teaching and tell myself some things You have to say really don't apply. Help me in my weakness. Take away my sins - the evil I've done as well as all the good I have failed to do. And forgive me for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Opening Praise

Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)

Sharing of the Gospel

Matthew 27:27-33

Man of Sorrows

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Our offerings, gifts, and tithes are returned to Jesus in response to His sacrificial love for us. During the offering time, please complete one of the worship cards found in the pew in front of you and pass it to the center aisle.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus (Handbell Choir)

Message and Teaching Time

"From Death to Change: Death to Apathy"

We Surrender Our Sin

Pastor: The wages of APATHY is death.

People: **But the gift of God is eternal life.**

Blessing

Closing Song

Abide with Me (v. 6)

Join us next week for Holy Week Worship
Maundy Thursday 7pm, Good Friday 1pm & 7pm

SERVE WITH US THIS EASTER

We have several serving opportunities available for Holy Week & Easter - Easter Breakfast helpers, parking attendants, greeters, hosts, etc. Visit spldecat.org/category/volunteer-opportunities for details or contact the church office at 217-423-6955.

Our Belief: Receiving the Lord's Supper

The Apostle Paul wrote, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28) In order to examine yourself before attending the Lord's Supper, when offered, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do I believe I am a sinner, and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Jesus, by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
3. Do I believe I receive the body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and wine? (They are not merely symbolically present.)
4. Do I truly desire to turn from my sinful ways?

If you are able to answer "yes" to these questions, we invite you to join us for the Lord's Supper, when offered. Children and adults who cannot answer affirmatively are invited and encouraged to come forward for a blessing but should refrain from receiving the bread and wine.*

**For those who are unable, or prefer not to consume wine, cups with white grape juice are located in the center of the communion trays.*

"From Death to Change: Death to Apathy"

(Selected Verses)

As a parent, how have you reacted to these words from a child: "I don't care."

Apathy is the sin of _____.

- It's not enough to _____ the right thing, we must also _____ the right thing.

Why is apathy a big deal - I'm already saved, right?!

"The Bible is very easy to understand. But we Christians are a bunch of scheming swindlers. We pretend to be unable to understand it because we know very well that the minute we understand, we are obliged to act accordingly."

- Soren Kierkegaard

- Grace _____ for holy living; grace never _____ in the _____ of holy living. *Romans 6:11-13*
- Salvation is a _____ gift that costs _____. *Matthew 16:24-26*
- Faith in Christ is a gift worth _____. *1 John 3:16-18*
- Faith is meant to get _____. *Philippians 2:12-13*
- Living in Christ will inevitably bring _____. *James 1:2-4*
- "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Fighting apathy means chasing perfection.

- We can never live a perfectly holy life, but it shouldn't stop us from _____. *Luke 10:25-37*
- Discipleship happens in two ways: _____ and _____.

Notes

BREAD BAKING HELPERS NEEDED

We are in need of fun, kind helpers to bake unleavened bread for Maundy Thursday with Sara Trickey: Dough Making Wed. 3/23 @4pm, Baking Thurs. 3/24 @9am. Contact Andrea Gerhard if you can help (217-423-6955).