



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

BUILD THE HOME, CHANGE THE WORLD

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Board of Elders

Adam Mize (Chair)
Greg Florian
Larry Oestreich
Steve Zarndt

Craig Willis (Chair-elect)
David Minick
Michael Peer

Experience Midweek Lenten Worship

12:15pm & 6:30pm Weekly on Wednesdays thru April 5th
Dinner served at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Area

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2nd
Early Communion Classes Begin (6th Graders -Dining Room)

March 5th
SPL Volunteer Luncheon (12:30pm - Dining Room)

March 8th Worship at 12:15 & 6:30pm, Dinner 5:30pm
Midweek Lenten Worship (through April 5th)

March 16th
ELC Preschool Open House (6pm-7pm)

March 12th
Return "Change for Life" Baby Bottles for New Life PC

March 18th
Iron Sharpens Iron (Springfield)

March 18th
LSA Dinner Auction

March 19th
New Member Welcome (10:30am worship)

April 8th
"THE HUNT" - Family Easter Event and Egg Hunt (10am-noon)

April 13th-14th
Maundy Thursday Seder Tasting 6:30pm
(Register online @ spldecat.org/churchcenteronline.com)

Good Friday 1pm & 7pm

April 16th
Easter Sunday (6:30am, 8:00am, 10:30am)

April 19th
New Basics Class Begins for Prospective Members

CONNECT WITH US!

Visit our Website & View our Blog at spldecat.org

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stpaulsdecatour

Follow us on Twitter at @SPLDecatur

View our Live Stream at stpaulsdecatour.sermon.net



6:30 PM ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

MARCH 1, 2017

Pastor Eric Trickey

Pastor Doug Bender

Pastor Mark Gearig

Preparing for Worship

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian season of Lent. We will spend the coming days journeying together as we follow Jesus toward the cross; toward the death that ultimately brings resurrection life. Today, we mark the beginning of this Lenten journey.

We come together to acknowledge our sin, to acknowledge our mortality. We come to glimpse the Christ who offers forgiveness, who offers everlasting life and to learn from the unique perspective of the eyewitnesses of Jesus' suffering and death.

As part of today's worship, the imposition of ashes will be offered. This practice may not be familiar to everyone. Ashes have been used in Christian churches to mark the beginning of Lent since at least the 10th Century, and ashes are mentioned in scripture as a symbol of purification and repentance.

We offer the imposition of ashes today as a physical reminder of our mortality and sin; an assurance of God's forgiveness and salvation. After the confession, those who wish to receive the imposition of ashes will be invited to come forward. For those who come, the mark of ashes will be placed on your forehead. After you come in repentance you can then walk to the second station to receive the joy of forgiveness in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

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

Welcome

Invocation

Confession of Sins

Psalm 51:1-7, 10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions,



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and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Opening Praise

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
LSB#425 v. 1-4

Sharing of the Gospel

Matthew 26:36-46

Words of Institution

Receiving the Ashes and Communion

If you have not communed with us before, please read "Our Belief: Receiving The Lord's Supper" located on this page. We encourage families to commune together.

Ashes
(SPL Adult Choir)
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

O Come to the Altar

Do You Know

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Lord Have Mercy

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.

The Eyewitness: James

Message and Teaching Time

"Watch With Me"

Blessing

Closing Song

Abide with Me
LSB #878 v. 6

Eyewitnesses of the Passion: James

"Watch With Me"

Matthew 26:36-46

To watch is to be _____ and _____.

Requires _____, _____, and complete _____ on God through:

- _____
- _____

Must always be alert and prepared:

- Against our enemy, _____
- To receive the _____ and _____ of God

Though we fail to watch, Jesus will not _____ us.

Notes

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.

Weekly Lenten Worship

Thank you for coming together with us for Ash Wednesday worship today! We welcome you to join us each week throughout this season of Lent, with worship at 12:15pm (traditional) and 6:30pm (contemporary, family-friendly), through April 5th. Dinner is served at 5:30pm in the dining room each week, provided by a ministry area. Join us and make dinner and worship part of your family's weekly habit this Lenten season!