

S66 W14325 JANESVILLE RD • MUSKEGO WI 53150 • WELS • 414.422.0320 • WWW.STPAULMUSKEGO.ORG

# WHEN IS THIS GOING TO END?

# SATAN'S DOMAIN

November 21 and 22, 2020

On Christ the King Sunday, we find comfort in the fact that Satan's power to wreak havoc in this world is limited by the power of our King. Satan's power will come to an end when our King returns.

#### FACE MASK PLEASE

In humble service to all in our church community, we are asking all present from age 5 and up to wear a face mask during worship. Face masks are available from the ushers if you are without one. If you are unable to wear a face mask for medical reasons, please do all you can to maintain social distance from others. In Christian love, let us seek to protect the health of others.

#### ADVENT DEVOTIONAL INTRODUCTION

BELLS

**OPENING HYMN 373** 

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

O Jesus, King most wonderful, O Majesty renowned, O Conqueror invincible, In whom all joys are found,

When once you visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine, Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

Oh, may our tongues forever bless And honor you alone, And may we in our lives express The image of your own!

#### INVOCATION

M Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

C To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen (Revelation 1:4-6).

# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness." (Jeremiah 23:5-6). Since we have such a merciful King, let us humbly approach his throne, confess our sins, and plead for his mercy.
- C Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell. The arrogant cannot stand in your presence; you hate all who do wrong. But I, by your great mercy, will come into your house; in reverence will I bow down toward your holy temple. Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness. For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield (Psalm 5:2-5,7-8,12).
- As God's called servant I announce to you what the LORD says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King. Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. You are my witnesses, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. I am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior. I am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more (Isaiah 43:1,10-11,15,25).

# C Amen.

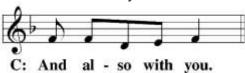
C

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



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



- M Let us pray.
  - Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one.
- C Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you as King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory.
- M For you live and reign with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



# FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23, 24

Jesus is often pictured as our Shepherd-King. Ezekiel's prophecy speaks of the rescue and safety this Shepherd-King will bring to all of God's flock.

"For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. <sup>14</sup> I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>16</sup> I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

<sup>23</sup>I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia. (*Revelation 22:13*)



GOSPEL Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus, our King, goes head to head with Satan and walks away the victor!

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

- <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.""
- <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:
- "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."
- <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
- <sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."
- <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"
- <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



## APOSTLES' 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.

## HYMN OF THE DAY 220

O'er The Distant Mountains Breaking

O'er the distant mountains breaking Comes the redd'ning dawn of day. Rise, my soul, from sleep awaking; Rise and sing and watch and pray. 'Tis your Savior, 'tis your Savior, On his bright returning way.

Come, O Long-Expected; weary Waits my spirit anxiously. Life is dark and earth is dreary Where your light I cannot see. O my Savior, O my Savior, When will you return to me?

Nearer is my soul's salvation; Spent the night, the day at hand. Keep me in my humble station, Watching for you till I stand, O my Savior, O my Savior, In your bright, your promised, land,

Psalm 47

- Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.
- <sup>2</sup>For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet.
- <sup>4</sup>He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.
- <sup>5</sup>God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.
- <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- <sup>7</sup> For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.
- <sup>8</sup> God reigns over the nations;God is seated on his holy throne.
- <sup>9</sup> The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!
- C Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory.
- M You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise, for you created all things and by your will they were created and have their being.
- C Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns!
- M You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased us for God. From every tribe and language and people and nation, you have called us into your kingdom and have made us priests to serve you, our God and Father.
- C Help us live as royal priests.
- M We give thanks to you, O Christ our Shepherd-King, because you have searched for us and found us. Lead us to the green pastures and quiet waters of your saving love, so that we may enjoy peace and comfort for our souls.
- C Heal our hearts when they are broken with sin and guilt. Strengthen us when we are weak.

- M We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. Come with your mighty power to break and defeat every evil plan and purpose of the devil, of the ungodly influences and ideas of the world, and of our own sinful nature. Use your power to calm the unrest among nations and peoples so that your kingdom may spread and grow.
- C Strengthen our confidence in knowing that your kingdom will never be destroyed.
- M O Christ our King, you have supremacy over all. You will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity. You have destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Reign in our hearts that we may serve you more faithfully and speak more boldly to others of your saving love.
- C Praise be to the Lord God, who alone does marvelous deeds. May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Special prayers and intercessions.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever, King of kings and Lord of lords.
- C The Lord God Almighty reigns! Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! Amen.

# LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 369 Beautiful Savior

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

#### CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

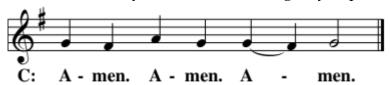


## **BLESSING**

M 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.



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **UPCOMING HOLIDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

# Thanksgiving Services

- Wednesday, November 25, at 6:30 pm
   This service will be livestreamed and available for replay at
  - o www.StPaulMuskego.org/online-worship
  - YouTube @ St. Paul's Muskego
  - Facebook @ St. Paul's Lutheran Church Muskego, Wisconsin
- Thursday, November 26, at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

# **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

- Wednesday, December 23, at 6:30 pm (no 7:00 pm traditional service this week)
- Thursday, December 24, at noon, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, and 10:00 pm

## The Bridge Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, December 24, at 11:30 am and 1:30 pm

# **Christmas Day Services**

Friday, December 25, at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of November 16, 2020

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)		
TUE	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Ministry Growth Team Meeting Walking Club (Main Church) Ministerial Team Meeting Public School Confirmation Classes (online) Divorce Care (School Classroom 8) Following the Promise Bible Study (Online)		
WED	6:30 am <b>6:30 pm</b>	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)  Thanksgiving Worship Service		
THURS	8:00 am 10:00 am	Thanksgiving Worship Service Thanksgiving Worship Service		
SAT				

**Holiday Office Hours** – The church and school office will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

# DONATE BLOOD ON OUR CAMPUS - DECEMBER I OR 17

Thank you to the many who gave blood on our campus on Tuesday. Two more opportunities are coming up; Tuesday, December I and Tuesday, December I7. With COVID-19 many have not been getting out to donate blood so the need has never been greater. Blood banks are in very short supply. Contact the Red Cross at I (800) 733-2767 or Versiti Blood Center at I (877) 232-4376 for more details on how to sign up for those dates. Blood donation happens in the Grace Room.

#### REMEMBERING ST. PAUL'S HOMEBOUND

A list of our homebound members has been placed at the Welcome Center for you to remember the homebound of our congregation during the holiday season.

# **BEATING HEARTS AND A COOL MILLION**

# **420 BEATING HEARTS!**

420 is the number of "Giving Units" who contributed to the Cool Million projects. Many of these "Giving Units" are married couples, so the number of generous donors is actually much higher.

Gifts ranged from \$5 to \$100,000. Each gift revealed the beating hearts of faith the Holy Spirit has created in His people here at St. Paul's. Let us give thanks for this miracle of the Holy Spirit among us!



# THE FINAL COOL MILLION PROJECT

When The Bridge service began in the Trinity Gym more than seven years ago, special gifts enabled us to purchase tens of thousands of dollars of portable equipment. The final Cool Million project is the installation of permanent projection, lighting, and sound equipment. This equipment improves the worship environment for those present and greatly reduces the amount of volunteer time needed to set up and take down The Bridge every weekend. This equipment is also useful for other events that take place in the Trinity Gym. These improvements will cost about \$100,000 when they are completed.

#### **GARDEN HOMES TITHE**



In 2019, St. Paul's President Mike Grimes and Pastor Panitzke were privileged to present a \$10,000 Cool Million Tithe to Garden Homes Lutheran Church and School on Milwaukee's north side. Part of our gift was used to encourage promising young Christian leaders in their faith by sending them to the International Youth Rally in Florida. The other half was used to purchase iPads for their "smallest learners" to use in their Christian Elementary School.

#### **OUR NEXT PROJECTS**

While our Cool Million projects will be completed this fall, more projects await us. Next spring, we will replace the 43-year-old HVAC system in our church building at a cost of over \$200,000. Sanctuary lighting improvements and repairs are also necessary. Over the last several years we have made great strides in producing a ministry plan that includes financing to prepare for these kinds of major maintenance items. It is our goal that we will not fall behind in preparing for major maintenance items.

Our next financial focus will be the \$1.5 million mortgage on our 2010 Trinity Gym/Café/Classrooms addition. It is our prayer that special gifts designated "Mortgage Fund" will erase this mortgage in the next few years.

# A GENEROUS GOD CREATES GENEROUS PEOPLE

# More than \$10,000 to Feed the Hungry!

Each month many of you give regularly to our Friends in Need Fund. As a result of your generosity, we have some exciting news to share:

- A St. Paul's family has generously donated \$3000 to feed those in need through the Muskego Food Pantry and the Garden Homes Lutheran Food Pantry this holiday season.
- St. Paul's Friends in Need Fund will **match the \$3000 gift** so that each ministry will receive \$3000 worth of food.
- St. Paul's Friends in Need Fund will also provide \$3000 to our Mexican Mission Partner Costa
  Maya Ministries to help them continue to provide food packets providing 1600 meals per week.
  Their community is devastated because COVID has stopped cruise ship tourists from visiting
  their city.
- St. Paul's members participation in this weekend's Food Drive will provide more than \$1000 in groceries to help the people in Muskego.

That is over \$10,000 St. Paul's members are giving to feed the hungry! "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat" (Matthew 25). Your faith in the Savior is evident in this outpowering of love.

#### **DECEMBER FAMILY IN NEED**

The year 2020 has been a difficult in many ways. On top of everything else, several of our member families have suffered devastating house fires. Thankfully no one was seriously injured. However, the insurance company for one of these families has not been cooperative. Repairs have not begun; bills continue to mount. If you would like to give a gift to help this family through this difficult time, designate an offering "December Family in Need." Thank you in advance for your loving care.

#### WISH LIST

The items listed below would greatly benefit the ministry at St. Paul's. These items are above and beyond the budgeted expenses. If you would like to give toward a Wish List item, clearly mark your envelope, "Wish List," with the item title, or give online at <a href="https://www.stpaulmuskego.org/give">www.stpaulmuskego.org/give</a>.

ltem	Est. Cost	Received	Still Needed
Photo Feature Walls	\$4,000	\$1,875	\$2,125
Church Signage Updates	\$6,373	\$0	\$6,373
Church Family Room Furniture Updates	\$8,850	\$3,003	\$5,847
Chromebooks for 6-8 grade	\$10,000	\$10,000	Fully funded
iPads for K-I	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
Centennial Gym Scoreboard	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000

# **Centennial Gym Scoreboard**

We would like to order a new scoreboard for the Centennial Gym. Installation would happen in summer 2021. Approximate cost of the board is \$4,000. Installation is estimated at \$1,000.

# iPads for K-I

We would like to order 30 iPads to be shared by our Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms. The devices would primarily support our students' number and letter recognition practice during work time.

# "HIS NAME IS JESUS"

# **CELEBRATING ADVENT AT HOME**

With the uncertainty that COVID is bringing upon all of us, we decided not to have mid-week Advent services or an in-person Living Nativity. Instead we are providing an Online Nativity for families and friends to meditate on this Christmas season.

## FOUR VIDEO DEVOTIONALS

Our team has been filming four five-minute scenes depicting the Christmas account. They will be combined with a short devotion by one of our pastors, a prayer, and then close with a song. We encourage you to use an advent wreath in your home, lighting a candle each week and then watching the devotion with anyone who is in your household. The entire devotion will last about 20 minutes. One will be released each week:

# ADVENT I - RELEASED NOVEMBER 29TH

At the beginning of his ministry, Isaiah saw a vision of angels surrounding the throne of God. He was filled with fear. "Woe to me! I am ruined! I am a man of unclean lips." How can the Holy One of Israel accept a sinner like Isaiah or like us? Isaiah searched his own prophecies to understand this gospel mystery.

## ADVENT 2 - RELEASED DECEMBER 6TH

"It would take an angel..." Wouldn't that be your thought when your fiancé tells you she is pregnant in a miraculous way? Joseph was forgiving. He didn't want Mary to suffer harm; but he couldn't marry her. It would take an angel to change his mind.

# ADVENT 3 - RELEASED DECEMBER 13TH

Isaiah had seen the glory of the Lord. The glory of the Lord appeared again when Isaiah's prophecies were fulfilled. From the midst of that glory, an angel announced to shepherds that their Savior was born. Join with the shepherds and run to see what the angel announced to them.

# ADVENT 4 - RELEASED DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

An angel tells a young girl who is about to become pregnant out of wedlock that she is "highly favored" and that the whole world will call her "blessed." It seems impossible, but Mary trusts that not one word from God will fail.

# CHRISTMAS VIDEO - RELEASED DECEMBER 23RD

To help you celebrate Christmas, the four devotions will be released as a mini movie and the newly written "Nativity Song" will be shared to celebrate the story of the birth of our Savior.

# **UNWRAPPING THE REAL PRESENTS: ADVENT MESSAGE SERIES**

The culture and times in which we live make it more and more difficult to know what is real and what is not. Our food is full of synthetic ingredients and artificial flavors. People hide behind facades of pasted on smiles and elegant peaceful homes. Fake news has become a reality that we have to learn to contend with. This time of the year even many of the decorations on our homes and in public spaces are artificial copies of pine, cedar, and mistletoe. It begs the question. Where can we actually find real hope and real joy this Christmas season and beyond?

A Biblical celebration of Christmas is based on realities that have a real impact on our lives—living life in a world in desperate need, heeding the call to honest self-reflection, recognizing the source of true peace and joy in our lives, and worshipping a real baby who is really God himself in human flesh and blood. So often in life we are looking for the wrong kinds of presents. No wonder so many us are regularly disappointed. The presents we will focus on this Advent season are real presents and are able to do for us what they were meant to accomplish--bestow true hope, peace and confidence.

# November 29: Look for Them (Mark 13:32-37)

As a kid, didn't you go looking for Christmas presents that your parents hid? Let's go looking for the Real Presents by seeing the signs of Jesus' return. Receiving the Lord's Supper is part of our looking forward to the real presents we will receive when Jesus returns.

# **December 6: Prepare for Them (Mark 1:1-8)**

"So be good for goodness sake." That's the way the world prepares for Christmas. Try to be good enough to earn real presents. God's answer changes that child's song: "He knows if you've been bad or good, so be honest for your own sake." Prepare for the real presents of Christmas by admitting your sin and need for God's presents in Christ.

# December 13: Rejoice in Them (Malachi 4:1-6)

When you found your Christmas presents, did you ever pick them up to see how heavy they were? Maybe shake it to see if you could hear something? That's what Malachi was doing. He knew the real presents of Christmas were going to be great. He rejoiced in anticipation.

# December 20: Behold Them (Luke 1:26-38)

Mary was the first to be able to open the real presents of Christmas. Join her in looking at His features: Son of God, eternal King, Holy One. In this Present are found all the real presents of Christmas.

# St. Paul's News

#### **HOSPITALIZED**

Lois Guhr (hospice care at Care-Age in Brookfield), Fred Liermann (hospice care at Autumn Leaves in Franklin), Brittany Michaels (Duke Hospital in Durham, North Carolina), Karl Sandvick (Heritage Square), Dorrette Probst (home hospice care) and Theresa Schwemmer (Angels Grace Hospice). Jae Eckoldt has returned home.

#### **BAPTISM**

Mitchell Harvey Williams, born August 17, 2009 and Landon B. Williams, born January 22, 2013, will be baptized on Friday, November 27 in a private ceremony. Mitchell and Landon are the sons of Jason and Lynn Williams. We celebrate with the Williams and ask for God's blessing on the faith of Mitchell and Landon all their days.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

The following attended last week's services: 75 on Saturday, 73 on Sunday 7:45 am, 94 on Sunday 9:15 am, 141 at The Bridge, 38 on Sunday 10:45, and 28 on Wednesday.

## **MARRIAGE MENTORING**

The Counseling Care Center is excited to offer a new Marriage Mentoring program here at St. Paul! Marriage mentoring supports Christ centered marriages through discipleship and fellowship. We do this by pairing experienced married couples with newly married couples. Through Marriage Mentoring, both couples will learn and grow together by listening, encouraging, and sharing their stories around marriage topics and God's Word.

We are seeking couples who have been married for at least 10 years and who would enjoy hosting a newly married couple. The program will begin early next year. Couples will be asked to commit for 5 months, just once a month, and materials will be provided!

Please reach out to Meta Rosenberg at <a href="mtkolander@gmail.com">mtkolander@gmail.com</a> or (920) 284-0658 if you and your spouse are interested in being mentors.

## MUSKEGO FOOD PANTRY FOOD DRIVE—THANK YOU!

You may drop off food or financial donations under the canopy on Sunday, November 22 until 3:00 pm. Thank you for helping those in need. Thank you for helping those in need!

#### LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO START IN BIBLE STUDY?

Track the promises of the Savior from the Garden of Eden down to your own heart and life with many opportunities to ask all the questions you may have. Currently offered Tuesdays at 7:00 pm online. Register by contacting Pastor Nate at <a href="mailto:nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org">nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org</a> or mark the back of your Connection Card.

#### CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT OPENING

A position on our ministry support team has become open due to a recent retirement. This is a half-time position including 20 hours per week spread over four days. Responsibilities include administrative support for our pastors, staff ministers, and the rest of the ministry support team. To apply, please email your resume and cover letter to Church Administrator Randy Fink at rfink@stpaulmuskego.org.

# St. Paul's Child Care Center Staff Opening

Our child care center is hiring a teacher's aide with the hours of Monday through Friday, 12:30 – 6:00 pm. Please contact Tammy Dockter at (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, or dockterta@stpmuskego.org for more information and to apply.



- 1. Begin by reading Psalm 47. It is a doxology or song of praise as we bring our church year to the end. The LORD Most High is King!
- 2. Read the Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11-24.
  - a. Why do you think the promised Messiah is called "my servant David"?
  - b. The LORD gathered his people after the exile and brought them back to the promised land just as was foretold. How does that comfort you as you think about Jesus' coming back at the end of the world?
  - c. How would you interpret the promise of God to judge the fat sheep who shove and butt the weak?
- 3. Read the Epistle Lesson: I Corinthians 15:20-28.
  - a. What is the last enemy our King will destroy?
  - b. What evidence does Paul give to assure us this enemy is defeated for us too?
- 4. Read the Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11. Discuss the lies that Satan uses against us:
  - a. He challenges our identity as God's child. "If you are..."
  - b. He challenges the faithfulness of our God. "Throw yourself down..."
  - c. He challenges the necessity of sacrifice. "All these will be yours..."
- 5. There are so many people in this world who feel defeated right now. Close by each person praying for a friend/family member who needs to remember that Christ, the LORD Most High, is king.



# When Will This End? I Will Not Be Defeated! The LORD Most High is King! Psalm 47

- 1. I will not be defeated by the world around me (Ezekiel 34:11-24)
  - a. Defeated! Our plans fail!
  - b. Christ the King's plans succeed: "I will rescue them..."
- 2. I will not be defeated by death (I Corinthians 15:20-26)
  - a. Defeated! 100% mortality rate
  - b. Christ the King lives: "In Christ all will be made alive."
- 3. I will not concede defeat to Satan (Matthew 4:1-11)
  - a. Defeated! My identity, my faith, my god
  - b. Christ the King's victory is ours: "Get away from me, Satan!"

# My Next Steps

- Claim your victory! Read each of the lessons referenced above and in GroupWork. How is
   Christ our King using the apparent defeats of the past year to lead you to appreciate your victory
  in Christ.
- **Share your victory!** "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Many people around us are overwhelmed with a feeling of defeat. Begin by prayer. Whom has God put in your life or on your mind that feels overwhelmed. Pray for that person and pray for an opportunity to bring the hope of Christ's victory to them.