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I WANT TO BE A BETTER FRIEND

SHARE YOUR REVIEW OF JESUS

October 9, 10, and 13, 2021

When Yelp.com was developed, the idea of adding reviews to their website was an afterthought. They couldn't imagine people taking the time and effort to make a recommendation. Being a good friend includes being ready to give a "review" about your experience with Jesus.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 234, vv. 1-3

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

We open our worship with a song of praise to our faithful God who graciously guides, fortifies, and sustains us on our journey from birth to our heavenly home.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle,
uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully,
wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly
falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of his mercy did shade you.**

M The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
C And also with you.

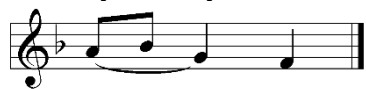
M Brothers and sisters, the Scriptures clearly attest to Christ's qualities of integrity, honesty, and consistency.

C **"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth"** (1 Peter 2:22).

M These same words, however, are an indictment of the sinful human nature. We do lie. We say we will do one thing, but then we do another. We fail to keep our promises. Sin infects us to the core. What we deserve from God is eternal wrath and punishment. Instead, God gives grace and forgiveness in Christ. Let us, therefore, turn to God, humble ourselves before him, confess our sin, and seek his assurance of mercy and grace.

All **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us. He has given us his only Son as the atoning sacrifice for all our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

RESPONSE HYMN v.5 (*Saturday, Sunday 7:45 am, and Wednesday*)

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all
that is in me adore him!**

**All that has life and breath, come now
with praises before him!**

Let the Amen Sound from his people again;

Gladly forever adore him!

RESPONSE HYMN (*Sunday 9:15 and 10:45 am*)

Who You Say I Am

Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray
Lord God, you are faithful to all your promises.

C **Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled** (Joshua 21:45).

M As you have promised, come to us today through your precious Word and Sacrament.

C **Teach us to know you better, that we may be faithful witnesses of your love and grace.**

M We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-18, Bible page 1222

Peter encourages us to be prepared at all times to share our faith and hope in Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

John 4:39-42, Bible page 1066

The Samaritan women shared her review of Jesus with the people she knew back home, and the Spirit used her testimony to bring many to faith.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY 560, vv. 1, 2, 5

I Hear the Savior Calling

"You will be my witnesses." This is Jesus' call to each one of us. This is an incredible privilege and incredibly urgent at the same time.

I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!

I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven -- My Savior calls for me!

I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!

SERMON

Acts 22:1-16, Bible page 1117
Pastor Nate Strobel

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel -- My Savior calls for me!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

DISMISSAL OF ONLINE WORSHIPERS (Sunday 9:15 am)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (see Communion practice on next page)

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



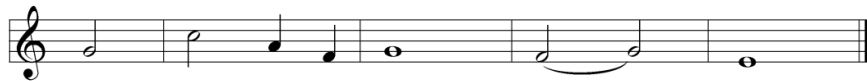
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION SONG (*Sunday 7:45 am*)

The Answer

Jeremy Camp

Sung by LES 6-8 grade choir

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 558

Christ High-Ascended

The Scriptures share countless truths about Christ that bring peace, hope, and joy to our lives. As we relate how these truths have given us strength for our joy, we help others find this same peace, hope, and joy.

**Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated,
Throned and exalted, victory completed,
Death's dread dominion finally defeated
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ, from the Father ev'ry pow'r possessing,
Who on his chosen lifted hands in blessing,
Sends forth his servants, still in faith confessing
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ, who in dying won for us salvation,
Lives now the firstborn of the new creation;
To win disciples out of ev'ry nation,
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ in his splendor, all dominion gaining,
Christ with his people evermore remaining,
Christ to all ages, gloriously reigning
We are his witnesses.**

**As at his parting, joy shall banish grieving,
Faith in his presence strengthen our believing;
Filled with his Spirit, love and pow'r receiving,
We are his witnesses.**

CLOSING PRAYER

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
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

Under the Canopy Sunday Morning

Our thanks to our Lutheran Elementary School teachers for providing snacks under the canopy after the 7:45 am service. We hope you can linger and enjoy some sweets and conversation.

Communion Practice

The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith. We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes to provide an overview of our teachings. We invite you to register for this class on the back of your Connection Card or by contacting Pastor Nathan Strobel at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org.

If you are a member of St. Paul's or a member of a WELS or ELS congregation, we invite you to express our common confession by communing with us. You may wish to use the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on page 156 of Christian Worship to examine yourself. Please register your intent to commune as a member or guest by filling out the Connection Card. The light colored cups contain non-alcoholic wine. If you need a gluten-free wafer, you will find them individually packaged at the communion rail. The first pew in the right center section (lectern side) is reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail.