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## IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY

### SERVE IN HUMILITY

August 8, 9, and 12, 2020

*Each of us has something to offer. None is greater or less than the other. In view of God's mercy, use whatever ability the Spirit has given you to benefit others.*

#### 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 in voluntary compliance with Governor Evers' order. Face masks are available from the ushers if you forgot yours. 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.

#### BELLS AND WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN 580

#### Every Morning Mercies New

1. Ev'ry morning mercies new  
Fall as fresh as morning dew;  
Ev'ry morning let us pay  
Tribute with the early day.  
For your mercies, Lord, are sure;  
Your compassion will endure.
2. Still your kindness and your love  
Ev'ry day our sins remove;  
Daily, far as east from west,  
Lift the burden from the breast;  
Give unbought to those who pray  
Strength to live for you each day.
3. As the morning light returns,  
As the sun with splendor burns,  
Teach us still to turn to you;  
With your light our souls renew.  
Then shall we our voices raise  
In unfailing prayer and praise.

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 Dear God, our perfect, heavenly Father, nothing is hidden from you. You have searched us and you know us. You perceive our thoughts from afar. You are familiar with all our ways (*Psalms 139*).

C **You know every sinful thought that goes through our minds and every evil deed we have ever committed. It does not matter if we have done them in the open or hidden behind closed doors. There is no where we can run or hide.**

M Yet Father, you have taught that we do not need to hide. When we come to you and confess our sin, you are gracious and merciful. You forgive us in Christ. We run to you, therefore, dear Father, and confess our sin seeking refuge in your loving and forgiving arms.

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 and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for 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 **Amen.**

#### LORD HAVE MERCY

M For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.



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

SONG OF PRAISE 390

Salvation Unto Us Has Come

All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
The God who saved us by his grace  
All glory to his merit!  
O Triune God in heav'n above,  
You have revealed your saving love;  
Your blessed name be hallowed!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

M Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, the good we want to do we do not do. The evil we do not want to do, this we keep on doing.

C Lord, we are weak, but you are strong.

M Pour your strength into us through your Word and sacrament. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12

*Solomon asks for wisdom so that he can serve faithfully as the leader of God's people.*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

<sup>6</sup>Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

<sup>7</sup>"Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. <sup>8</sup>Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. <sup>9</sup>So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

<sup>10</sup>The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. <sup>11</sup>So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, <sup>12</sup>I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

## 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

**Matthew 13:44-52**

*Jesus' parables are like puzzles for our minds: easy to remember, but challenging to understand. Nothing is more important than being a part of the kingdom of heaven.*

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup>When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. <sup>48</sup>When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. <sup>49</sup>This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

<sup>52</sup>He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

God of grace and God of glory,  
 On your people pour your pow'r;  
 Crown your ancient Church's story;  
 Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
 Grant us wisdom; grant us courage  
 For the facing of this hour,  
 For the facing of this hour.

Cure your children's warring madness;  
 Bend our pride to your control;  
 Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul.  
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
 Lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
 Lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
 To the evils we deplore;  
 Let the gift of your salvation  
 Be our glory evermore.  
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
 Serving you whom we adore,  
 Serving you whom we adore.

## SERMON

Romans 12:3-8

*Pastor Peter Panitzke*

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

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.

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.

CLOSING HYMN 566

We All Are One in Mission

We all are one in mission; We all are one in call,  
 Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all.  
 A single great commission Compels us from above  
 To plan and work together That all may know Christ's love.

We all are called to service, To witness in God's name.  
 Our ministries are diff'rent; Our purpose is the same:  
 To touch the lives of others With God's surprising grace,  
 So ev'ry folk and nation May feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united, And let our song be heard;  
 Now let us be a vessel For God's redeeming Word.  
 We all are one in mission; We all are one in call,  
 Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all.

## 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.



### DANDELION DAZE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

DandiLion Daze, formerly the Muskego Community Festival, or Muskego Fest, remains the largest free admission festival in southeastern Wisconsin. St. Paul's would like to show our support for our community by helping out at the event and reaching out to our neighbors by having a float at the Dandelion Daze Parade. The event supports nine wonderful community service clubs and organizations doing amazing work in Muskego and beyond. If you are interested in learning more, please mark the back of your Connection Card and you will be contacted with more information. You can also contact Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner directly at [swallner@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 294.



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

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# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

For the week of August 10, 2020

<b>MON</b>	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
<b>TUE</b>	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Divorce Care (School Classroom 8)
<b>WED</b>	7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion <i>Following the Promise Bible Study</i>
<b>THURS</b>	6:30 am 10:00 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Traditional Worship Service
<b>SUN</b>	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service Traditional Worship Service The Bridge Communion The Bridge Traditional Worship Service

## JOIN US ONLINE

If you can't join us in person, join us online! A video archive of sermons is available at [www.stpaulmukego.org/worship/sermons](http://www.stpaulmukego.org/worship/sermons).

The Bridge, our casual contemporary service, is livestreamed every Sunday at 10:15 am on each of the following platforms. You can find an archive of past messages on each site, with the full-service replay on YouTube.



[www.thebridgemuskego.org](http://www.thebridgemuskego.org)



@ The Bridge Church Muskego



@ The Bridge at St. Paul's



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# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## **BAPTISM**

Averly Elizabeth Werner, daughter of Andrew and Katie (nee Page) Werner, was born March 30, 2020 and baptized in a private ceremony on August 6, 2020. We praise God for the gift of saving faith given to Avery.

## **HOSPITALIZED**

Lois Guhr (hospice care at Care-Age in Brookfield), Fred Liermann (hospice care at Autumn Leaves in Franklin), Dorrette Probst (home hospice care), Brittany Michaels (Froedtert), Carmen Radkowski (St. Luke's), Nancy Rindfleisch (Waukesha Memorial), Robert Schaefer (VA hospital), Marlene Sobczak (rehabbing at daughter's house), Jeanne Steinbrecher (home hospice care), and Lois Stichmann (The View at Pine Ridge).

## **ATTENDANCE**

The following attended last week's services: 62 on Saturday; 49 on Sunday 7:45 am, 342 on Sunday 10:30 am outdoor service, and 20 on Wednesday.

## **COMMUNION SERVICES**

Communion is offered on the second and last weekend of the month. Small group communion in the Grace Room is offered the first and third weekends of the month. Call the church office (414-422-0320) to register for small group communion.

## **ANNIVERSARIES IN MINISTRY**

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack and Mrs. Susan Kuehl recently completed twenty-five years in the pastoral and teaching ministry, respectively. During this time of pandemic, we've chosen not to celebrate these milestones publicly. However, if you would like to express your congratulations and well wishes to them in person or with a card, e-mail, note, or gift, please feel free to do so. *"Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17).*

## **A RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING**

When the Safer-at-Home order was enacted, we prepared for a significant reduction in offerings. Instead, the offerings in the fiscal year that ended June 30th were 3% above plan. Seeing this generous response of God's people, the Ministry Board approved offerings of thanksgiving: \$11,850 to synod missions and \$5,630 to Wisconsin Lutheran High School. These amounts are 5% above our annual commitments to these ministries. Many are giving thanks to God for your generosity!

More Good News! For nearly 20 years, we borrowed money from dedicated funds for operating expenses. About 10 years ago, that internal debt had grown to \$265,000. We are happy to report that the internal debt has been erased! Our only outstanding debt is the \$1.4 million mortgage on our 2010 school addition. Gifts in the green "Picnic Offering" envelop will go towards reducing our mortgage or give online at [StPaulMuskego.org/Give](http://StPaulMuskego.org/Give).

## **AUGUST "FAMILY IN NEED"**

One of our members has been hospitalized awaiting a lung transplant for the last month. If she is accepted into a transplant program, it will likely be out-of-state. Another family member will also need to travel with her. Even with insurance, costs are and will continue to mount. If you would like to help this family, mark your gift clearly "August Family in Need" or go to [StPaulMuskego.org/Give](http://StPaulMuskego.org/Give) and donate to "Friends in Need" putting "August Family in Need" in the memo line.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## AUGUST SERMON SERIES

### In View of God's Mercy – A Study of Romans 12-16

How do we deal with people who think differently than we do and act differently than we do? How do we deal with people who mistreat us? How do we overcome the racial and economic divides and COVID-19 divides? We can find the answers if we remember to live "In View of God's Mercy," looking back to the mercy that we have received as the motivation for our actions and looking from that place of mercy to reflect that mercy in all our interactions.



**August 16**

**Love Un-hypocritically**

**Romans 12:9-21**

**August 23**

**Obey in Reverence**

**Romans 13**

**August 30**

**Submit in Kindness**

**Romans 14 – 15**

**September 6**

**United in Christ Alone**

**Romans 16**

## FOLLOWING THE PROMISE

Following the Promise is a 12-week class designed to challenge you in what you think you know, introduce you to the world's only Savior in Jesus, and take you on a journey from creation to the cross and to the halls of heaven. Join Pastor Nate for the class that has just begun meeting online on Mondays at 7:00 pm. Text Pastor Nate at (414) 426-8236, email at [nstrobels@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:nstrobels@stpaulmuskego.org), or register on the back of your Connection Card.

## ONLINE SMALL GROUPS

The COVID-19 epidemic has resulted in an explosion of our online ministry across the world and also an increased demand for online Bible study. We would like to help serve those at a distance and those locally who must remain isolated for health reasons by developing online small group Bible studies. If you are interested in joining a zoom small group, email Pastor Pete at [ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org) and he will connect you with those who have also expressed interest!

## SUNRISE BIBLE STUDY TO MEET ON WEDNESDAYS

For years the Sunrise Bible Study has met early Thursday mornings. But starting September 3, the group will switch to meeting on Wednesdays with the same time of 6:30-7:30 am in the same place - the Faith Room. Our study currently focuses on the Scripture readings that will be read at the upcoming weekend's worship service. For more information on this Bible Study please contact Bruce Marggraf at (262) 679-4725.

## KIDS CLUB START POSTPONED

We will postpone resuming in-person Kids Club until at least October 4. A recent survey and in-person worship patterns of our Kids Club families appear to reflect a high level of concern regarding COVID-19. By delaying the start of Kids Club until October, we are allowing Kids Club families and staff time to experience the reopening of our elementary schools and to learn from that experience. We will continue to provide weekly online lessons and resources to use at home. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org).

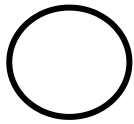
# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## **ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER STAFF OPENINGS**

We have two openings on our Child Care Center staff. Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 12:30 am - 6:00 pm for one teacher's aide opening, and 12:30 – 6:00 pm, Monday – Friday for another teacher's aide opening. Please contact Tammy Dockter at [dockterta@stpmuskego.org](mailto:dockterta@stpmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 200 to apply.

## **2020-2021 CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Families with children who attend area public schools, who are not currently in St. Paul's Confirmation instruction classes, and who want their children to be confirmed at St. Paul's, should contact Dr. Nelson as soon as possible if you have yet to do so ([jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) or 414-422-0320, ext. 145). Confirmation Instruction at St. Paul's is a three-year, once-a-week program for public school students. We are in the process of putting together the student lists for 2020-2021 and want to make sure we have all eligible students included. All public school families/students in the program will receive a surface-mailing with more details soon.



## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

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### A Celebration of Our Diversity of Gifts

*“You do not lack any spiritual gift” (1 Corinthians 1:7).*

The congregation in Corinth enjoyed so many spiritual benefits. They also experienced numerous divisions. In 1 Corinthians 12-14, the Apostle Paul deals with the divisive idea that one spiritual gift is more important and more desirable than any other. There is one gift that is greatest, but it is not the one the Corinthians desired.

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

1. A person might think, “I don’t have any spectacular spiritual gifts, so maybe I don’t have the Spirit at all.” How does Paul put that fear to rest in verse 3?
  
2. Although we have different gifts, what do we all have in common? (vv. 4-6 & v. 7 & v. 11)

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31**

3. What lessons can we learn as members of the church from the way the body functions?

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 13**

4. The Corinthians valued speaking in tongues as the greatest gift. Why is love far more important?
  
5. How does the description of love in 13:4-7 challenge you in your church life and your home life?

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-25**

6. Prophecy in the Bible is often not “foretelling the future” but “teaching God’s Word clearly.” When God’s word is taught clearly, “the secrets of [our] hearts are laid bare.” Share a time when you experienced that feeling that “the pastor must have been in our home this week.”
  
7. If you have opportunity, complete the WELS Spiritual Gifts Discovery Tool to learn about the gifts the Spirit has given you and share your findings about yourself with the group (<https://wels.net/wp-content/uploads/sgt/sgdt-1.html>), Affirm those gifts that you see in each other.



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

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## In View of God's Mercy, Serve with Humility A Lesson from a Wrench Set Romans 12:3-8

### 1. Bigger wrenches are not more important wrenches.

- a. P\_\_\_\_\_ has no place in this set.
- b. E\_\_\_\_\_ has no place in this set.

### 2. All the wrenches are part of the same set.

- a. Celebrate the d\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Celebrate the s\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Every wrench is unique in this set.

- a. Do you know what makes you unique?
- b. Do you know your importance to the set?

## My Next Steps

- **Discover your spiritual gifts:** Use the WELS Spiritual Gifts Discovery Tool to learn about the gifts the Spirit has given you. <https://wels.net/wp-content/uploads/sgt/sgdt-1.html>
- **Explore your spiritual gifts:** Discuss the results of your Spiritual Gifts Discovery with a friend. Does your friend see those gifts in you? Discuss how you are already putting your gifts and passion to work blessing others. Discuss new ways you might be interested in serving.
- **Go Deeper:** Take the "I AM Built" assessment with St. Paul's member Emily Krill to better understand how God has uniquely prepared you for ministry. Email her at [ejkrill@gmail.com](mailto:ejkrill@gmail.com).