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THE FAMILY CHURCH THE GLUE OF THE FAMILY CHURCH

October 6, 7, and 10, 2018

What holds a family together like nothing else can? The Bible calls it submission: acknowledging that the rest of my family members are more important than me.

PRESERVICE HYMN SING

PRESERVICE (Sunday)

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring, Handbells arr. by Brian J. Heinlein

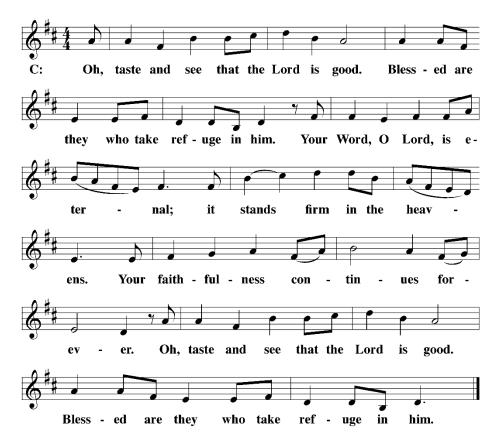
BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 226, vv. 1-5

To Your Temple I Draw Near

- M The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C And also with you.
- M Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the Scriptures teach us that even if we do great things in this world, if we don't act in love,
- **C** we are nothing and gain nothing (1 Corinthians 13).
- M Although we love our families and our church, we struggle at times to live out that love in our daily interactions with those who are closest to us. Selfishness, pride, and impatience get the best of us. The people to whom we are called to model Jesus' love often get a very different picture of God through us. Aware of our sin and its ugly consequences in our lives, we humble ourselves before God and confess our sins to him.
- 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 "Praise be to the God and Father or our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade"(*1 Peter 3:3,4*). For while the wages of sin is death, the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.

SONG OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord, you are a loving and gracious God. You give forgiveness and the gift of new life in Christ.

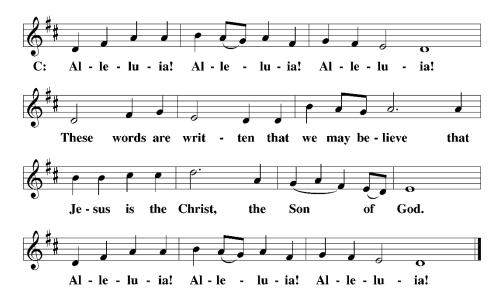
C Your love is perfect. It never fails. Nothing can separate us from your love.

M Fill us to overflowing with the power of your love so we can make a difference in this world and bring honor to you. We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST LESSON

Philippians 2:1-8, Bible page 1179 We are called to imitate Christ, his humility and his love.



GOSPEL

Mark 10:35-45, Bible page 1014

Jesus seizes James and John's power-hungry request as an opportunity to teach the importance of self-sacrificing love.



Hymn of the Day 505 $\,$

SERMON

Love Is the Gracious Gift

Ephesians 4:1-16, Bible page 1175 Pastor Nate Strobel

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. **OFFERTORY** (Sunday 7:45 am)

(Sunday 9:15 am)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise you for reconciling us to yourself through the sufferings and death of your dear Son.
- C Through him we have confidence to enter your presence and to bring you our prayers and petitions.
- M Out of the infinite bounty of your goodness, grant us a rich measure of your Spirit.
- C Let the love of Christ fill your Church, so that it may flourish in all good works.
- M Help us show love and compassion for all who are in need. Bestow on the nations of the earth the knowledge of your mercy, that they may turn to you, the only God, and find salvation in you.
- C Strengthen our faith, so that we unfailingly come to you in prayer for all our bodily needs.
- M Give a special measure of your power to those who are sorrowful or mourning, to those who are in pain or sickness, to those who may be in temptation or peril, that they may receive your blessed aid.

Special prayers and intercessions.

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

Silent prayer.

- M Help us patiently endure any chastening and afflictions you permit to come into our lives,
- C knowing that you are using them in love to prepare us for that joyful communion with you, which is ours for all eternity.
- M Accept our prayers and intercessions, and provide for all our needs, not because we are worthy, but for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. 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 502

CLOSING PRAYER

M O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, 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.



UW MADISON CAMPUS MINISTRY (Sunday)

St. Paul's member Brad Meyer will introduce the UW Madison Campus Ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER (Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl

ORGANIST Susan Gedemeer



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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of October 8, 2018

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
TUE	9:30 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Ministerial Team Meeting Organization for Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) (Grace Room) Divorce Care (School Classroom 8) Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony) Following the Promise (Faith Room)
WED	9:00 am 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Mommy and Me (Faith Room) Public School 6-8 Grade Confirmation Instruction Classes Traditional Worship Service
THURS	6:30 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Meeting of District Circuit Pastors Pickleball League (Trinity Gym) The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI	9:00 am 6:00 pm 1:00 pm	Meeting of District Circuit Pastors Bugenhagen/Dellevar Wedding Rehearsal District Council Meeting
SAT	8:00 am 2:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Lauren Bugenhagen and Aaron Dellevar Wedding Ceremony (Main Church) Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Grace Room Bible Study The Bridge Communion The Bridge Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion Generation Change – Financial Peace – Teens/Parents (Faith Room) Teens Under God (Trinity Café and Gym)



- Watch Live: Attend church remotely on Sundays at The Bridge at 10:15 am. Live streaming is available at www.thebridgemuskego.org, Facebook at The Bridge at St. Paul's, and You Tube at The Bridge Church Muskego. All past live replays are also available on each platform.
- Sermon Videos and MP3s: Sunday sermons are available at www.stpaulmuskego.org and www.thebridgemuskego.org. They are usually available Sunday evening for that same Sunday's message.

FAMILY CHURCH

GET READY TO RAWKS! - WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 14

RAWKs stands for "Random Acts of Worship Kindness." One of the values of our St. Paul's/Bridge family is generous, meaningful living. We believe that we have a generous God who creates us to be generous people who have a generous vision, eager to show love to those around us.

How do we pass on that value to our children? How can we model that value in our small group life? One solution is to start a RAWKs fund.



- To start you might set aside a portion of your weekly offering in a RAWKs Fund. For example, if you are giving a tithe (10% of your income) to the Lord, you could tithe your tithe, setting aside 10% of your offering for a RAWKs fund (that would be 1% of your income).
- Another possibility... If your children receive an allowance, offer a "matching gift." They give 10% or more of their allowance to the RAWKs fund and mom or dad match that gift.
- Once per month, or on a schedule you decide, gather as a family, divide up the RAWKs fund money to each family member, and talk about possible needs that you are aware of. Each family member, from young children on up, is involved in the discussion and decision.

RAWKS FUND STARTER GIFTS – GIVING MONEY AWAY!

In the October 14 weekend services, we will be giving money away – 200 RAWKs Fund Starter Gifts. The pastors of our family churches (dads and moms) and life group leaders will be invited to come forward to receive an envelope with \$10 to \$50 to be used as "seed money" for your family or small group's RAWKs fund. All we ask is that you sign that you are taking an envelope and be willing to share what your family or small group did to show a "random act of worship kindness" to someone or to an organization.

RAWKs FUND IDEAS

How might you use your RAWKs Fund as a family or small group? Here are some ideas...

- Buy groceries for a family in your neighborhood that needs help.
- Give a gift to a family who is facing huge medical bills.
- Support a cause like Ronald McDonald House or Make a Wish or WELS Lutherans for Life.
- Give gift cards to first responders in our community.
- Give a gift for homeless people either directly or through an organization.
- Provide a Friday evening meal for Light House Ministry next to Garden Homes Lutheran Church (contact Dr. Nelson at <u>inelson@stpaulmuskego.org</u> for more info).

Just as we want the love of Christ to flow from St. Paul's and The Bridge to our community, so we are praying that your neighbors and others will see the love of Christ flow out from you through these Random Acts of Worship Kindness.

FAMILY CHURCH

DESIGN A FAMILY CHURCH CREST

At right is St. Paul's family crest reflecting our core values:



Mission outreach.



Diversity of worship languages.



The power of community and importance of family.



Authentic care and generous, meaningful living.



A Family Church crest is a shield displaying pictures of the spiritual activities of your family. Everything your family does out of love for Jesus is a spiritual activity. We invite you to design your own Family Church crest for display on the walls of the church and at The Bridge the weekend of October 21 for our Family Church dedication services.

Instructions with templates attached are available at the Welcome Center in the lobby and have been sent home with our Christian Elementary School children and Kids Club/Boost children. The cross at the center of the crest reminds us that Jesus is at the center of our Family Church. The four spaces created by the cross are for pictures of four spiritual activities your family enjoys doing. Suggestions are included in the instructions.

Be sure to print your family name within the banner such as "The Smith Family" and attach a picture at the bottom. Return your family crest to Kids Club next Sunday, October 14, to school on Monday, October 15, or to church the weekend of October 14. We will leave the crests up for the weekends of October 21 and 28 as we bring the Family Church series to a close.

FAMILY CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICES – WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 21

Invite your extended family to join you for worship the weekend of October 21. On that Sunday we will invite all parents with children in the home to rededicate themselves to the promise they made at their children's baptisms:

Do you sincerely intend to bring up _____ in the way of the Lord and to instruct him/her in the truths of God's saving Word so that he/she may grow in faith, serve God with a Christian life, and remain in his/her baptismal grace unto the end? If so, answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

The service will close with a time of prayer as members of the St. Paul's family gather around these parents as pastors of their Family Church and pray for them.

FAMILY CHURCH REMEMBRANCE SERVICES – WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 28

On the final weekend of the Family Church series, we will pause to remember our children and parents who have finished their lives in faith and now rest safely in heaven. It will be a day of sadness as we mourn their loss but also a day of joy as we celebrate their victory in Christ. This is the ultimate goal of the Family Church, that all of us can look forward to an eternal reunion before the throne of God.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRIES

Our 3K to grade 8 ministries begin at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the school. Enter the school through the Trinity Cafe. Clearly marked signage will direct you to your child's check-in and room location. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at <u>inelson@stpaulmuskego.org</u> or (414) 422-1711, ext. 145.



Kids Club (Age 3 – Grade 6)

Kids Club features a large group opening followed by small group discussion to help your child apply God's word to their lives.

Boost (Grades 7 & 8)



Boost features an engaging, multi-media, but more traditional classroom format. Boost participants experience a thematic curriculum of Bible history, current events, and life/family issues all centered on God's Word.

TEENS UNDER GOD



TUG is a unique ministry for teens – members of St. Paul's and their friends. TUG provides teens with worship, education, fellowship, recreation, and service opportunities, as well as time to develop Christian relationships with each other and adult mentors within a safe, caring, supportive, and fun environment. Join TUG in the Trinity Café, from 6:30 til 8:00 pm, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The next scheduled TUG is Sunday, October 14.

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Express your appreciation and honor our pastors for their commitment and dedication. Help us acknowledge their compassion, hard work, leadership, and faithful service given the whole year through. A simple thank-you in person or via email, voice message, card, or other personal way will mean so much to our pastors and their families.

OWLS – ORGANIZATION FOR WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SENIORS

Join the next OWLS gathering on Tuesday, October 9, at noon in the Grace Room. Enjoy your bag lunch while you hear from Jay and Joan Oswald as they take you on a trip to Antarctica. Contact Charlene Pingel at (262) 490-2579 for more information.

LADIES MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study meets in the Faith Room at 9:30. All ladies are welcome. For more information contact Group Leader Michele Eiche at (414) 202-7522.

FALL PICKLEBALL

All are invited to "Four Fall Fridays" of pickleball open play in the Trinity Gym, October 26 – November 16, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Rather than an organized league, these evenings will have the pickleball equipment set-up for you to play, along with an event staff person on hand to help with any needs. A reservation is required in advance. For more details and to reserve your spot, contact Sally Wallner at (414) 422-0320, ext. 294, or swallner@stpaulmuskego.org.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT – OCTOBER 20

St. Paul's annual Sheepshead Tournament is Saturday, October 20, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, in the Trinity Café and Gym. Entry fee is \$5 per person to offset the cost of food and prizes. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center with more information including how to reserve your spot.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

BAPTISM

Brooklyn Grace Talatzko, daughter of Joe and Shannon Talatzko, was born June 29, 2018, and will be baptized and was baptized in a private ceremony on September 28. We praise God with the Talatzkos in the gift of saving faith given to Brooklyn.

WEDDING

Casey Helm and Stephen Moss were married on Saturday, October 6. May God bless Casey and Stephen in their marriage joined together with Christ.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: David Burkowitz, Amy Groat, Mary Schauwitzer, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Brian Wiedoff has been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

964 attended worship services last week.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO START IN BIBLE STUDY?

Follow God's promises in the Bible and how they impact your life. This is a great study to have your questions answered and also serves as preparation for membership at St. Paul's. Currently offered Tuesdays at 7:00 pm and will be offered Sundays, beginning October 14, at 8:30 am. Contact Pastor Nate to register at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org or mark the back of your Connection Card.

THE REASON FOR MY HOPE: OCTOBER GRACE ROOM SERIES

Using the same rational thought we do in most fields of study, we will look at the claims of Christianity in this Bible study. Join Rev. Dr. Michael Berg of Wisconsin Lutheran College for this four-week series on Sundays, beginning October 7, 9:15-10:15 am.

CIRCUIT PASTORS AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING AT ST. PAUL'S

Thursday afternoon and Friday morning of this week St. Paul's has the privilege of hosting the annual meeting of the 20 circuit pastors of the Southeastern Wisconsin District of the WELS. On Friday afternoon the District Council meets. In the spring, the circuit pastors meet with the president and officers of the district to be updated on the work of the synod. In the fall, they are further trained and encouraged to be "pastor to the pastors" through Bible study and discussion. (Pastor Kuehl serves as circuit pastor for the Southern Circuit, which includes St. Paul's in Muskego, Star of Bethlehem in New Berlin, Christ in Big Bend, St. Paul's in East Troy, Reformation in Dousman, St. John's in Mukwonago, Living Water in Wind Lake, and Victory of the Lamb and St. Paul's in Franklin.) Thank you, members of St. Paul's, for allowing these gatherings to be held on our campus, and please include the participants in your prayers.

- I. How has life in your family church been this past week?
- 2. This week's theme is about the "glue" of the family church as inspired by Ephesians 4:1-16. Read this section together and take turns sharing which verses really define the idea of glue for you and why.
- 3. In his message, Pastor Nate asked us to consider "what is it that fractures families?" How might the world's answer to this question be different than Jesus' answer?

4. Which glue ingredient is more challenging for most people: humility or service?

- 5. Read Ruth 1:8-18. How did each person in this section of the account uniquely display a Gospelglue-attitude?
- 6. Choose one of the three "Next Steps" (located at the bottom of the Sermon Notes page) to tackle as a group.

"YOU BEFORE ME" IS THE GLUE THAT KEEPS US TOGETHER

"Me First!" How well is that workin' for ya?

Ephesians 4:1-16

1. We Are Called to Humility

A. As We Ponder Our Salvation!

My God was ______ and _____ and _____ with me!

B. As We Ponder God's Spirit Within Us

My God reminds me of his gifts to me —_____ life, _____ life and _____ life!

Application What is it that fractures families?

2. We Are Called to Service

A. By Virtue of Our Place

How awesome is the "reality" of my _____ in life—my roles, my family!

B. By Virtue of Our Purpose

How awesome is my role in God's ______ equipped to train and build up the body of Christ in my "place".

- Application What is it that heals families?
- **Conclusion** Meet my friend, Mary. She is growing to love the family.

Next Steps

- Look It Up: 2 Samuel 15:1-14. Read the amazing account of Absalom's relationship with his father, King David. What was the source of the disfunction between father and son? For the answer, read 2 Samuel 12:1-14.
- **Thinking Deeper:** Taking what you revisited above in 2 Samuel, talk out loud about David and Absalom's roles in the disfunction. When God stepped in to address the sins, where did the healing begin (cf. 12:14)?
- Forward Thinking: Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Ponder two questions: 1) What does it mean that we are "God's workmanship or handiwork"? 2) How can you anticipate and prepare for "the works that God has prepared in advance for *you* to do"?