

CULTURE SHIFT
WHEN MEN BECAME SACRIFICIAL
February 15, 16, and 19, 2020

Jesus teaches us that real manhood is a hard and uncomfortable calling, whether you're single or married. The role of leadership God has given is a calling to serve sacrificially. In a world that offers immediate gratification, Christian manhood may seem unattractive and even pointless at times. Why live selflessly and sacrificially when I can do the opposite and enjoy instant pleasure? Because that's what Jesus calls men to.

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 365, vv. 1, 2

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

M In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M Sisters and brothers in Christ, the apostle John exhorts all believers to love one another, for love comes from God. He says: "Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

C **Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love" (1 John 4:7-8).**

M Yet we can never love God or others as completely and unconditionally as he has loved us. Selfishness and prejudice infect us to the core and taint all our thoughts, words, and deeds. Because of our lovelessness and sin, we deserve God's wrath and eternal punishment. But God is gracious and forgives us through Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, humble ourselves before him and confess our sin.

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.**

LORD HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



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.**

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

HYMN 365, v. 3

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

**Sanctify your new creation; Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us trust your great salvation, Won for us on Calvary,
Till we lay our crowns before you, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till in glory we adore you, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Good and gracious God, you have compassion for the sinner, every sinner, as a father has compassion for his children.

C **Forgive the sins of your people, heal our weaknesses, and crown our lives with your love.**

M Open our eyes to see what Jesus called us to do when he called us love, as well as what it means for men to lead in that holy mission.

C **Empower us to shine the light of your love into this dark world.**

M We pray through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Ruth 4:1-12, Bible page 266

Out of reverence for God, Boaz sought to treat Ruth with the greatest of care and respect, no matter what it might cost him personally.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 92, Hymnal page 101

Lord, make us wise that we may flourish in your ways.

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25, Bible page 966

Joseph heeds God's call to take Mary as his wife even though he would no doubt face public ridicule because Mary was pregnant.

HYMN OF THE DAY 492

Son of God, Eternal Savior

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.

OFFERING

THIRTEEN 22 VIDEO

Craig Mellendorf and Tom Slye of SFC Estate Coaching provide a preview of the lunch and learn on Saturday, February 22, at 11:30 am, in the Grace Room. Register on the back of the Connection Card.

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 491

O Master of the Loving Heart

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.

C **Amen.**

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.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday, stop by the Centennial Gym with your friends and family and enjoy a chicken dinner served buffet style, 10 am – 1 pm. Thank you to all who gave of their time and talents to make this event a success. All proceeds go toward the Cool Million campaign to improve our campus and support mission work around the world.

PREACHER *Pastor David Kuehl*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of February 17, 2020

MON	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Strings Rehearsal
TUE	9:00 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	9:30 am	Ministry Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	6:30 pm	Alzheimer's Support Group (Faith Room)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	6:30 pm	Volleyball League (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Dorcas Society (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise Bible Study</i>
WED	9:30 am	<i>Mommy and Me</i> (Faith Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	7:00 pm	High School Boys Basketball League
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	10:00 am	Card Players' Group (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	11:30 am	Thirteen 22 Estate Planning Luncheon (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Kids Club
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

JOIN US ONLINE

If you can't join us in person, join us online! We livestream The Bridge every Sunday at 10:15 am on the platforms below. Past messages are also available on each platform. Full HD replays of complete services are available on our YouTube channel.



www.thebridgemuskego.org
www.stpaulmuskego.org



@ The Bridge at St. Paul's



@ The Bridge Church Muskego

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

BAPTISM

Hadley Jacqueline Keller, daughter of Michael and Heidi (nee Sund) Keller, was born November 30, 2019 and will be baptized in a private ceremony at noon on Sunday, February 16, 2020. May God bless Hadley today and always in her saving faith (*1 Peter 3:21-22*).

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Steve Drobka, Carol Gosseck, Janelle Gray, Lois Guhr, Connie Hikade, Josh Nagel, Judy Schmidt, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Carol Gosseck is at Clement Manor, Nancy Rindt is at Linden Grove New Berlin, and Marlene Sobczak is at Linden Grove Mukwonago. Rachel Peterson has been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

843 were in attendance at last week's worship services.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

We have a staffed nursery of friendly caregivers during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the East Wing of the church. An usher will be happy to direct you if needed.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Hosts are needed for the soup suppers provided between our Wednesday Lenten services, beginning February 26. As a host, you or your group will buy the food and supplies needed. All donations given at the supper go toward your costs. Any proceeds go to a ministry of your choice. Dates needing hosts are March 11, 18, and 25. For more information and to sign up, contact Tammy Miller at tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org or 414-422-0320, ext. 111.

A STUDY ON THE BOOK OF JOB

Grow in understanding God's ways as you walk along with Job through his struggles. Join Rev. Dr. Mark Braun of Wisconsin Lutheran College for this Grace Room Bible study series, Sundays of February at 9:15 am.

JOB IS IN THE LIBRARY

Resources regarding times of suffering, seeing God's will during difficult times, and other books that support the study of Job are on display in the church library.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE STARTS TUESDAY EVENING

Pastor Nate Strobel will begin a new session of our new member Bible study—*Following the Promise*— on Tuesday, February 18, at 7:00 pm, in the Faith Room. Enjoy camaraderie with Pastor Nate and others in the class as you look at the foundations of what the Bible teaches and God's promises layed out for you in Scripture. Register on the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org. It's OK to join the class anytime!

2020 CHURCH PICNIC

Help make our annual church picnic on August 2 a great event for young and old! Volunteer to be on the Church Picnic Planning Team! Express interest by marking the back of your Connection Card or contacting Pastor Kuehl at dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 121.

THIRTEEN 22 SOCIETY

THIRTEEN 22 SOCIETY

“A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children” (Proverbs 13:22). Many people have already included the Lord’s work here at St. Paul’s in their estate plan. We are forming the Thirteen 22 Society to celebrate your generous plans and encourage your ministry partners here at St. Paul’s to do the same. If a gift to St. Paul’s is included in your estate plans, please indicate that on the Connection Card.



MAKING AN IMPACT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

What happens when you remember the Lord’s work here at St. Paul’s in your estate plans? Vital projects are completed. New missions are started. Christian education is supported. Ministry opportunities become a reality. In the twenty years since St. Paul’s has had the Gift Trust Fund, and more recently the Legacy Fund, nearly \$1 million has been distributed for things like:

- Gifts to support campus ministries in Madison and Milwaukee
- Support to help start new churches: Living Word in Waukesha and Victory of the Lamb in Franklin
- Lighting in our sanctuary
- New windows in the school
- Equipment to help care for our facilities
- Support for Pastor Bonack as he pursues a masters in mental health counseling to help us care for our members and our community

DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN ESTATE PLAN?

If you haven’t made an estate plan or will of your own, you are not alone. According to the Caring.com 2019 survey, 57% of US adults do not have any estate plans. Only 20% of younger adults (18-34) have estate plans, even though many of these young adults have young children.

ESTATE PLANNING LUNCHEON – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

St. Paul’s has contracted with SFC Estate Coaching (the same firm used by Wisconsin Lutheran High School) to coach 30 individuals or families through the estate planning process during 2020. We invite you to come and learn more about this service and the first steps in estate planning at our Estate Planning Luncheon on Saturday, February 22, from 11:30 to 1:30 pm in the Grace Room. Seating is limited. Indicate interest on the Connection Card today.

ESTATE PLANNING OPTIONS

St. Paul’s provides two options to assist you in your estate planning:

- Gift Trust Fund: 30% of the fund is available for distribution each year. Distributions are determined at the annual voter’s meeting. An estate gift placed into the Gift Trust Fund is fully distributed over approximately ten years.
- Legacy Fund: 5% of the fund is available for distribution each year. Distribution are determined at the annual voter’s meeting. An estate gift placed into the Legacy Fund continues to help St. Paul’s ministry as on-going endowment fund. The Legacy Fund has four sub-funds that can be designated in an estate plan: Outreach, Christian Education, Capital Projects, or Undesignated.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

GOD BLESSES WLHS' GAINING GROUND

Through gifts from generous supporters like you, Wisconsin Lutheran High School met its goal and received \$1 million in cash gifts, by the January 31 deadline. The land acquisition is now in the final stages of closing. WLHS president Dr. Ken Fisher said, "Wisconsin is so grateful for your partnership and prayers. Every conference congregation agreed to participate in *Gaining Ground* and without that support it would have been impossible. God be praised for what he can do through his people!"

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL DELEGATE MEETING SUMMARY

St. Paul's delegates Mr. Steve Meyer and Dr. Joel Nelson attended the WLHS delegate meeting on February 5. Below are the highlights. A more in-depth summary may be picked up at the Welcome Center in the lobby.

- 1) *Master Site Planning*: Conceptual drawings were presented suggesting tearing down of the oldest wing of the school to build as close to 84th street as possible, maximizing the potential for a new three-story academic wing. The goal is to promote the best in Christ-centered training, support continued rigor in academics, and maintain competitiveness in our co-curricular activities, because these are the three most important enrollment factors.
- 2) *Administration Report*: President Dr. Ken Fisher reported on the following major happenings and updates:
 1. Full update of the WLHS website.
 2. Joy in the incredible response to the \$1 million Gaining Ground Campaign.
 3. Seeking to hire a full-time technology manager.
 4. Contracting with a firm to assess the combined development efforts of the WLHS Foundation and the high school in order to strengthen staffing and infrastructure.
 5. Success of the inaugural year of E-sports and the and girls' volleyball state championship competition.
- 3) *Financial Report*: St. Paul's member, Mr. Scott Beyer, the WLHS conference treasurer, reviewed the very positive financial statements for the current year. Support gifts and enrollment are up over last year at this time and expenses are steady. He expressed cautious optimism about how well we are doing this year.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

CALL ACCEPTED – MR. MARK SIEVERT

Mr. Mark Sievert has accepted the divine call extended to him to teach 5th grade in our school. Mr. Sievert is a 2002 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran College and previously served at Garden Homes Lutheran School and Hope Christian School in Milwaukee. He holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction. We ask God to bless Mark in his service to his Savior, beginning the summer of 2020.



Dear members of St. Paul's Congregation,

Through prayer, reflection and guidance, I humbly accept your call to be the 5th grade teacher at St. Paul's. I am eager to join an incredible staff in sharing God's Word each and every day. I ask for your prayers that the Lord give me the strength and wisdom to guide the youth of our church. I ask you to pray for my family in this transition and also for Lake Denoon Middle School and our public school system in Muskego, where I had been blessed to teach many of our members here at St. Paul's the past thirteen years. Now comes the joy of returning to our WELS schools and having the opportunity to share the gospel's saving news that I missed sharing so much. Praise be His name!

Your servant in Christ,
Mr. Mark Sievert

CALL DECLINED – MR. SETH FITZSIMMONS

Dear St. Paul's Parents,

I have declined the call to serve as principal at Crown of Life Lutheran School in West St. Paul, Minnesota. It is a great blessing to serve as principal here at St. Paul's, and I am excited to continue leading our strong school staff and ministry, which the Lord has blessed us with at this time.

In Christ!
Mr. Fitzsimmons

DID YOU MISS OUR SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE?

Principal Seth Fitzsimmons would be happy to set up a one-on-one visit with you to welcome and introduce you to our school, while answering any questions you may have. He can be reached at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118, or sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org.

NEW SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION FOR 2020-2021

If you or someone you know might qualify for the Milwaukee or Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs, please contact School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons for more information at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118, or sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org or. We would love to have your family take a tour of our school!

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$46,926	\$53,926
4	\$56,650	\$63,650
5	\$66,374	\$73,374
6	\$76,098	\$83,098
*Add \$9,724 for each additional family member		

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$63,990	\$70,990
4	\$77,250	\$84,250
5	\$90,510	\$97,510
6	\$103,770	\$110,770
*Add \$13,260 for each additional family member		

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT ONLINE RESOURCE

Grace for Marriage is a collection of online video resources for marriage enrichment. This is a subscription-based program that St. Paul's has purchased access to for you. These excellent videos for you and your spouse can be accessed by going to marriagelab.graceformarriage.com and using login: **SPMUSKEGO1234** with password: **Muskego_2020** God bless your walk with the Lord as he strengthens your marriage and your faith in him through this program.



WOMEN'S RETREATS

MARCH 7 Salem Lutheran Gift of Day Women's Retreat is Saturday, March 7, on the campus of Salem Lutheran in Milwaukee. Pastor Panitzke is one of the keynote speakers, presenting on the topic *Gay and God*. For more information and to register, contact Salem Lutheran at church@salemwels.net or (414) 353-8141.

MARCH 13-15 The 20th Pathways to Christ Women's Retreat will be March 13-15 at LaSure's Hall in Oshkosh. Registration and additional information can be found at pathwaystochrist.org.

MARCH 20-22 The Christian Woman Today Retreat, planned by a committee of women from Christ the Lord Lutheran Church in Brookfield, will be held March 20-22 at the Sheraton Hotel in Brookfield. Information on breakout sessions and registration forms is available at ChristianWomanToday.org.

STONEY CREEK ADULT COMMUNITY COSTA MAYA MISSION PRESENTATION

St. Paul's members Dan and Cindy Thiel will present on their recent trip to Costa Maya and the newest happenings at our mission partner, Costa Maya Ministries. Hear about all the blessings God has given to this ministry on Monday, February 17, at 1:00 pm, at Stoney Creek. No registration necessary.

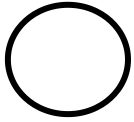
LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT

Each month the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society highlights a missionary they support. February takes a look at Pastor Kevin Schultz, pastor of The Vine Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Pastor Schultz writes:

When I received the call to start a church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, I was very excited. When I asked how many people would be part of the core group in Coeur d'Alene to help, the response caught me off guard: "Well... basically... no one." No one? How do you start a church with no people? It quickly became clear I needed to recruit some of the members of the congregation one hour away in Spokane to partner with me to plant this church. But I couldn't imagine that anyone would say "yes." But God had other plans. He reminded me, not only how the gospel changes hearts, but also how the gospel motivates hearts. Twenty-five people said "yes!"

God showed me once again that he is in control and how eager his people are to be a part of the greatest adventure on earth – telling other people about Jesus and building God's church. Knocking on doors, walking the streets, attending community events, introductions to strangers, social media, texting, radio, and the local newspaper were all used to get the word out about our new mission. Community service projects, outreach events, free giveaways, and random acts of kindness showed our love and Jesus' love to the community. One thing was consistent across all methods of outreach – it was always about building relationships while telling people about Jesus.





GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Time for a poll! Does Valentine's Day help you do a better job showing love to the special people in your life?
 - A) Yes!! It's one of my favorite holidays! I own stock in those little heart-shaped candies!

 - B) Yes and no. I think I do a good job of that already on my own, but it's nice to have a special day set aside to reinforce my love and appreciation.

 - C) Nope. I'm the Grinch of Valentine's Day. I refuse to support that Hallmark holiday nonsense.

2. This week's message unpacks the idea of men being sacrificial. Can you think of a man in your life who embodies the idea of being sacrificial? Who is he and how does he embody this characteristic?

3. Read John 13:1-17. What does this account teach us about being sacrificial?

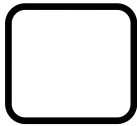
4. What do you think is the most challenging part about being sacrificial? Do you have a specific Bible verse that comes to mind about that challenge and how to overcome it? (Isaiah 41:10 is a great one if you want a place to start.)

5. Read Philippians 2:5-8.
 - If you are a man: How do these verses apply to being sacrificial?

 - If you are a woman: How do these verses apply to being precious?

 - If you are a child: What do you think these verses mean for you?

6. Who is one man God might be putting on your heart to encourage this week? Close your time together in prayer for these men and for opportunities to remind them of how loved they are.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Culture Shift – When Men Became Sacrificial

What Does the Bible Say to Men?

Ephesians 5:25-31 (Bible page 1176)

Introduction: “*This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.*”

—Adam in response to God’s gift of Eve in Genesis 2:23

Part I: The Bible says to men, “Be submissive to Christ.”

- Each person of the Trinity has equal s_____.
- Each person of the Trinity has a different r_____.
- M_____ and w_____ have equal status but different roles.

Part II: The Bible says to men, “Love like Christ.”

- Men: “Love the women you serve as J_____ loved you.”
- Jesus w_____ his disciples’ feet (John 13:1-17) and d_____ on the cross for the sins of all (Romans 5:8).
- God doesn’t love us on the basis of how well we m_____ up.
- God loves us f_____ and f_____ in Christ.

Part III: The Bible says to men, “Lead like Christ.”

- God calls men to lead, to be the h_____ as Christ is head of the church.
- Christ-like heads accept r_____.
- Christ-like heads take c_____ of the members of the body.
- Christ-like heads h_____ when the members of the body hurt.

Conclusion: Live in mutual submission out of reverence for Christ.

My Next Steps

Memorize Ephesians 5:21: “*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*”

Read Colossians 3:22-24 to prepare for next week’s message on *Culture Shift—When Work Became Worship*.

Pray for a receptive heart to understand and accept what God says in his Word on the equal status men and women enjoy before God and the different roles that he has given to each.