

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



# PALM SUNDAY LIKE US IN EVERY WAY

OUR DISGRACE

April 8 and 9, 2017



Our sin is disgraceful. Everything that happened to Jesus—who humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross—all of that should have happened to us. Yet, because of Jesus willing, humble obedience, we are honored in God's eyes.

#### **BELLS AND WELCOME**

- 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 friends in Christ, for five weeks of Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of this mystery that God would become our sacrifice for sin. Today we come together to begin the solemn celebration of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Messiah: to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us remember with devotion his entry that culminated at the empty tomb and follow him with a lively faith. United with him by Baptism, we share in his resurrection and new life.
- C Hosanna in the highest!
- M Let us pray.

God our Father, we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as a king by those who shouted, "Hosanna," and spread their clothing and palm branches in his path. Accept our praise, and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

#### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 363**

The King of Glory Comes

- M Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the highest!

CONFESSION OF SINS

Psalm 38

- M O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath.
- C For your arrows have pierced me, and your hand has come down upon me.
- My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.
- C I wait for you, O Lord; you will answer, O Lord, my God.
- M I confess my rebellion.
- C I am troubled by my sin.
- M Lord, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God.
- C Come quickly to help me, O Lord, my Savior.
- M Your Savior has come quickly to help you. God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C Amen.

#### RESPONSE HYMN 133, vv. 1, 4

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue your road,
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Your last and fiercest strife is nigh. The Father on his sapphire throne Awaits his own anointed Son.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Gracious God, the energy and emotion of your triumphant entry into Jerusalem still brings incredible joy to our hearts.
- C Yet the joy of that moment so quickly turned to sorrow and pain.
- M While emotions can be fickle, your faithfulness and love remain true.
- C Use us to share that same forgiveness and hope to all those around us;
- M through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now, and forever.
- C Hosanna in the highest!



**SEASONAL RESPONSE** (Sunday 9:15 am)

M All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed. (*Isaiah 53:6*)

**ANTHEM** (Saturday) (Sunday 7:45 am)

**Before the Throne**, *Saved By One* **Hosanna!**, *Lutheran Elementary School Grades K-8* 

THE GOSPEL VIDEO

Matthew 21:1-11, Bible page 988 *Jesus comes to Jerusalem as king.* 

**HYMN 131** 

All Glory, Laud, and Honor accomp. by Brass Ensemble (Sunday)

**SERMON** 

**Philippians 2:5-11,** Bible page 1179 *Pastor Jeffrey Bonack* 

#### 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.

**OFFERTORY** (Saturday)

**Just As I Am**, Saved By One by Michael Schroeder **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**, Brass Ensemble

(Sunday)

**OFFERING** 

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M Lord Jesus, you are the King of heaven and earth.
- C We join the first Palm Sunday worshipers in praising and glorifying you for coming to earth to be our Savior.
- M Though you are one with God the Father and Lord of all, you humbled yourself and became one of us. We thank you for living a life of perfect conformity to God's holy law in our place.
- C We praise you for being obedient to death, even death on a cross, to redeem us from sin.
- M Cause our voices to blend with those who sang your praises as you rode into Jerusalem. Move us to confess you before others as our Lord. Help us proclaim the message of peace and forgiveness to people of all nations. Use us to assure all people that your blood has cleansed them from sin and set them free from slavery to sin, death, and the devil.
- C Move us to dedicate all we are and have to your glory.
- M Lord, Jesus, you are King over all the earth. Bless the nations of this world with wise rulers and good government. Let peace prevail. Grant success to the businesses and industries of our land to serve for the common good. Cause all employers to be honest and fair-minded and all employees to be diligent and faithful. Look with favor on our nation's schools. Be with those who teach and those who learn.
- C Comfort the sick and the afflicted with the assurance of your care and protection. Strengthen the faith of the dying.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.* 

- M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.
  - Silent prayer.
- M Dear Savior, as we walk with you this week toward Calvary, keep us focused on your purpose for coming into this world and on our calling to spread this wonderful message of salvation. Hear us for your mercy's sake.
- C 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.

#### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.



M Lift up your hearts.



M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. 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 forever and ever.

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

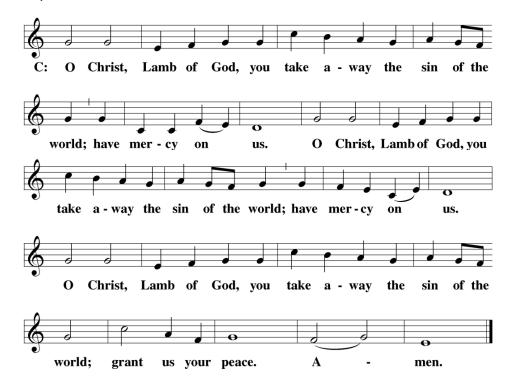


#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



#### O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see Communion note on page 8.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 130 217

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna The Head that Once Was Crowned

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

- M Let us pray.
  - Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take on our flesh and to die for us on the cross.
- C Thank you for giving us Jesus' body and blood in the Sacrament to strengthen our faith and empower us to follow his example of humility and patience;
- M through the same 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**

**ORGANIST** Darik Mischke





#### **OUR 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. Our membership course, Following the Promise, is held on Tuesday evenings in the Faith Room. Please contact Pastor Peter Panitzke at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org to register.

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 and placing it in the offering plate.

The light colored cups in the center of the individual cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine. Gluten-free wafers are located in the trays on the Communion rail. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform an usher as you approach the rail. The first pews in the right center section are reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail, and we kindly ask those who desire to be communed privately to use these pews.

#### Your Ministerial Staff Office (414) 422-0320

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	<u>jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org</u>	(414) 422-0501
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0320
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	(262) 679-1393
Mr. Dan Lippert, BA	Ext. 120	dlippert@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 232-4458
Mr. Phil Loescher	Ext. 123	ploescher@stpaulmuskego.org	(262) 305-8769
Dr. Joel Nelson	Ext. 145	<u>inelson@stpaulmusekgo.org</u>	(414) 422-0320
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 350-1436
Mrs. Sally Wallner	Ext. 294	swallner@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0320

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of April 10, 2017

MON	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Walking Club (Trinity Gym) The Story Bible Study (Grace Room)
TUE	9:15 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Ministerial Team Meeting Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) (Grace Room) Handbell Rehearsal Following the Promise Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	11:00 am 12:00 pm 4:30 pm 6:30 pm	School of Early Learning (SOEL) Easter Program (Church) Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room) 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Public School Confirmation Instruction Class Easter Festival Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am 10:00 am 3:30 pm 6:45 pm 7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Holy Communion Stoney Creek Bible Study (Stoney Creek Adult Community) Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Holy Communion
FRI SAT	1:00 pm 3:30 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 am	Good Friday Good Friday Worship Service Good Friday Worship Service Good Friday Worship Service Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
JA I	5:00 pm	Easter Vigil Worship Service
SUN	6:00 pm 7:45 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am	Easter Sunday Easter Sunrise Worship Service Easter Festival Worship Service Easter Festival Worship Service The Bridge Communion Easter at The Bridge Easter Festival Worship Service



## St. Paul's News

#### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

April 13	Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion	3:30 and 7:00 pm
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April 14 Good Friday 1:00, 3:30, and 7:00 pm

April 15 Easter Vigil \* 5:00 pm

April 16 Easter Sunrise \* 6:00 am

Easter Festival 7:45, 9:15 and 10:45 am

Easter at The Bridge 10:15 am

#### **SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY**

If you have small children, you might appreciate being able to focus on the sermon without interruption. We have a staffed nursery every Sunday during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the east wing of the church. A silent pager system allows childcare providers to alert you to any need your child has. Ask a worship host for directions.

#### HOSPITALIZED

Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home and Merle Johnson at Heritage at Deer Creek. James Beyer and Marvin Pellmann are at St. Luke's. Amanda Schultz and baby Wesley, Marlene Sobczak, and Brian Wiedoff have returned home.

#### **PRAYERS REQUESTED**

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Rick Drobka, Shelly Eggert, Namine Eiche, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Merle Johnson, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, and Jeanne Steinbrecher.

#### **WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

880 attended last weekend's worship services. 360 attended Wednesday Lenten worship services.

#### WEDDING

Morgan Schneider and Dan Komorowski were joined in marriage on Saturday, April 8. May God bless Morgan and Dan in their new life together in Christ.

#### **SOUP SUPPERS**

A sincere and grateful "thank you" to the Cancer Support Group, Quilting Fellowship, SOEL Staff, Dorcas Society, and our Lutheran elementary school 8<sup>th</sup> grade class for hosting the Lent soup suppers.

#### EASTER FLOWER DISPLAY HELP NEEDED

On Saturday, April 15, your help is needed to display the over 40 flowers that will beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Please contact Susan Beal at (414) 460-3624 for more information.

#### **EASTER FOOD BASKETS**

Our Food Pantry Team will be distributing food to families in need within our congregation and community on Wednesday, April 12. If you know of a needy family or if your family would benefit from an Easter food basket, please contact Coordinator Steve Graham at steve0828@hotmail.com or (262) 232-0928 or Pastor Kuehl at dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 121.

<sup>\*</sup> The Easter Vigil and Easter Sunrise services will be identical.

## St. Paul's News

#### **DIVINE CALL RECEIVED**

On Sunday, March 19, Fifth Grade Teacher Mr. Jeffrey Wetzel received a divine call from God's people at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Howards Grove, Wisconsin. The call is to serve as their principal and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. Howards Grove is about 10 miles northwest of Sheboygan. Please join in praying for the Holy Spirit to give wisdom and peace to Mr. Wetzel as he now holds two calls - one to continue serving the Lord here in Muskego and the other to begin serving in Howards Grove. Mr. Wetzel requests that you share your Christian counsel with him.

#### FOLLOWING THE PROMISE - NEW CLASS BEGINS MAY 23

This thought-provoking, faith-building class studies the truths of Christianity and the foundations of what our church teaches. It prepares you for membership in our church and is a great place to have your questions answered! A new class begins May 23. Pastor Pete Panitzke will be leading the I5-week course Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room. Register by marking the back of your Connection Card.

#### **GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY**

Join St. Paul's member and former pastor, Dan Kolosovsky, to see how God the Holy Spirit has equipped us with many spiritual gifts so that each of us can successfully preach the gospel in a seemingly endless variety of God-pleasing ways. Join the study Sundays through May 7 at 9:15 am.

#### **OWLS MEET TUESDAY**

The Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors meets on Tuesday, April 11, at noon in the Grace Room. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the provided dessert as you hear Pastor Panitzke talk about his trip to China. All are welcome.

#### STONEY CREEK ADULT COMMUNITY DAY TRIP

Stoney Creek will be going to The Fireside Dinner Theater in Fort Atkinson to see *South Pacific* on Thursday, May 11. If you would like to attend, please contact Stoney Creek Activity Director Charlene Schacht at (414) 422-4686. Cost is \$98.

#### **LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – ENROLLMENT INFO**

New families are enrolling in our school at a steady pace. To God be the glory and thanks! If you or someone you know would like to visit our Lutheran school, please contact Mr. Fitzsimmons at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. He would love to give you a tour. You may also enroll directly at <a href="https://www.stpmuskego.org">www.stpmuskego.org</a> by clicking on TADS in the left menu column.

That application window for Milwaukee Parental Choice has ended. However, the Wisconsin Choice Program application window continues through April 20. Income guidelines are available at the Welcome Center. Generous tuition assistance packages are also available apart from School Choice. We don't want the cost of tuition to keep your children from the wonderful Christian education at our school.

#### **SOEL INFANT OPENINGS THIS FALL**

St. Paul's School of Early Learning will have openings in the Infant Room this fall. Please contact SOEL Director Kim Neubauer at (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, or kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org for more information and to schedule a tour.

#### GIVE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES.

We will be holding a blood drive on campus Monday, April 24, from 1:00 to 6:00 pm in the Grace Room. For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are always welcome as well. Thank you for your support of this important community event.

### **GIFTS TO GOD**

#### **WISH LIST**

This list of items would greatly benefit the ministry at St. Paul's. These items are above and beyond the budgeted expenses. Below is an update on the generous giving that occurred over the last few weeks. Thank you for every gift you give to our General Fund, Mortgage Fund, and these Wish List items. 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 www.stpaulmuskego.org.

Item	Est. Cost	Received	Still Needed
School Exterior Window Replacements	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000
Trinity Gym Floor to Ceiling Room Divider	\$13,000	\$495	\$12,505
Permanent Wall Addition to School	\$5,600	\$1,982	\$3,618
Chairs for Church Lobby	\$3,200	\$1,345	\$1,855
500 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reformation Service Funding	\$1,000	\$2,000	Fully Funded
The Power of the Praying Parent Father's Day Gift	\$2,000	\$1,525	\$475
Church Grounds Landscape Design	\$750	\$1,285	Fully Funded

#### **SUMMER WINDOW REPLACEMENT!**

The Dorothy Horn memorial and other gifts received have provided \$44,000 to replace the windows for the 4 classrooms on the east side of our original school building. That leaves just 2 classrooms (approx. \$10,000 each) and the Centennial Gym (approx. \$35,000) to be funded. If all windows are replaced at once, we will be given a significant discount. Therefore, the Wish List indicates the window replacement project in need of \$55,000 with the hope that we might receive gifts in the next two months to complete the entire project this summer.

#### POWER OF THE PRAYING PARENT FATHER'S DAY GIFT

In connection with Father's Day, we are mailing postcards to the community with the offer: "All parents will receive a free gift: The Power of a Praying Parent." The cost of a book is \$5 each. This Wish List item will cover the cost of this gift that offers support to the parents in our congregation. If sufficient gifts are received, we could expand this gift to every school parent/Kids Club parent in the fall of 2017. We are also exploring a devotional as a gift to women on Mother's Day if we receive sufficient funds. Ask Pastor Panitzke for more information.

#### **GARDEN HOMES LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAM WISH LIST**

One of our partners in ministry, Garden Homes Lutheran School, located in Milwaukee's inner city, has a wish of their own to support their community center - Lighthouse Youth Center. Lighthouse Youth Center is located on the campus of Garden Homes as well as a second location on the Havenwood Campus. It exists to be a beacon for Christ to the youth of the community. Go to http://www.lighthouseyouthcenter.com/giving/lighthouse-program-wish-list/ to learn more.

#### TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Through the government's Title II funds and our congregational budgeting process, we provide for the professional development of our teachers, but there are more workshops and courses that our teachers would like to attend. This fund provides our members with an opportunity to encourage continuing education through special gifts. Our goal is to provide an additional \$500 per teacher or \$7000 per year. Gifts of \$850 have been given to date. If you would like to contribute, mark your gift clearly, "Teacher Professional Development Fund."

## **EXCITEMENT AND WONDER!**

#### **Excitement!**

The Ministerial Team is filled with excitement as we look forward to ministry opportunities next year...

- A full-time staff member focused on youth ministry (Dr. Joel Nelson), especially those children and teens not attending our Christian schools.
- A part-time volunteer coordinator (Emily Krill) working with Pastor Bonack to form a Member Engagement Team that combines volunteerism and small groups. This change allows Dr. Nelson to concentrate on youth ministry.
- A resident missionary (to be called when funding is approved) to help us connect with the many guests who come to our campus as a result of our worship, school, and sports ministries and lead them into Bible studies.
- A church administrator (Randy Fink) to coordinate our church ministries and allow Pastor Panitzke to focus more attention on ministry advancement.
- A second kindergarten teacher (to be called soon) because our Kindergarten class is projected to be 30 students or more, a sign our school continues to reach more families!
- Parental Choice will bless 14 students and their families. Our focus this year has been to make sure families already connected to St. Paul's were aware of this program. Next year we will expand from this "soft entry" and publicize this opportunity to our community.

#### Wonder?

The current budget draft shows a shortfall of over \$150,000 from our anticipated receipts compared to our desired expenditures. This plan has been developed to fulfill our mission: By every possible means we bring every person within our area of influence closer to Christ. **So we wonder**...

Can we do this?

#### Wonder!

This past week, Pastor Limmer of Victory of the Lamb, our daughter congregation, remarked at the incredible generosity of St. Paul's in its support of synod missions and special projects like our mission partner relationship. **We are filled with wonder** at what God has enabled St. Paul's to do in the past.

#### Wonder!

The Bible talks about signs and wonders that God has done. Would you join us in **praying for such a "wonder"?** 

Specifically, we are praying about the **resident missionary** position. We will not be able to fund this position within our operating budget this year. We have already received a grant of \$40,000 from the Antioch Foundation for this position. Would we be able to **raise matching gifts of** \$40,000 to make use of this grant and make this position possible? Has God placed on your heart an interest in giving a special gift to fund this ministry? If so, please contact Pastor Panitzke at (414) 350-1436 or ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.

We are excited! God has done wonders among us! Let's pray for a wonder!

## **SERVING OUR YOUTH**

#### ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL PRESENTS THE LITTLE MERMAID

All are invited to see our talented Lutheran elementary school kids perform the ever-endearing musical performance *The Little Mermaid*. This fairy tale was written by the Danish author Hans Christian Andersen about a young mermaid who is willing to give up her life in the sea and her identity as a mermaid to gain a human soul. All performances will be on the Centennial Gym stage at the following times:

Wednesday, April 26 – 1:00 pm Thursday, April 27 – 6:30 pm Friday, April 28 – 6:30 pm Saturday, April 29 – 6:30 pm

#### **TUG – TEENS UNDER GOD**

Teens of St. Paul's: Come out to Muskego Urban Gatheringplace on April 9 for a night of chill and relaxation. Have some snacks and drinks while you play some games or watch a movie. Take your pick! On April 23, those in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and higher are invited to Miller Park together with their parents to watch the Brewers take on the Cardinals. Tickets are \$20 per person. Sign up in the church lobby with payment due no later than April 13. Checks should be made out to St. Paul's.

#### HELP IMPROVE OUR MINISTRY TO TEENS: SURVEY ON WEBSITE

Two short surveys are on the home page of our church website at <a href="https://www.stpaulmuskego.org">www.stpaulmuskego.org</a>. One survey is for teens to complete and the other is for parents. The goal is to obtain feedback that will be useful for the development of better ministry programming to teens in the congregation and community. Thank you for taking the time to participate.

#### **NURSERY STAFF FOR THE BRIDGE**

The Bridge service has grown to the point of needing hired nursery staff each week. We currently have two staff people who alternate covering the nursery on Sundays at the main church and are hoping to arrange the same for the Bridge. If you are interested in this paid position, please contact Sally Wallner at swallner@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 218-5197.

#### **ALL INVITED TO SAFETY PRESENTATION - APRIL 19**

Our School of Early Learning invites all to attend a presentation by Detective Carlo Davila about "Civilian Response to Active Shooters." He will provide strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter. He will discuss history, prevalence, and trends of active shooter events. Detective Carlo will introduce the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, and stress factors that may play a role in decision making. He will also go over personal safety awareness tactics. The presentation will be Wednesday, April 19, from 6:30 until 9:00 pm in the Grace Room.

#### **CLASS OF 2017 DATA NEEDED**

St. Paul's will be celebrating our teens who are graduating from junior and senior high school in the Class of 2017. What school is your son or daughter graduating from? What are his/her plans for fall 2017? For 8<sup>th</sup> grade grads, what high school? For 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduates, what college, branch of the military, or work area? Please forward this information as soon as possible to jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.





## Like Us In Every Way - Disgrace and His-grace!

- Have you ever heard of the Rashomon effect? The effect is named after Akira Kurosawa's 1950 film Rashomon, in which a murder is described in four mutually contradictory ways by its four eyewitnesses.
  - How is it that different people seeing the exact same event can have such varied views?
  - Have you ever experienced this in your own life? Explain.
- 2. Skim over the accounts of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-9, Mark 11:1-11, John 12:12-18, Luke 19:28-40). Consider the eyewitnesses to this event listed below. What did each "see"?

Jesus' disciples Religious leaders Believers in Jesus
Roman soldiers Curious bystanders Jesus (See Luke 19:41)

- 3. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How does the truth of these verses and the perspective of the eyewitnesses above help to explain why Jesus wept?
- 4. This week's worship and sermon theme is, "Like Us in Every Way: Our Disgrace." The definition of **disgrace** when used as a noun is, "loss of reputation or respect, especially as the result of a dishonorable action." As a verb, **disgrace** means, "bring shame or discredit on someone or something."
  - When in your life have you been guilty of either definition of disgrace?
  - Why would Jesus have every right to call you a disgrace?
  - Why could this same word (disgrace) be used to describe Jesus?
  - What's the relationship between disgrace and His-grace? (See Romans 5:8)
- 5. Read Philippians 2:9-11.
  - Why do these words provide the best perspective from which to view Christ's life and your own?
  - Where in your life would a little deeper bowing for Jesus and a little louder acknowledgement of his glory make a positive difference?

PRAY: Living for Jesus Who died in my place, Bearing on Calv'ry my sin and disgrace; Such love constrains me to answer His call, Follow His leading and give Him my all.

Living for Jesus, wherever I am, Doing each duty in His holy Name; Willing to suffer affliction and loss, Deeming each trial a part of my cross.

Living for Jesus through earth's little while, My dearest treasure, the light of His smile; Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem, Bringing the weary to find rest in Him.

Thomas O. Chisholm



## Like Us In Every Way—Our Disgrace Philippians 2:5-11, Bible page 1179

It's amazing how two people who experience the same thing can have entirely different perspectives. What was Jesus' perspective as he rode into Jerusalem?

A faith-filled crowd or an unbelieving mob?
Disciples who don't want to h what Jesus has to say.
Crowds who want Jesus to make their everyday life a little more c
Mockers who believe that we are our own g here on earth.
Leaders who choose to feed the fires of a and j
Lord, we believe! Help us recognize and overcome the many different ways that
u shows up in our lives.
Lord, please open our eyes to how horribly our sin d you!
The Son of God deserving all glory or the servant of all making himself nothing?
Seeing our need made Jesus all the more d to sacrifice himself for us.
Look how low Jesus, in love, was willing to s for us!
A loveless Father or the greatest love a Father could display?
God's love for you is p enough to move him to love you through the pain of abandoning and slaying his own son. There's no greater love than this!
The cross and the tomb led to greater h for Jesus and for all who believe in him
Next Steps

The truth of God's love for you revealed through the Palm Sunday account is more than something to marvel at. It's life-changing.

- Have the same mindset of Christ Jesus. Jesus displayed sacrificial love for people who didn't deserve it. Toward whom will you display sacrificial love this week? Have a specific plan.
- The greatest love a Father could display. Are you feeling unsettled with God because of some struggle or difficulty he's allowed into your life? Think about how it pains him to see you in pain. Then, thank God that he's willing to love you through the pain.
- **Share the love.** Who do you know who needs to know the power of God's love in his or her life? Be sure to invite them to worship with you sometime the week.