

## EMPTY

### EMPTY HEART

April 22, 23, and 26, 2017

*When dealing with life's disappointments and disasters, the empty tomb brings healing to our hearts.  
Hopelessness turns to hope. Faith refined brings hope in the midst of suffering.*

#### BELLS AND WELCOME

#### HYMN 353

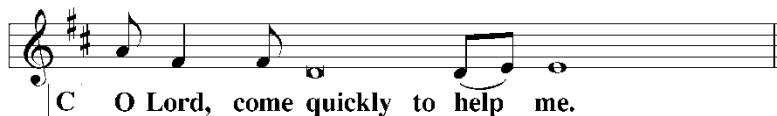
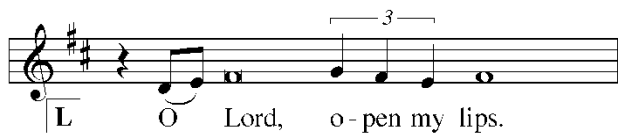
#### Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

#### BAPTISM (*Saturday*)

Hymnal page 12

*Pierson Roman Just*

*Son of Tony and Vicki (nee Rynders) Just, born March 23, 2017*



1  
Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,

2  
let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;

3  
come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,

*Repeat for use with canon*  
come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

*Verses*  
1. You are a great and a won - drous God,  
2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,

cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.  
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.

You made the hills and the moun - tains high,  
You are the God whom we call our own,

*to Refrain*  
you made the seas and the dry land.  
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Father God, through the suffering and death of your Son you lifted us up from death and despair.

C **Through his resurrection you have given us the priceless gift of hope.**

M Because you live, we too will live!

C **Help us to live lives that proclaim this hope to those around us;**

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

C **and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

**Psalm 16, Bible page 542**

*My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices because God will not abandon me to the grave.*

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29b)

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31, Bible page 1088

Jesus appears to his disciples a second time assuring all of them, but especially Thomas, that he had truly risen from the dead.

HYMN OF THE DAY 428

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

SERMON

1 Peter 1:3-9, Bible page 1220

Pastor Peter Panitzke

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Te Deum

Refrain



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.



1. With the an - gels in heav - en,  
2. Cre - a - tor of all things, We praise you, we  
3. O Christ, King of glo - ry,



praise you! With the cher - u - bim and ser - a-phem,  
O Je - sus Christ, the Son of God, We  
You be - came a man to set us free;



praise you, we praise you! With a - pos - tles and proph - ets,  
O Spir - it, most ho - ly, We  
You have ris - en to free us;

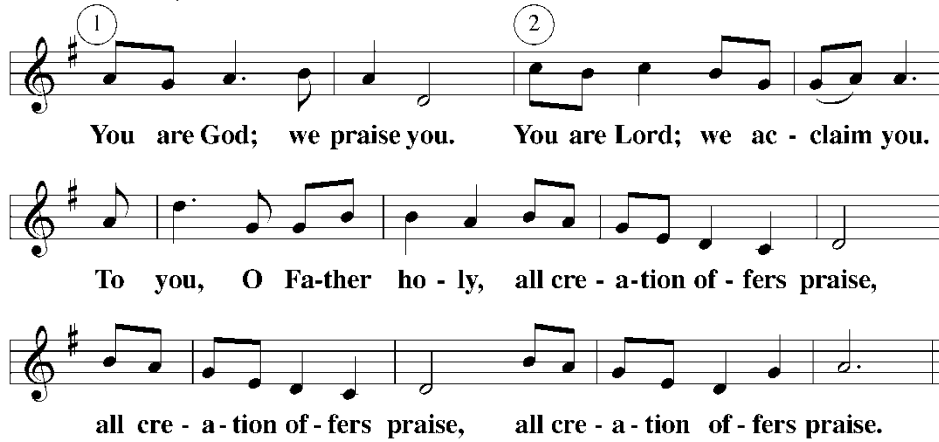


praise you, we praise you! With the mar - tyrs and your  
To the Trin - i - ty most  
And with all your saints in



ho - ly Church,  
bless - ed, We sing in end - less praise! to Refrain  
glo - ry, to Refrain  
to Final Refrain

*Final Refrain*



① You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you. ②  
To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise,  
all cre - a-tion of - fers praise, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Saturday*)

Reedeemer, *David Weise*

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.

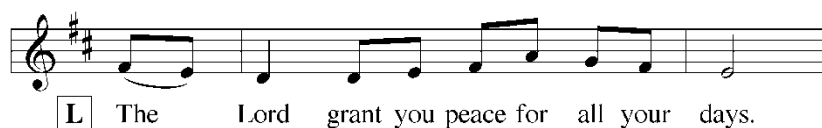
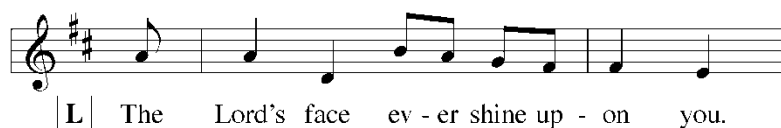
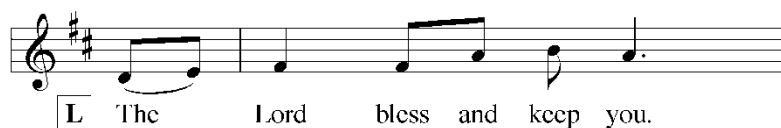
CLOSING HYMN 145, vv. 1, 4, and 5

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

CLOSING PRAYER

- M Lord Jesus, you truly have given us new birth into a living hope through your resurrection from the dead.
- C **Keep the eyes of our faith focused on the victory you have won for us.**
- M Though now we may suffer grief in all kinds of trials, we know that these trials refine our faith.
- C **May you, Lord Jesus, be glorified through them.**
- M You are the Lord forevermore.
- C **Amen.**

## BLESSING



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRESIDING MINISTER** *(Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl*

**ORGANIST** *Carol Nelson*



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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# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of April 24, 2017

<b>MON</b>	9:00 am	Western Lakes Pastoral Conference at St. John's, Lannon
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	1:00 pm	Blood Drive (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	<i>The Story Bible Study</i> (Grace Room)
<b>TUE</b>	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise Bible Study</i> (Faith Room)
<b>WED</b>	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
<b>THURS</b>	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	<i>The Little Mermaid School Musical</i> (Centennial Gym)
	6:45 pm	Stoney Creek Bible Study (Stoney Creek Adult Community)
	7:00 pm	Ministry Board Orientation Meeting
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
<b>FRI</b>	6:30 pm	<i>The Little Mermaid School Musical</i> (Centennial Gym)
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	6:30 pm	<i>The Little Mermaid School Musical</i> (Centennial Gym)
<b>SUN</b>	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 and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:15 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:30 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion
12:00 pm	Open Forum (Grace Room)	

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND!

God's people have responded in an extraordinary way! We knew we wanted to add a fourth pastor position on staff to help connect our many guests to God's Word. Two weeks ago, it became evident that we would not be able to include this resident missionary position in the budget for the next year. So we asked for special gifts and commitments to match the \$40,000 grant that we received from the Antioch Foundation. We have already received gifts of \$30,000 and commitments for another \$18,750 for a total of \$48,750! This will allow us to proceed with the calling of this position very soon! All gifts received beyond the initial matching gift will provide outside-of-budget funding for this position beyond the initial 12 months. If you would like to participate, clearly mark your gift "Resident Missionary." Thank you for your generous support of gospel ministry here at St. Paul's!

## "AWESOME SERVICES!"

Over and over this past week we have heard people comment about the Holy Week services here at St. Paul's. Our thanks to Pastor Bonack for planning these services and for all our musicians and other volunteers who made our services so wonderful! You can experience those services again and share them with your friends. The entire Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services are online at [www.stpaulmuskego.org/worship/sermon-videos/](http://www.stpaulmuskego.org/worship/sermon-videos/). Scroll down to the series "Behold the Hidden Glory of the Cross." You can easily share each message with someone by clicking the paper airplane logo.

## ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING

The annual voters' meeting will be Thursday, May 18, at 7:00 pm, in the Grace Room. At this meeting the \$3.5 million annual ministry plan will be presented for approval, as well as three resolutions to amend the bylaws and six resolutions to designate grants from the Gift Trust Fund and Legacy Fund. Elections will be held for four members of the seven member Ministry Board, the congregation's governing board. A copy of the ministry plan, the resolutions, nominations, and staff reports will be in the *Messenger* distributed electronically on April 27 and in print form after services the weekend of April 30.

## OPEN FORUMS – ALL ARE INVITED

Open forums will be held on Sunday, April 30 at 9:15 am in the Faith Room, and 10:30 am and noon in the Grace Room. The annual ministry plan and resolutions will be presented for discussion. The Ministry Board will consider suggestions made at these open forums, and if necessary adjust the ministry plan and resolutions before the annual voters' meeting on May 18.

## LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – TIME TO ENROLL

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. To enroll directly, go to [www.stpmuskego.org](http://www.stpmuskego.org) and click on TADS in the left menu column.



### Multimedia Ministry

- **TV:** *Time of Grace*, Sundays at 5:30 am on UPTV, 7:00 am on WBME, and 10:30 am on WDJT. Thursdays at 3:30 pm on TBN. For a complete broadcast schedule, visit [timeofgrace.org/waystowatch](http://timeofgrace.org/waystowatch) or call the *Time of Grace* office at (800) 661-3311.
  - **Radio:** Lutheran Radio Church Service, Sundays at 7:00 am on JOY1340 AM
  - **Online:** Podcast and video sermons at [www.stpaulmuskego.org](http://www.stpaulmuskego.org) and [www.thebridgemuskego.org](http://www.thebridgemuskego.org)
  - **Live Streaming:** The Bridge, Sundays at 10:15 am at [www.thebridgemuskego.org](http://www.thebridgemuskego.org)
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# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## MR. JEFF WETZEL CALL DECISION

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Dear members of St. Paul's,

Greetings to you from our risen Savior, who continues to guide us with His light as we walk together through this dark world.

Over the past weeks, I had the opportunity to consider two divine calls – my current call here in Muskego and the present call to serve in Howard's Grove. Both congregations strive to provide high quality, Christ-centered education, while reaching as many souls as possible. Both schools challenge me to use the gifts God has entrusted to me, for the betterment of His kingdom.

During my time of deliberation, I used Psalm 31:3 as my guide: "Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me." As God continues to allow me to consider where I can best serve Him, I cannot help but ask Him to guide my direction.

After much prayerful deliberations, God's direction and guidance has led me to return the call to teach and lead at St. Paul's Lutheran in Howard's Grove, Wisconsin. I am trusting this is the decision the Lord has led me to and how He wants me to use my gifts at this time. I am excited to continue my ministry here at St. Paul's, and pray that I am able to bring children closer to Christ.

Please keep the congregation in Howard's Grove in your prayers as they are currently without a teacher and leader. We can be confident that the Lord will provide the right servant to their congregation to help them move forward when the time is right.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" ~ Phillipians 4:4

Respectfully submitted in HIS service,

Mr. Jeffrey W. Wetzel

## DIVINE CALLS HELD BY OUR MEMBERS AND STAFF

St. Paul's Seventh Grade Teacher and Athletic Director Mr. Justin Walz has a call to Siloah Lutheran School in Milwaukee to teach departmentalized math in the upper grades.

St. Paul's member and former School Administrator Mr. Skip Bremer has a call to Salem Lutheran School in Stillwater, MN, to be principal and teach upper grades - departmentalized. (Mr. Bremer is the husband of our 4K Teacher Mrs. Kathy Bremer.)

St. Paul's Spanish Teacher Ms. Kristen Miller is currently holding two calls. One is to Christ - St. Peter Lutheran School in Milwaukee to teach grade 4 and the other to Siloah Lutheran School in Milwaukee to teach grade 4.

Please join in praying for the Holy Spirit to give wisdom and peace to these called workers and sharing your Christian counsel as you feel led to do



# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## **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. Lois Guhr is at Brookfield Rehab. Richard Krebs and Marvin Pellmann are at St. Luke's and Nancy Rindfleisch at Waukesha Memorial. James Beyer and Stephanie Brandt 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, Brittany Gillespie, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Merle Johnson, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, and Jeanne Steinbrecher.

## **WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

2071 attended Easter worship services; 1560 attended on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

## **BAPTISM**

William Harold Lehman, son of Andrew and Bethany (nee Wichman) Lehman, was born March 11, 2017, and will be baptized in the 10:45 am service on Sunday, April 23. We rejoice in the gift of saving faith given to William.

## **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 15-week course Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room. Register by marking the back of your Connection Card.

## **WANT HELP READING THROUGH THE BIBLE?**

Next fall Pastor Panitzke would like to offer a Bible study similar to *The Story* that he offered this year. In a 30-week course we will read selected portions of the Bible so that we read the Bible story in chronological order. Minimum class size is 50 people; maximum is 70 people. The time of the study is yet to be determined. Express interest on the 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 this study Sundays through May 7 at 9:15 am.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

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

All are invited to enjoy our talented Lutheran elementary school kids as they 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 presented on the Centennial Gym stage at the following times:

Thursday, April 27 – 6:30 pm

Friday, April 28 – 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 29 – 6:30 pm

## **POST GRADUATION PLANS**

St. Paul's will be celebrating our class of 2017 teens who are graduating from junior and senior high school. Please forward your plans for after graduation as soon as possible to [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12**

All students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to volunteer to be the Teen Staff for Safety City hosted by St. Paul's this summer. If you like working with children, this is the perfect volunteer opportunity for you. 8<sup>th</sup> graders may use this as one of their two service projects. Forms are available at the Welcome Center.

## **WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL WORKDAYS**

Wisconsin Lutheran High School is funding the aquaponics system in Zambia, Africa, as their mission project this spring. To help raise funds WLHS has student volunteers to help you with your spring cleaning, whether it be outdoor or indoor. Students are available to work the weekends of April 29 and 30, Saturday, May 6, and Saturday, May 13. If you would like a group of students to come to your house, please contact Mitchel Hopp at [workday@wlhs.org](mailto:workday@wlhs.org) or (414) 501-3921. Scheduling is done on a first come, first serve basis.

## **SAVVY SOCIAL SECURITY PLANNING TO MAXIMIZE RETIREMENT INCOME**

Thrivent Financial and Financial Consultant Michael Meyer, FIC, invite you to a workshop covering strategies for maximizing your Social Security benefits. The workshop will be held on campus in the Faith Room Monday, May 1, at 3:00 and 6:30 pm. More information is on the Grace Room bulletin board.

## **COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT**

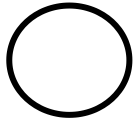
Destroy your confidential documents securely at the Thrivent Financial Community Shred Event. Bring your papers on Saturday, April 29, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, to the parking lot of the Thrivent Financial Muskego Lakes Group located on Racine Avenue in Muskego. See the Grace Room bulletin board for more information.

## **WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT OPENING**

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, located in Mequon, is hiring an executive assistant to work under the seminary's director of continuing education and partner with the *Grow in Grace* team to coordinate the work that supports our church body's pastors. See the Grace Room bulletin board for more information.

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

The Bridge service has grown to the point of needing to hire nursery staff each week. If you are interested in this paid position, please contact Sally Wallner at [swallner@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org).



# GroupWork

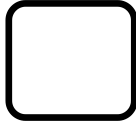
Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

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## Empty? Get a hope-full heart

1. Have you ever inherited anything? If so...
  - Share as much detail about it as you think appropriate.
  - How did you feel about receiving this inheritance: Astonished? Disappointed?
  - Why were you given the inheritance?
  - How have you used the inheritance?
  
2. Read I Peter 1:3-9
  - What inheritance is described in these verses?
  - What details are given about this inheritance?
  - What value is the inheritance for those to whom it is given?
  - How do earthly setbacks and troubles affect what is felt about the inheritance?
  - Why would verses 8 and 9 be a good definition for faith?
  
3. Read John 20:19-31.
  - Describe the demeanor of the disciples.
  - Though they had the inheritance described in I Peter 1:3-9, why were their hearts so empty?
  - Is an empty, hopeless heart something disciples today could feel? Explain.
  - Is there any emptiness in your heart now? Share.
  - What would help your heart to feel more hope-full?
  - Reread vs. 31. Of what value is this verse?
  - Why is the empty tomb the solution for the empty heart?
  
4. How do St. Paul's core values—1) Mission Outreach, 2) Diversity in Worship Languages, 3) Authentic Care, 4) Connecting People Inside of Community, 5) Marriage and Family, 6) Generous, Meaningful Living, 7) Ministry Excellence—address empty hearts?
  
5. Evaluate: God does not give us more than we can bear, or...  
God does not give us more than we can bear with his help.
  
6. Read aloud Psalm 16 as your group's closing prayer.



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

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## Empty Heart?

### Come to an Empty Tomb to be Filled

I Peter 1:3-9, page 1220

**“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).**

#### 1. Empty heart? You aren't alone!

a. Right now my heart feels empty because \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 2. A full heart is a goal-focused heart.

a. The goal of my faith is the s\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_ my s\_\_\_\_\_.

b. The goal of my faith is an i\_\_\_\_\_ that I don't have yet.

#### 3. A full heart is a faith-filled heart.

a. Faith in the e\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_

b. Faith in the p\_\_\_\_\_ of t\_\_\_\_\_

c. Faith in the p\_\_\_\_\_ of God to protect your faith

#### 4. Fill your heart!

### My Next Steps

- **Fill your heart with daily devotions:** Subscribe to free daily devotions emailed to you from our synod (<https://wels.net/subscribe/subscribe-to-daily-devotions/>) and/or from Time of Grace (<http://www.timeofgrace.org/moments>).
- **Fill your heart with short daily Bible readings:** Download the YouVersion Bible app and use one of dozens of daily reading plans.
- **Fill your heart with the promise of the Savior:** Register to attend the next *Following the Promise* course on the connection card.
- **Fill your heart with the Bible:** Express interest on the Connection Card for a proposed “Reading through the Bible” course next fall.
- **Fill your heart in worship:** Join us April 30 to let the empty tomb reveal the spiritual wealth we have in Christ Jesus.