



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

THE JOURNEY THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE
A JOURNEY INTO THE STRONGHOLD OF DOUBT
April 27, 28, and May 1

On Easter we went to the tomb to see for ourselves that it was empty. But sometimes the troubles of life or crushing guilt make it hard to see that the tomb is empty. That's when the journey leads us right into the stronghold of doubt.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 153

Alleluia! Jesus Lives

BAPTISM (*Sunday 9:15 am*)

Hymnal page 12

Reagan Elizabeth Karls

Daughter of Anthony and Chelsea (nee Peterson) Karls, born September 13, 2018

Leelah Marie Peterson

Daughter of Daniel and Lissa (nee Wedell) Peterson, born February 8, 2019

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

C **Amen.**

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, all of us must confess with the Apostle Paul: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.

C **But for that very reason, I was shown mercy, so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life** (*1 Timothy 1:15-16*).

M Confident that God's forgiving love in Christ is ours, let us confess our sins to him that we may be assured of his mercy.

C **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



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.

SONG OF PRAISE 265, vv. 1-3

This Is the Feast of Victory

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, there are times in our lives when the path before us is frightening or uncertain. Your Son walked through the valley of the shadow of death and emerged on the other side alive again three days later.

C **May he be the light that guides our way, no matter where life takes us, no matter how badly we stray.**

M We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
C **and forever. Amen**

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 15:1-6, Bible page 13

*Abraham was confused. God had promised Abraham an heir from his own body.
But he was getting older by the day and still there was no son.*

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Alleluia. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.
Alleluia (*Acts 2:32*).

SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 1:16-21, Bible page 1225

*When confused by life's journey, we have the Word of God, a light
shining in a dark place, to guide us.*

HYMN OF THE DAY 165, vv. 1-8

O Sons and Daughters of the King

SERMON

John 20:19-31, Bible page 1088

Pastor Nate Strobel

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Sunday*)

Risen Lord, Handbells
arr. by Arnold B. Sherman

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C **It is good and right so to do.**

M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see Communion note on page 6.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 158
148

**I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again
The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done**

CLOSING PRAYER

M Jesus, you came to us today and poured out the riches of your love and grace in your Word and Sacrament.

C **In you we truly have all that we need, and more.**

M As we go out into the world, empower and equip us as your forgiven children to live to your glory.

C **May the light of your love shine in us and through us.**

M We bless you now and forevermore.

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

PRESIDING MINISTER (Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl

ORGANIST Susan Oakes

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, entitled Following the Promise, to provide an overview of our teachings. Contact Pastor Nate Strobel at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org to find the session that works best for your schedule.

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 pew in the left center section is 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.



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 April 29, 2019

MON	8:30 am	Western Lakes Pastoral Conference at Star of Bethlehem
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
TUE	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:30 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study
WED	9:30 am	<i>Mommy and Me</i> (Faith Room)
	12:00 pm	Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:00 am	Quilting Fellowship (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Examination Review (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Open Forum (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI	8:15 am	Lutheran School Chapel (Main Church)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	8:00 am	Lutheran School Graduation Pictures (Main Church)
	8:30 am	Confirmation Pictures and Practice (Main Church)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Confirmation
SUN		Confirmation Sunday
	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Confirmation
	8:30 am	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Confirmation
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Kids Club and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Holy Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:30 am	Cancer Support Group (Church Library)
10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Confirmation	

TUG To MEET

Teens Under God (TUG) will meet Sunday, April 28, at 6:30 pm in the Trinity Café. Part of the evening will involve reviewing and discussing the findings of interviews done with Muskego area non-WELS churches on what they are doing to minister to their teens. We'll also kick around some ideas for spring/summer activities and learn more about St. Paul's new leader of teen ministry, Mr. Mike Westendorf.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY!

Pack your bag and join us for the rest of this message series.

- A Journey toward a New Friendship — Confirmation Day — (John 21:1-14) — May 5
- A Journey Following a Familiar Voice — Mother's Day — (John 10:22-30) — May 12
- A Journey that Exposes You for What You Are (John 13:31-35) — May 19
- A Journey with a Faithful Guide — Memorial Day — (John 14:23-29) — May 26
- A Journey that Gives Meaning to Life (Luke 24:44-53) — June 2



PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Carol Gosseck, Connie Hikade, Bruce Marggraf, Mary Schauwitzer, Carol Smith, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Lois Guhr is at The View at Pine Ridge in Oconomowoc, Gary Ives at the VA Hospital, and James Beyer at St. Luke's, Audrey Wefel is at The Virginia Rehab and Health Center and Nancy Rindfleisch has been transferred to The Village at Manor Park.

FUNERAL

Robert Miller, born February 22, 1922, entered eternal life with his Savior on April 23, 2019. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time. Please keep his loved ones in your prayers.

BAPTISM

Ezekiel Philip Lehman, born April 4, 2019, son of Andrew and Bethany (nee Wichman) Lehman, will be baptized at The Bridge on Sunday, April 28, 2019. We praise God for the gift of faith given to Ezekiel.

ATTENDANCE

448 attended Maundy Thursday, 998 attended Good Friday, and 1925 attended Easter services.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

We have a staffed nursery every Sunday during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the east wing of the church equipped with a silent pager system to alert parents if any need arises. A worship host will be happy to direct you to the nursery if needed.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW YOUR SAVIOR BETTER

Would you like to be able to articulate your faith and beliefs better for yourself and others? This course will help you do that. Pastor Nate would love for you to join him while he walks through the basics of what the Bible teaches and how it relates to God's promises for you on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm or Sundays at 8:30 am. Register on the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate at nstrobels@stpaulmuskego.org.

WHAT DO I REALLY HEAR?

What actually goes into putting a sermon together? An upcoming two-week Bible will encourage you to not just "receive" a sermon but really consume it. Join Pastor Wayne Shevey, St. Paul's member and campus pastor at Wisconsin Lutheran College, Sundays, May 5 and May 12, in the Grace Room at 9:15 am.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

YOUTH CONFIRMATION

Next Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, May 4, 5, and 8, 49 youth members, who have received thorough instruction in the truths of God's Word in Confirmation Class, will have the opportunity to publicly confess their faith before the church. We as a congregation pray that the Holy Spirit will preserve these youth in their faith to the end of their days. Below are the confirmands listed by the worship service in which they will confirm their faith:



Saturday	Sunday 7:45 am	Sunday 9:15 am	Sunday 10:45 am	Wednesday
Amanda Berry	Evan Artlip	Joshua Johnson	Wolfgang Krill	Abigail Hockers
Brady Kremkau	Brady Becker	Sophia Kennedy	Joshua Kwiatkowski	Chloe Klopf
Katelynn Schneider	Anna Bonack	Grace King	Kierstan Proite	Hannah Klopf
	Kyle Byley	Zachary Koch	Jude Radish	Madilyn Watry
	Emma Eilertson	Amber Larson	Isabella SanFelippo	
	Abigail Esmeier	Logan Lawonn	Gabriel Sheahan	
	Molly Fitzsimmons	Eli Lepke	Weston Sundholm	
	Jack Goelz	Mason Mazziotti	Melanie Tonn	
	Rowan Gray	Kathleen Meyer	Tresna Wehking	
	Samuel Grimes	Abigail Prosser	Thomas Westendorf	
	Noah Gruetzmacher	Ian Rintelman	Serenity Witzlsteiner	
	Ethan Haag	Melanie Schwartz	Lucy Younk	
	Leah Hudock	Isabelle Steidl	Ryleigh Zeller	
	Ellie Johnson	Elizabeth Veley		
	Ryan Miller			

EXPLORE THE HOLY LAND

Pastor Pete will be leading a ten-day tour to the Holy Land in the summer of 2020, with extension to Jordan. Tentative dates are June 16-25. Start checking your calendars! They fill quickly. Watch for more information coming soon.

PICK UP THE MESSENGER

The Messenger will be handed out after the service. Take a look at the updates from each of the Ministerial Team leaders and the proposed ministry plans for 2019-2020.

OPEN FORUMS TODAY! WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

Join us at one of the open forums to hear our plans to serve you and our community in the new fiscal year, beginning July 1. Your feedback at these forums is important! Ministry Board members will be present to hear your thoughts and questions. The board has scheduled a meeting the week after all the open forums to react to what was heard. All this is part of our preparation for the annual voters' meeting on Thursday, May 16, at 7:00 pm.

Open forums:

- Saturday, April 27, at 6:00 pm in the Faith Room
- Sunday, April 28, at 9:00 am in the Faith Room
- Sunday, April 28, at 10:30 am in the Faith Room
- Sunday, April 28, at noon in the Faith Room
- Thursday, May 2, at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

TWO DAYS THAT COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE

"God used the Global Leadership Summit to lay the foundation for all my leadership development. I have been attending the Global Leadership Summit for about 15 years. I am confident that this event could also help you in your role as a business leader, a leader in your church, and a leader in your home. These are the most important two days of my annual leadership training! It is worth your time!" - Pastor Peter Panitzke



On August 8 and 9, St. Paul's will be a Summit Private View Site for The Global Leadership Summit for the first time. With that, members and friends receive this world-class leadership development at a special discount – up to \$90 off regular rates! Join your friends and participate in this life changing simulcast. Register at StPaulMuskego.org/GLS and pay by credit card using priority code PV2019.

- Early Bird Private View Rate - \$89 (must be received by June 25)
- Regular Private View Rate - \$119

JOSHUA: WINNING THE WORRY BATTLE

Have you ever tried to fight worry with faith and felt you were losing the battle? Have comments like "God's got this!" or "Just pray about it!" only left you feeling more burdened? This Bible study series, inspired by the Book of Joshua, reviews three tools a person can develop to *Fight in Faith*: 1) embracing God's promises, 2) courage and commitment under pressure and 3) practicing radical obedience while waiting for God to deliver your victory. Join the Tuesday Ladies Bible Study group at 9:30 am, in the Faith Room, starting May 14.

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER DIVINE CALL ACCEPTED

Miss Emily Davis has accepted the one-year call to serve as a co-teacher for kindergarten for the 2019/2020 school year. Miss Davis is a member of St. Paul's and is currently teaching 2nd grade at Grace Lutheran School in Menomonee Falls. Miss Davis wrote the following letter to the congregation:

April 24, 2019

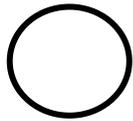
Brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is through you and St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School that I have received a divine call to teach kindergarten, beginning next school year. With this letter, I am excited to announce that I am accepting this call that has been extended to me. I truly appreciate everyone who has reached out to me with words of encouragement during my time of deliberation, and for all of the continued prayers from St. Paul's School and congregation for me.

I am very excited to be joining the school team at St. Paul's, and I look forward to the upcoming school year. May God continue to bless our ministry here at St. Paul's!

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
–Ephesians 4:11-13

Many Blessings,
Emily Davis



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

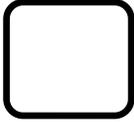
Life application materials for use in Connector Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Where did you see God working in your life this past week?
2. This message series - *One Journey Can Change Your Life* - is really the journey of reading through the Bible and knowing the love of your God. It is a journey that begins for us all at the empty tomb. Have you ever read through the entire Bible?
 - If so, how did that journey change your life?
 - If not, what would help you get started on that journey?
3. In his message, Pastor Nate mentioned some common doubts that people have either about God or about God's message in the Bible. Re-read the sermon text in John 20:24-29. How does Jesus' method of dealing with doubt and unbelief comfort you?
4. Have you ever had anyone ask you how you *know* you can trust God? What was your response? Were you confident and bold? How does the empty tomb inform your answer?
5. Read Genesis 17:15-21. Have you ever "pulled a Sarai" with a promise God's given you? Talk about that experience.
6. As a group, make a short list (5?) of doubts that you have heard expressed by a Christian or by a non-believing friend. How does each of the following passages prepare you for a discussion about those doubts?
 - James 4:8
 - Romans 11:33-36
 - 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
 - Mark 9:14-24
7. Who do you know in your friend/family circles that is currently wrestling with doubt? Partner up with someone to pray for God to give you an opportunity to talk with this person about his/her doubts!
8. Close your Group Work with praise to the Almighty Savior and Lord who will always be "more than our minds can contain" (Romans 11:33-36).

*Be still, my soul;
Your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he lived below.*

*Be still my soul;
The hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief & fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joy restored.
Be still, my soul; when change & tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

Hymnal 415, vv. 2, 4



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

ONE JOURNEY CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

SEIZE THE DAY PAST THE STRONGHOLD OF DOUBT

“You guys believe in Jesus, right? Does his book ever scare you...just a bit?”

1. Give Voice to the Doubts

A. We All Have Them--Do you ever doubt...

- ..._____ ?
- ..._____ ?
- ..._____ ?

B. Jesus Invites the Conversation

- Is God's love “_____”?
- Jesus shows up and engages _____ in the Great Conversation!

APPLICATION Trusting God even when we cannot see!

2. Run Back to the Empty Tomb

A. “See the Nail Marks”

- How do we know that we can _____ our God?
- Our primary problem is really our _____.

B. Trust the Author of Our Salvation

- Why doesn't Jesus show US his _____ and his _____?
- “Blessed are those who have _____ or NOT _____ and yet have believed!”

APPLICATION July 3, 72 A.D.

CONCLUSION The Bible? We tend to fear what we do not _____. But we have time on this journey of life to _____ and to _____.

Next Steps

- **Make a List...**of your doubts before God. Prepare for discussion using **James 4:8**.
- **Share Your List...**with a Christian friend or your pastor. How does **Romans 11:33-36** inform the conversation?
- **Find Peace...**in Jesus as you ponder **1 Corinthians 2:9-10** and **Mark 9:14-24**.