

MOTHER'S DAY

IF... THEN...

IF JESUS HAS RISEN, THEN ALL I DO HAS PURPOSE!

May 10, 2020

One meal preparation is followed by another.

Clean laundry becomes dirty laundry.

A pick-up bedroom gets cluttered again.

Does all you do really make any difference?

The empty tomb endows all that we do with meaning and purpose.

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 Brothers and sisters in Christ, through the prophet Isaiah the Lord says: "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you (*Isaiah 49:15*)!"

C **With these words God expresses his faithfulness and his steadfast love for us!**

M God calls us to love as he has loved us.

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

M These words cause us to examine our own hearts and lives, and approach God in honesty.

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.**

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.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

HYMN 528

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

Christ is our cornerstone; On him alone we build.
With his true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled.
On his great love Our hopes we place
Of present grace And joys above.

Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring!
Our voices we will raise The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim In joyful song,
Both loud and long, That glorious name.

Here, gracious God, do now And evermore draw near;
Accept each faithful vow And all your children hear,
And more and more On those who pray
Each holy day Your blessing pour.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, through your powerful Word you form and shape what we think and believe.
- C Teach us to love what you command and to desire what you promise,
- M so that, as we toil through the changes and challenges of life,
- C our hearts may continually yearn for that day when you bring us to our real home in heaven.
- M We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:1-12

Wherever Paul preached of Christ and his resurrection, there were some individuals who believed and others who closed their minds and eventually sought to persecute the truth. The Bereans, however, carefully and humbly investigated whether what Paul was preaching was in accord with the Scriptures.

In Thessalonica

17 When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ² As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah," he said. ⁴ Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

⁵ But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.^[a] ⁶ But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, ⁷ and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." ⁸ When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. ⁹ Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

In Berea

¹⁰ As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Knowing and trusting in him, we have every spiritual blessing.

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”

HYMN OF THE DAY 529

Built on the Rock

**Built on the Rock the Church shall stand Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land; Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.**

**Surely in temples made with hands God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.
Yet he who dwells in heav’n above Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies his temple.**

**We are God’s house of living stones, Built for his own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of his wondrous salvation.
Were we but two his name to tell, Yet he would deign with us to dwell
With all his grace and his favor.**

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

CONFESSION OF FAITH**The 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

Thank you for your generous support of our Gospel ministry. You may make a one-time or recurring gift at www.StPaulMuskego.org/Give or you can mail your gift to St. Paul's, S66W14325 Janesville Road, Muskego, WI 53150.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you” (Isaiah 66:13). LORD God, you hold up a mother’s love and care as a model of your own. Today we rejoice in the love that we have experienced from our mothers and others who have loved us as their own. As they comforted us when we were afraid, we ask that you, LORD, would comfort us now.

Comfort us as we face the possibility of sickness and death in this pandemic. Allow us to see clearly that Jesus is the True Way to Eternal Life.

Comfort us as we face the prospect of financial need and economic uncertainty. As our mothers prepared food for us, grant us confidence that you will prepare the daily bread that we need.

Comfort us as we struggle with loss – the loss of loved ones, the loss of once-in-a-life-time experiences like confirmation services and graduations, the loss of personal contact with those we love. Give us contentment in this loss by filling us with the fullness of your love in Christ Jesus.

As you have comforted us, use us, LORD, to comfort others with the comfort that we ourselves have received (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Give us eyes to see pain and fear in the eyes of those around us. Give us words to speak. Give us wisdom to act in love.

LORD, we pray for national leaders all over the globe who are struggling to determine the next steps to open up their nations. We pray for our President, our Governor and local leaders that you would lead them to decisions that protect life and yet also protect our livelihoods.

LORD, we pray for your Church, that you would give congregations the courage to seize every opportunity that you provide to declare your praises, for we are your chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, your special possession.

LORD, hear us as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

All this we ask in Jesus' name and in his name we pray:

THE 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 234

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen Sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him!**

CLOSING PRAYER

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received the promise of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, be at 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.

C **Amen.**

We desire to serve you in any way that we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

ST. PAUL'S PASTORS *Office (414) 422-0320*

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 303-1241
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 861-0635
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 350-1436
Pastor Nate Strobel	Ext. 293	nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 426-8236

Or you may contact us anytime via our website [here](#).



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.

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY WITH US!

“If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile”
(1 Corinthians 15:17).

Let God’s Word continue to give you an answer to this great
“if” of Easter.



Join us as we continue to see the change...as we see the “then” that Jesus’ resurrection brings to our lives:

- Then I will end my life well – 1 Peter 5:6-11 (May 17)
- Then my ascended Lord rules all things for me – 1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11 (May 24)
*This service will complete a trilogy of “Seven Candles – Seven Words” series of services—
Good Friday, Easter, and Ascension.*

Pentecost Potential

The Holy Spirit who was active at creation is also active in our lives. As we begin the Pentecost season, we will study the origins of the world and celebrate the power of God that is at work in us.

- **Created with Potential – Genesis 1 – May 31**
- **Potential for Perfect Love – Genesis 1:26-28 – June 7**
- **Potential for Perfect Relationship – Genesis 2 – June 14**
- **Potential for Restoration – Genesis 3 – June 21**
- **Potential for Great Good and Great Evil -Genesis 4 – June 28**

Online Worship

All online worship resources are available on our [website](#). We encourage you to participate in worship at the time you would normally worship. The worship folders for all services are available for download on our website for you to follow along.

The Bridge, our modern/casual worship experience, is shown live on Sundays at 10:15 am on The Bridge [website](#), Facebook at The Bridge at St. Paul’s, and on our [You Tube channel](#). The service is also available for viewing later at any time on each platform.

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, please don’t hesitate to contact one of our pastors or use the contact form at the bottom of our [website](#). We have a team of dedicated prayer warriors ready to pray for you. If you would like to keep your prayer requests confidential among the pastors, check the applicable box.

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE DURING THIS CRISIS



WHAT?

Food collection for the Muskego Food Pantry to assist area families in need.

WHEN?

Sunday, May 17, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

WHERE?

St. Paul's Lutheran Church-Muskego at all three entrance locations.

●●● NOTE: If it would rain, drop off will be under the main church canopy and by the Trinity Café.

HOW?

Drop off non-perishable (canned/packaged) items to help supply the Muskego Food Pantry. While any item is accepted, **items most needed** are listed below. Items must be in bags. If possible, use plastic bags.

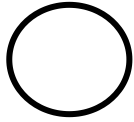
- 1) After entering the campus, proceed to the food drop-off canopy.
- 2) Open your car door and place bagged items on the driveway.
- 3) Close your car door and slowly drive on.
- 4) St. Paul's volunteers will collect the bags after you drive off.
- 5) Volunteers will be wearing protective masks and gloves.



ITEMS MOST NEEDED

Jelly	Pork & Beans	Chicken Broth	Beef Stew	Potatoes	Carrots	Conditioner
Tomato Paste	Refried Beans	Gravy	Spam	Ketchup	Toilet Paper	Soap
Tomato Sauce	Chili Beans	Hash	Pasta Sides	Mustard	Shampoo	Tooth Paste

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALSO ACCEPTABLE – MAKE CHECKS OUT TO “MUSKEGO FOOD PANTRY”



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

Celebrate Your Priestly Calling

1. Get the conversation started. Discuss one of the following:
 - What is your favorite memory about your mother? Or
 - What makes the role of a mother especially challenging in our Safer-at-Home world?

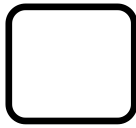
2. Read Proverbs 31:1,10-31. King Lemuel's mother encourages her son to appreciate the gift of a woman who fears the LORD. Christian women say that this chapter makes them feel guilty because they compare themselves with the woman described here. Do you think that comparison trap is a common problem among Christian women and men? Why do people fall into that trap?

3. How might these passages help us battle that comparison trap?
 - Romans 7:18-19
 - Romans 8:1
 - 1 Peter 2:5

4. Christians are part of a "holy priesthood" (1 Peter 2:5). Priests in the Old Testament offered up sacrifices to God. What are our New Testament sacrifices?
 - Romans 12:1-2
 - Philippians 4:18
 - Hebrews 13:15-16

5. Close by celebrating your identity as God's New Testament people. Read together this adaptation of 1 Peter 2:9-10.

We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once we were not a people, but now we are the people of God; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy. Amen.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

“If... Then...”

If Jesus has risen, then I live with purpose.

I Peter 2:4-10

1. If Jesus has risen, then marvel at God’s stonework.

- a. Jesus, the living Stone
 - i. Chosen by God
 - ii. Rejected by the “builders” just as foretold
- b. You, a living stone
 - i. In a place chosen by grace (I Peter 1:2)
 - ii. In a permanent place (I Peter 1:5)

2. If Jesus has risen, then you are a priest.

- a. With direct access to God
- b. Offering sacrifices acceptable to God.

3. If Jesus has risen, you have a story to tell.

- a. The darkness of comparison (Proverbs 31:10-31)
- b. The light under the cross

My Next Steps

- **Celebrate a Mother’s priestly calling:** In Proverbs 31:10-31. King Lemuel’s mother encourages her son to appreciate the gift of a woman who fears the LORD. She lists some of the things a godly woman would do about 1000 BC. Read Proverbs 31:10-31 with this question: What are the things that your mother does or has done that makes you praise God for her? Make a list like King Lemuel’s mother did. If possible, share it with your mother.
- **Celebrate a Mother’s priestly sacrifice:** No one fulfills any role perfectly. You can always find someone who does something better than you. But what makes a mother’s sacrifice acceptable to God? Memorize I Peter 2:5 as your answer: “You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”