

OH, FOR AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH

FAITH DOESN'T ASK WHY

July 21, 22, and 25, 2018

Sometimes it seems foolish to do what God commands. How can marching around a city bring down its walls? We don't always see or understand why God asks us to do what he asks us to do, but faith tells us that when we do it, we will be blessed.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 253, vv. 1-3

I Will Sing My Maker's Praises



L O Lord, o - pen my lips.

C And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

L Hasten to save me, O God.

C O Lord, come quickly to help me.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

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

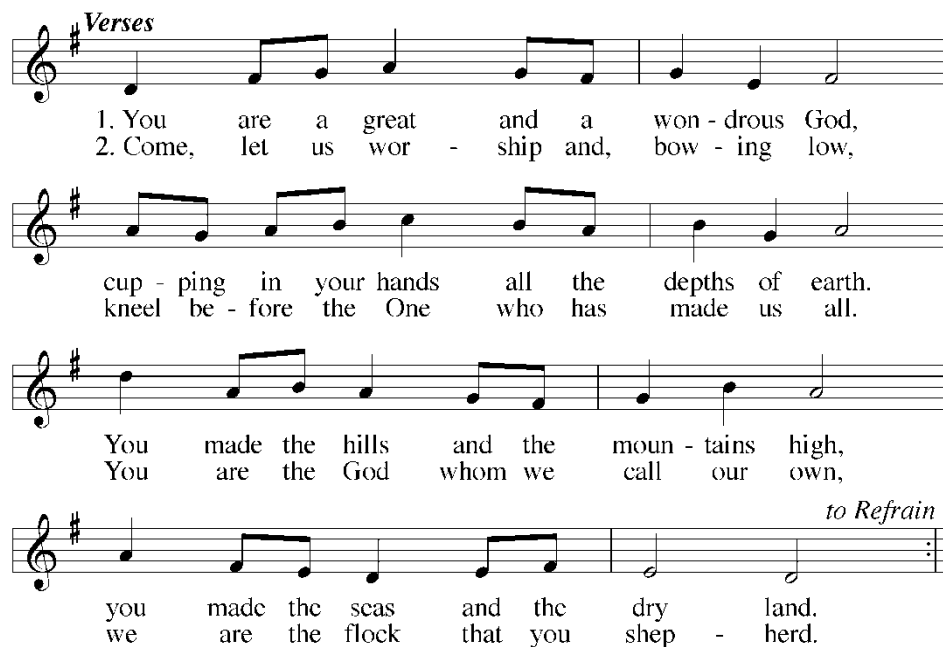
② let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;

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.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Let us pray.
 Heavenly Father, you have made many powerful and beautiful promises to us.
- C **These promises speak peace and hope to our hearts as we journey through life in a world filled not only with joy, but also sorrow and pain.**
- M Help us believe that you will keep every one of the promises you have made to us
- C **so that we live in joyful confidence giving witness to the world around us that you are good and worthy of our trust.**
- M We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
- C **and forever. Amen**

FIRST LESSON

James 1:2-12, Bible page 1216

Rejoice in our troubles? Sounds crazy! Yet, God promises to make us stronger through them. Have faith!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 121, Hymnal page 112

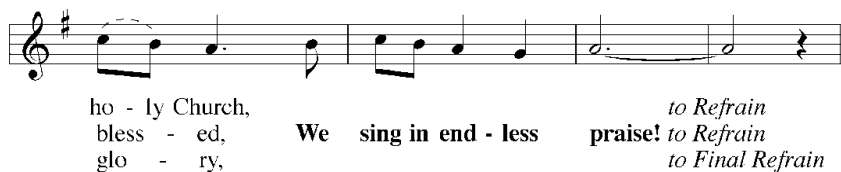
*Because the Lord has always been there for me,
 I put my hope and confidence in him.*

GOSPEL

Luke 17:1-10, Bible page 1049

As the apostles listen to Jesus' instruction for his people, their feelings of inadequacy lead them to pray: "Increase our faith!"

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Te Deum*Final Refrain*

OFFERING

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 447

Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

CLOSING PRAYER

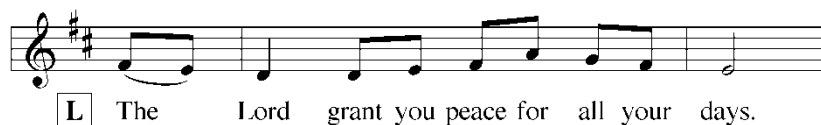
M Lord God, you have united our lives in Christ.

C Empower us to live and work together for your glory and the growth of your kingdom.

M You are the Lord forevermore.

C Amen.

BLESSING



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER *(Sunday) Pastor Wayne Shevey (Wisconsin Lutheran College)*

ORGANIST *Nicole Greanya*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of July 23, 2018

| | | |
|--------------|----------|--|
| MON | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Centennial Gym) |
| TUE | 9:30 am | Ministerial Growth Team Meeting |
| | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Centennial Gym) |
| | 10:30 am | Ministerial Team Meeting |
| | 6:00 pm | <i>DivorceCare</i> (School Classroom #9) |
| | 7:00 pm | <i>Following the Promise</i> (Faith Room) |
| WED | 7:00 pm | Traditional Worship Service |
| THURS | 6:30 am | Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) |
| | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Centennial Gym) |
| | 7:00 pm | The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice |
| SAT | 8:00 am | Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) |
| | 5:00 pm | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| SUN | 7:45 am | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 am | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 am | Grace Room Bible Study |
| | 9:45 am | The Bridge Communion |
| | 10:15 am | The Bridge |
| | 10:45 am | Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 6:30 pm | TUG Teens Under God (Trinity Café and Gym) |

HEAR AND SEE THE MESSAGE ONLINE!



- **Watch Live:** Attend church remotely on Sundays at The Bridge at 10:15 am. Live streaming is available at www.thebridgemuskego.org, Facebook at *The Bridge at St. Paul's*, and You Tube at *The Bridge Church Muskego*. All past live replays are also available on each platform.
 - **Sermon Videos and Podcasts:** Sunday sermons are available at www.stpaulmuskego.org and www.thebridgemuskego.org. They are usually available Sunday evening for that same Sunday's message.
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ST. PAUL'S NEWS

BAPTISM

Jack Lawrence Romans, son of Brian and Jennifer Romans, was born July 2, 2018 and baptized in a private ceremony on July 17, 2018. We praise God for the gift of saving faith given to Jack.

HOSPITALIZED

Terri Raduege has returned to Autumn Leaves in Franklin. Rick Witzlsteiner is at Waukesha Memorial.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Judith Lauber, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Mary Schauwitzer, Cheri Sorensen, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg. *Beginning July 29, we will update this "Prayers Requested" list. If you or someone you know would like to remain on this list, please indicate that on the Connection Card.*

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. An usher will be happy to direct you to the location if needed.

CLOTHED IN CHRIST IN BAPTISM

A first step toward a stronger faith is a one-hour personal visit and study on baptism. Schedule this First Step visit with Pastor Nate Strobel by marking the Connection Card or contacting him at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE

This is the perfect place to start if you have never done a Bible study. Register with Pastor Nate on the back of the Connection Card or at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org and he will contact you with more information on class options and answer any questions you may have. This also serves as our pre-membership study.

SUMMER GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY SERIES—VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE

In a survey of Grace Room Bible class participants, 13 unique chapters of the Bible were requested to discuss over the summer months. Come and find out why the chapters selected are so important, Sundays in the Grace Room, 9:15-10:15 am.

JULY FAMILY IN NEED

Medical bills have overwhelmed a young St. Paul's family. All three family members have experienced significant health issues in the last year that required hospital stays and/or long unpaid leaves for recovery. Although the family has insurance, the combination of high deductibles, gaps in coverage, and lost wages have left this family with thousands of dollars of unpaid medical bills. They have applied for and received reduced bills through their health care providers. Any gift to help this family would be greatly appreciated. Mark your gift "July Family in Need."

PART-TIME SCHOOL CUSTODIAN OPENINGS

We are looking to fill multiple part-time flex positions to cover 50 hours of weekly work on our School Clean Team. Our staffing model has primarily 4-hour shifts and the flexibility of working 2 days-per-week to 5 days-per-week. In addition, the work schedule is flexible with some shifts starting at 6:00 pm and some shifts possibly starting later into the evening hours to accommodate those with busy day-time schedules. If interested in learning more or if you know someone who would be interested, contact Staff Minister Randy Fink at rfink@stpaulmuskego.org (414) 422-0320, ext. 120.

FAMILY CHURCH

The Foundation Stone

“On this rock I will build my church.”

Peter had just confessed about Jesus, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

That truth is the foundation stone of the Church.



The Next Stone

But what is the next stone Jesus uses to build his church?

It is a stone that Satan is trying to pull out of God's Church. Satan can pull it out because

- we don't have time for it,
- we don't feel qualified to lead it,
- we don't feel connected to it.

The Importance of Family

The Family Stone is the next stone Jesus lays upon the foundation. The family is where faith is most often and most thoroughly passed on. God instructed family leaders, “These commandments I give you today... Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:6,7).

But today, the family is under attack.

- Our schedules declare that work has become more important than family,
- Parents haven't learned how to pass on their faith to their children,
- Families are dysfunctional and many adults don't feel there is a “family” to which they belong.

The Family Church

Beginning September 9, we want to help you put that “next stone” back into its place. We want to help moms and dads see their families as the primary church they are called to shepherd. We want to help adults become a part of spiritual families (Life Groups) so they can encourage others and be encouraged.

Included in our fall program will be:

- A message series based on Ephesians that will help you see your role in the family, whether that be the nuclear family or a family of believers in a Life Group.
- Testimonials that will show God's power in our families.
- Daily devotions with applications that apply God's plan for family to us in our various stages of life.
- A RAWKs Fund (Random Acts of Worship Kindness) that families and groups can use to put the love of Christ into action.
- A celebration event the weekend of October 21 in which we rededicate ourselves to putting the “family stone” upon the “foundation stone.”

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CHURCH PICNIC – OUTDOOR SERVICE – AUGUST 5

Only 21 days until we hold our annual outdoor church service and picnic on Sunday, August 5, at 10:30 am. Now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their picnic committee! We need volunteers for the following jobs:

- Grilling Corn (need someone who knows how to grill corn on our outdoor barbeque)
- Carnies for children's games and activity area (1-hour shifts)
- Preparation of food, cashiers in the food tent, and runners/servers in the food tent

If you can help in any of these areas, please sign up on the sheets in the lobby or contact Bob Zastrow at (414) 940-9360. Thank you!

A COOL OFFERING ON PICNIC SUNDAY

In your offering packet is a green "Picnic Offering" envelope. These special picnic offerings will be included in the Cool Million effort. We have received \$237,309 in Cool Million gifts. This generosity has already resulted in new sanctuary lighting and paving of the playground. Work on the new school HVAC and Centennial Gym windows will begin around the time of the church picnic. Our tithe has enabled our mission partner Costa Maya Ministries to purchase a much needed replacement van that serves as an essential part of their community outreach.

LET YOUR FAITH SHINE IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Waukesha County is looking for volunteer helpers for the Meal on Wheels program that operates out of Stoney Creek Adult Community. Positions are available Mondays and Fridays for servers from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm and delivery drivers from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. If you would like to help feed Muskego seniors, please check out more details at www.AmericaLetsDoLunch.org and contact Sue Ertle at 262-617-3327 or Karen Straw at 262-548-7829.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - THURSDAY, AUGUST 2

National Night Out Is a community family event hosted by the Muskego Task Force on Public Safety. St. Paul's has participated for several years to support our city and reach out to families. Volunteers are invited to join with Pastor Nate Strobel and Sally Wallner at the St. Paul's booth on Thursday, August 2. If you would like to help with the Connect-A-Shot game or Plinko for the kids, between 5:00 and 8:30 pm, please mark your Connection Card or contact Sally Wallner at swallner@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 218-5197.



DIVORCARE SUPPORT GROUP

St. Paul's offers DivorceCare, a Christ-centered, 13-week program which includes video segments, group discussion, and personal Bible study. Feel free to join anytime throughout the 13 weeks to find help, discover hope, and experience healing. DivorceCare is held on Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30 pm, in school room #8.

SERVING OPPORTUNITY – BRIDGE RIGGING

We are looking for a couple of individuals who would be willing to pull out equipment for The Bridge on Saturday evenings in preparation for the Sunday set-up. The task takes about an hour and can be done anytime on Saturday evening. A volunteer currently serves every other week. The new individuals would cover the opposite weeks and fill in when needed. Contact Pastor Bonack at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext 119 to volunteer or for more information.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

COOL MILLION GOLF OUTING

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 11, 2018**

REGISTRATION 12:30PM
SHOTGUN START 1:30PM

DINNER 6:30PM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL - TRINITY CAFE

PRIZES, GIVEAWAYS AND
DRAWINGS TO FOLLOW



**NEW BERLIN HILLS
GOLF COURSE**

3175 W GRAHAM ST,
NEW BERLIN, WI 53151

**4 PERSON
SCRAMBLE**



REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

- 18 holes and cart
- 2 Beverage Tickets
- Dinner provided by Wegner's St. Martin's Inn
- Prizes and Giveaways



- ☐ \$100 per golfer
- ☐ \$400 per team
- ☐ Assign me/us to a Foursome
- ☐ \$100 Hole Sponsorship
- ☐ Dinner only - \$25 per person

Total = _____
*receipt will be sent to you.

Complete this form and send with payment to:

St. Paul's Lutheran School
ATTN: Golf Outing
S66 W14325 Janesville Road
Muskego, WI 53150

Please make checks payable to: St. Paul's Muskego

****Register your foursome by June 15th and the team will receive one free "Arms Length" of Raffle Tickets!
All proceeds benefit the Cool Million projects.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
Emily Meitner, 414.422.0320 ext. 110 or emeitner@stpaulmuskego.org**

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

TUG IN JULY

The next Teens Under God (TUG) night is Sunday, July 29, 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Trinity Café. Teens will discuss connecting with others under the title, "Getting Real with Relationships." TUG is a great place for teens to grow in faith and develop Christian relationships. Contact Dr. Joel Nelson with questions at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

PARENTS: REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR FALL CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION CLASSES

If you have a child entering 6th-8th grade this fall who will be enrolled in a school other than St. Paul's Lutheran School, and you want him/her to take part in St. Paul's Confirmation Instruction Program, please contact Dr. Nelson soon at (414) 422-0320, ext. 145, or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org. This will ensure that you receive all the necessary information about the program and the August 20 orientation night. These Wednesday afternoon classes begin August 29 at 4:30 pm.

KIDS CLUB THIS FALL

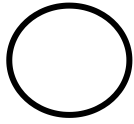
If being a part of shaping the next generation for the Lord is something you'd enjoy considering, contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or mark the back of your Connection Card. Dr. Nelson looks forward to sharing the joys and rewards of youth ministry with you.

2018 WELS YOUTH RALLY – OUR TEENS THANK YOU!

- Thank you so much for helping me out. I had the best time of my life there! I definitely want to go again in 2020 to Knoxville, TN."
- "I liked that there were 2000 other teens there who believe the exact same thing that I do. We got to worship, learn, and just have fellowship with each other."
- "I really enjoyed going to the Youth Rally because there was so much to do, so many activities, and so many new people to meet. The songs were amazing!"



- "The best part was getting to know others while also hanging out with your friends in a place where you all have a common faith."
- "The Youth Rally was an experience like none other. Gathering and worshipping with such a huge group of peers was unbelievable!"
- "This trip was a fun experience for me and the others. We learned about Jesus every day, and we had our own things to go to and do, helping us to be responsible on our own. I cannot wait to go to the next one!"

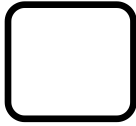


GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Where have you seen God work in your life this week?
2. This week's message focused on the kind of faith that doesn't ask "why." Can you recall a time in your life when "Why, God?" seemed like a pretty legit question? Share your story and how you view that situation today.
3. Read Joshua 5:13-6:20.
 - a) If you were Joshua in this account, would you struggle with following God's instructions without a "why?"
 - b) Pastor Bonack told us that the "why" is found in Joshua 6:3. Do you think obedience was easier for Joshua once he knew that? Or is there even more to Joshua's unshakeable faith?
4. Why do you think some Christians feel uncomfortable when people question God? How do you think God feels about it?
5. What makes the Christian faith NOT a blind faith?
6. Can you recall any other Biblical accounts in which a godly man or woman walk by faith without knowing the "why"? What can you learn from them that will help you on your journey?
7. Where might God currently be asking you to obey in ways that make you want to ask "why"? How do the words of Romans 8:28 encourage you to obey anyway?
8. What was your biggest "a-ha" from this week's message?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

1-2 Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

Faith Doesn't Ask Why

Joshua 5:13-6:5,20 (page 217)

Faith doesn't ask why. Really?

Who of us hasn't been tempted to ask, "why God?"

Because God is God and we're not, we're all going to wrestle with God's will.

In the wrestling, faith grows.

We all learn to know and understand God better.

We have opportunity to share with others why God has won our trust.

Faith doesn't ask why. Really!

The Christian faith is not a blind faith.

Our faith is built on the real experiences of real people with a real God.

Our faith is bolstered every time God keeps his word to us.

God proved his power and love when he died on the cross.

God continues to prove his power and his love every time we choose to do what he says.

Next Steps

- **Why God?** Think of a time you questioned God's will or God's ways. This week share your story with someone along with how it has impacted your spiritual journey.
- **Blind faith.** Although the Christian faith is not meant to be a blind faith, if we don't stay connected to God's Word, that's what it can easily become. If you don't have a plan for regular Bible reading, make one today!
- **Do what he says!** We all have areas in our lives where we know what God wants us to do, but for one reason or another, we choose not to do it. Pinpoint one of those areas in your life and make a commitment to follow his Word and his will. Be sure to share your plan with someone you trust will hold you accountable.