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GRACE WINS!

GRACE WINS EVERY TIME

August 4, 5, and 8, 2018

When so much changes in our lives, we long for peace. We ache for something certain that we can stand firm on, even in times of pain and suffering. We find that very thing in Romans 5, an unending love that inspires us to rejoice both in the good times and in the not so good times.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Chris Driesbach

OPENING SONG VV. 1, 3, 4

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,

M In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, the prophet Jeremiah reminds us that the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23a).

C **Great is the Lord's faithfulness!**

M Confident of God's mercy and longing to reconnect with our God and Creator, we humble ourselves before him and confess our sins.

All Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

M 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.

SONG

Forgive Me
by Jayne R. Nitz

Congregation joins in singing the refrain:

**Father, forgive me, I know what I've done
Please open your arms to this prodigal son**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord God, in this changing world we look to you as our unchanging rock of refuge and hope.

C We rejoice in the transforming power of your unfathomable grace.

M Give us hearts to believe that, no matter what we face in life,

C your grace is enough.

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

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 8:13-22

In his grace the Lord brings Noah and his family safely out of the ark.

13 By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. 14 By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. 17 Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it."

18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. 19 All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. 21 The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never

again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

22 *"As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat,
summer and winter,
day and night
will never cease."*

RESPONSE

Modern Evangelist
by Chris Driesbach

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Nate Strobel

GOSPEL

Luke 23:39-43, Bible page 1059
God's grace brings peace even in the darkest hour.

39 *One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"*

40 *But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."*

42 *Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."*

43 *Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."*

HYMN OF THE DAY 379

Amazing Grace
with Chris Driesbach

**Amazing grace -- how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.**

**The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.**

THE MESSAGE

Romans 5:1-11
Pastor Nate Strobel

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we^[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we^[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

CREDAL SONG

Because My Father Loves Me

by Chris Driesbach

Congregation joins in singing the refrain:

**God three in one, Father, Spirit, Son
All one God and he loves me, he loves me**

OFFERING

Good Morning, Father

by Chris Driesbach

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 SONG *Congregation joins in singing the refrain*

Carry the Cross

by Chris Driesbach

The Lord told his friends he would suffer and die
To save them from the father of lies.
But in three days he would be raised
Take them to heaven, be with them always.

They didn't understand the things he said now
But they wanted to follow, so he told 'em how,
"Turn your back on this world, take up your cross,
Come, follow me, whatever the cost."

Refrain

**Carry the cross, be not ashamed
Children of Christ! Shout out his name!
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.**

His cross redeems and ours is the way
We drown the desires of our flesh every day
Our cross is the mark that says we're his own
The path of our cross is leading us home.

Speaking the truth isn't easy to do
He brought a sword – but gives peace to you
Why gain the world and forfeit your soul?
Carry your cross though it may be a lonely road.

**Carry the cross, be not ashamed
Children of Christ! Shout out his name!
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.**

He'll lift you up when your spirit is broken
Help you believe, help you keep hopin'
This life is short, and soon comes the day
Heavenly wings will fly you away

Carry the cross, be not ashamed
Children of Christ! Shout out his name!
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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, 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.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS – *Picnic Service Only*

Friends of China: Jacob and Heather Lambrecht and Family

New Teachers: Emily Fink, Candy Noffsinger, Christel Strutz, Laura Walz

FREEWILL OFFERING OF SUPPORT TO CHRIS DRIESBACH

Hello! I'm Chris Driesbach!

I'm a member of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Madison, Alabama, and during the last thirteen years I've been on many musical tours, playing for worship and concerts at over 775 WELS and ELS churches in 41 states from Fairbanks, Alaska, to Cape Coral, Florida. My songs are all original Christian music and I love to tell the story of the Spirit's powerful work in my stubborn and unbelieving heart.

I played music professionally for 30 years on the west coast. I was an atheist until age 33, and after that sort of a new-age spiritualist. Nine years later I became a Lutheran and a Christian at the same time in 1995.

I've been writing Christian songs for the last 14 years, including a song about my personal experience with hurricane Katrina. I have recorded 8 Christian CDs.

I have a deep desire to go sing my songs and tell the happy story about Jesus and meet and worship with my brothers and sisters around the USA. This thing God is letting me do is a dream come true for me!

My contact information: (504) 352-2044; hichrisd@gmail.com; www.chrisdriesbach.com

Snail mail: Chris Driesbach – 304 S Jones Blvd #4195, Las Vegas, NV, 89107

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of August 5, 2019

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
TUE	9:30 am	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	1:30 – 6:30 pm	Blood Drive (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Following the Promise (Faith Room)
WED	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	8:30 – 4:45 pm	The Global Leadership Summit
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
FRI	8:30 – 3:30 pm	The Global Leadership Summit
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

JOIN US ONLINE

If you can't join us in person, join us online! A video archive of sermons is available at www.stpaulmukego.org/worship/sermons.

The Bridge, our casual contemporary service, is livestreamed every Sunday at 10:15 am on each of the following platforms. You can find an archive of past messages on each site, with the full-service replay on YouTube.



www.thebridgemuskego.org



@ The Bridge Church Muskego



@ The Bridge at St. Paul's



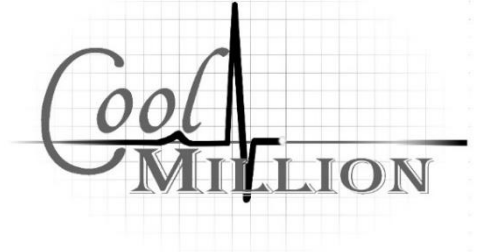
St. Paul's

Our mission 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.

PICNIC OFFERING — A COOL MILLION

If you are reading this at the Picnic Service, look behind you. Perhaps you can see the work that is being done on the Centennial Gym roof. It is one of several major projects being done this summer!

- Completion of a new HVAC system so that our entire school building is air-conditioned, making this building a year-round ministry tool!
- The Centennial Gym is being reshingled. When that is done, the refinishing of the ceiling will also be completed.
- This fall the church roof will be repaired and reshingled with additional insulation.



A Cool Million Tithe

But it is not only the work being done on our campus! Our tithe is making a difference all over the world!

- \$30,000 for a van and a down payment on a permanent worship facility for Costa Maya Ministries in Mexico.
- \$10,000 to enable our synod to explore Uganda as a new mission field.
- \$10,000 to help our sister congregation Garden Homes Lutheran on Milwaukee's north side reach out into their community.

Amazing How Far We Have Come

Since our last picnic service, we have given \$300,000 toward our **Cool Million** goal. Please continue to keep A Cool Million in your giving plans so that we can fully fund this summer's work and begin planning for the final projects next summer that include sound and lighting installations in the Trinity Gym.

Here are Some Smart Ways to Give in 2019

- Donate appreciated stock and eliminate capital gains tax.
- Name St. Paul's Legacy Fund or Gift Trust Fund as a beneficiary of retirement plan assets. These assets remain taxable when distributed to a loved one but are tax-free when given to a non-profit.
- Give from your IRA (if age 70 ½ or older). Regardless of whether you itemize your taxes, this gift helps you fulfill your required minimum distribution and is not considered taxable income.
- Gifts of real estate.

For help regarding any of these giving options, please speak to Church Administrator Randy Fink at 414-422-0320 ext 120 or rfink@stpaulmuskego.org.

YOUTH GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY

School Begins August 20

Our Lutheran School (K-8) ministry begins on Tuesday, August 20. It is a tremendous blessing to serve our students and their families with daily spiritual growth in God's Word, connecting them closer to Jesus every day while also growing their minds and hearts for lives of Christian service. It is not too late to enroll! If you or someone you know might be interested in Christian education, please contact our School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons for a school tour as soon as possible at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. Tuition assistance is available.

Pre-K Begins after Labor Day

Our 3K and 4K ministry begins the week after Labor Day. We offer a variety of options – half day or all day, the number of days, and wrap-around care. If you would like to consider Christian education for your 3 or 4-year-old, or if you know someone who would still like to enroll their child, contact Pre-K Director Michele Drska at (414) 422-0320, ext. 144.

St. Paul's Child Care Center

Our child care ministry for children six weeks to three-years-old is open year-round. We have openings in the infant room beginning in September (6:00 am – 6:00 pm, 6 weeks – 12 months). If you are interested in enrolling your child, contact Child Care Center Director Kim Neubauer at 414-422-0320, ext. 200.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER 8

Help your 3K-Grade 6 children make spiritual growth a regular part of their lives by participating in Sunday Morning KIDS CLUB. KIDS CLUB uses an engaging, experiential Large Group/Small Group format to bring the truths of the Bible to life. This year's lessons fall under the theme, "The Heart of God." On the church website, you can download the weekly lesson calendar, the fall *KIDS CLUB KICK-OFF NEWS*, and register. From the homepage, click "Grow" then "Sunday Morning Youth Ministry". KIDS CLUB's runs from 9:15-10:15 a.m. each Sunday in the school. The first session for 2019-2020 is Sunday, September 8. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at (414) 422-0320 ext. 145 or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Our preparation for youth confirmation includes three years of study. Children in our Christian Elementary School receive this instruction during the school day. Children attending public school receive this training on Wednesday afternoons. These Wednesday afternoon classes begin August 28 at 4:30 pm. Parents and students participating must attend the orientation/registration meeting in church on Monday, August 19, 6:30-7:30 pm. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at 414-422-0320, ext. 145.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

PRAYERS REQUESTED

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

FUNERAL

June Hackbarth, born February 5, 1933, was taken home to heaven on July 25, 2019. A Christian funeral for her was held August 2, 2019. May our Savior, the source of all comfort and hope, be with the loved ones of June.

HOSPITALIZED

Lois Guhr is in hospice care at The View at Pine Ridge in Oconomowoc and June Hackbart in hospice care at Dycora in Greenfield. Donald Oakes is at Froedtert, Carol Kolosovsky at St. Luke's, Sandra Merfeld has transferred to New Berlin Linden Grove, and Carol Gosseck to Village at Manor Park.

ATTENDANCE

882 attended last week's worship services.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Nate for a look at the basics of what the Bible teaches and how God's promises throughout the Bible relate to you on Tuesdays, 7:00-8:15 pm. Invite a friend and grow in the Word together. Text Pastor Nate at (414) 426-8236, email at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org, or register on the Connection Card.



LIVING FAITH: THE LETTER OF JAMES

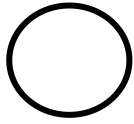
Are you ready for anything? A Christian walks in danger all of the way. Temptations work to frighten us, mislead us, confuse us, and distract us. James, the half-brother of Jesus, did not want Christians in his day to be tricked by their spiritual enemies, so he wrote a letter to encourage and equip them. Many years have passed, but James' words remain exactly what we need today. Anything can happen. No matter what, you can be ready. Join Rev. Dr. Stephen Geiger of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary as he presents, "Living Faith: The Letter of James" on Sundays, August 11, 18, and 25 in the Grace Room 9:15 am.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT—AUGUST 8 AND 9

On August 8 and 9, the Global Leadership Summit will telecast live in HD to over 500 locations nationwide. St. Paul's will be one of the live telecast locations this year for the first time. The simulcast location is our Grace Room. Walk-in registrations on Thursday at 8:30 am are welcome.

READING BUDDIES WILL BE BACK THIS FALL – JOIN THE FUN!

Reading Buddies starts Wednesday, September 4, 9:45-10:45 am, in the Trinity Cafe. Read together with a Kindergarten - 2nd grade student in 15 minute increments. Help instill the love of reading and enjoy the camaraderie with our students. Contact School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons to volunteer at 414.422.0320, ext. 118 or sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org. Volunteer for as many Wednesdays that work for you.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Where have you seen the hand of God in your life this week? What have been his challenges? Where have you found his comfort?

2. The theme from Sunday's sermon was **God Doesn't Quit...So GRACE Wins Every Time!** Think of the highs and the lows in your life. Was there ever a time when you honestly thought God was "quittin' on you"?

3. Read Genesis 8:13-22.
 - a. If you had been Noah stepping off the ark into a changed landscape and seascape and environment, what would have been bittersweet about the moment?

 - b. Noah and his family had 120 years to prepare the ark for the flood, and then one year and 10 days on board the ark as they experienced the flood. As they stepped out of the ark, God made a promise. How could that encourage them (and us) that God is not quitting on the world?

4. Read Romans 7:21-25.
 - a. Why might a Christian fear that God will give up on them?

 - b. Why is Romans 8:1 so important to remember after reading the last part of Romans 7?

5. Read **Luke 23:39-43**. The criminal was an insurrectionist, probably a violent man, like those who have taken out their guns in recent road-rage incidents that have harmed children.
 - a. Should grace win every time?

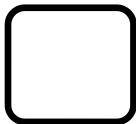
 - b. Would you have a limit if you were in charge of grace?

 - c. What do God's answers to those questions tell us about our God...about us?

6. Close with singing *Amazing Grace*, a song of profession and confession:

***Amazing grace--how sweet the sound--
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found.
Was blind, but now I see.***

***The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.***



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Muskego, WI

August 3, 4 and 7, 2019

Romans 5:1-11

GOD DOESN'T QUIT...SO GRACE WINS EVERY TIME!

“Pastor, do you golf?”

1. LOOK! (to the Past)

Are we more afraid of OUR judging _____ and _____ than we are of God?

Would it help to go back to our _____ or to God's _____ before creation?

Paul goes back to the moment in history when God did quit on us in the _____ of his Son.

APPLICATION Faith is a crazy thing, isn't it?

2. LISTEN! (to the Promises)

“Ah, but Pastor, if you _____ the things that I have done...”

To “stand in grace” is to stand in the _____ of Jesus.

“We can GLORY in our sufferings?! No _____ without _____.”

APPLICATION If we listen to the words and promises of our God, this life will NEVER be a puzzle he hasn't solved.

3. LIVE! (for the Future)

Are you afraid of the _____ of the world?

For the believer, God's justice was _____ in the blood of Jesus.

For the unbeliever, God's justice was _____ in the blood of Jesus, too, but that gift rejected means the choice of the punishment of hell. Let us share what Jesus has done.

APPLICATION The devil will have no “quit” in him! But neither does our God!

CONCLUSION God doesn't quit on us...GRACE wins every time!

Next Steps

- **READ and KNOW:** 1 Timothy 1:12-17, *The Lord's Grace to Paul*. On a piece of paper, or in the thoughts of your mind, rewrite Paul's words under the title, *The Lord's Grace to Me*, inserting the facts about you into Paul's confession that ends in joy!
- **HEAR and TAKE to heart:** Matthew 27:44 and Luke 23:32-43. Consider the relationship between *grace, faith & life*. Lessons from “the thief on the cross”?
- **GOOGLE** “Grace Wins Every Time” by Matthew West, or **TURN TO** Hymn 384, “By Grace I'm Saved” to ponder a Christian artist's heartfelt expression of God's grace in Christ.