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HE GETS US: FAMILY CONFLICT

I DON'T NEED TO BE RIGHT

September 28, 30, and October 1, 2023

"Each had to be right." The narrator in today's "He Gets Us" ad closes with those haunting words. When conflicts happen in our families it so tempting to insist, "I am right." The more I am right, the more you must be wrong. Before you know it the relationship is gone. Is this something that Jesus understands? Is this something Jesus can heal? Yes. He gets us. He knows the pain of family conflict. He loved his own family and friends through it. He will love us through it, too.



WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S – CONNECTION CARD

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please complete a Connection Card so we can provide God's people here at St. Paul's with the best spiritual care. You can also fill out the card online by scanning the QR Code.

CHILDCARE EVERY SUNDAY 7:45 – 10:45 am in east wing of the church.

SUNDAY KIDS CLUB FOR 3K – GRADE 5 9:30 – 10:30 am at the school. Register online at stpaulmuskego.org/kidsclub.

ACCESSIBILITY A hearing loop system and large-print worship folders are available.

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE? Visit the Welcome Center in the lobby where a greeter will be happy to assist you.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SING (from the Red Hymnal)

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION MUSIC (Sunday)

Aria

*Paul Manz and Arr. Jeffrey Honroe'
Adult Handbell Choir*

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN RED 239, vv. 1, 2, 4

Glory Be to God the Father

1 Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit,
Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory While eternal ages run!

2 Glory be to him who loved us,
Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to him who bought us,
Made us kings with him to reign!
Glory, glory To the Lamb that once was slain!

4 Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion!
Thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

M The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ, the light of the world, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Dear sisters and brothers, the Scriptures remind us that “all our righteous acts are like filthy rags” (Isaiah 64:4).

C **“There is no one who is good, not even one” (Romans 3:12).**

M Our sinful pride wants to believe that we are better than we are, and often chooses to look down on others with contempt. We feel a need to be right, and that need causes us to be defensive and critical. Who will rescue us from this body of death? Thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ! Confident of God’s forgiving love, let us confess our sin to him, seeking his gift of forgiveness and mercy through Jesus Christ.

All **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 “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade” (1 Peter 1:3-4). For while the wages of sin is death, the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23). 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

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are

they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -

ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -

ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -

ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Let us pray.
Lord Jesus, your greatest desire is to bring hope and forgiveness to this fallen world.
- C **Help us to love what you love and to focus our time and energy on the one thing needful.**
- M Open our eyes today to see more clearly the importance of your forgiving love.
- C **May our lives and mouths give witness to that love today and always.**
- M We pray, Jesus, in your name. You live and reign with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 15:5-21, Bible page 1108
Division among the church family is healed with the help of Jesus' biological family member James.

ANTHEM (*Sunday*)

What A Friend We Have In Jesus
Arr. Barbara B. Kinyon
Adult Handbell Choir

PSALM 103 (*select verses*) (*Thursday and Saturday*)

- M Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- C **Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—**
- M who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
- C **who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,**
- M who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- C **The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.**
- M He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;
- C **he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.**
- M For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
- C **as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**
- M As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
- C **for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.**
- M The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;
- C **the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.**
- M But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him,
- C **and his righteousness with their children's children.**

SECOND LESSON

Jude 1-2, 24-25, Bible page 1234

Jude introduces himself as the brother of James and, therefore, of Jesus. In the opening and closing verses of his letter, Jude rejoices in the salvation of God, the faith we share, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has given it all to us.

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY RED 365, vv. 1-2

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

**Love divine, all love excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
Fix in us your humble dwelling, All your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion, Boundless mercy from above.
Visit us with benediction; Comfort us with heav'nly love.**

**Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.
We would ever seek your blessing, Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray and praise you without ceasing, Glory in your perfect love.**

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

**Sanctify your new creation; Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us trust your great salvation, Won for us on Calvary,
Till we lay our crowns before you, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till in glory we adore you, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C **Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus, our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C **We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

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 RED 353

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands
With the Father's word of peace.**

**Praise the one who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**

**Let us praise the Word incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the one who makes us one.**

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 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.



ST. PAUL'S CONNECTION

MINISTERIAL TEAM APPRECIATION MONTH

In many churches, October is "Pastor Appreciation Month." St. Paul's is blessed with pastors and many other full-time and part-time staff members who make St. Paul's such a dynamic ministry. Consider letting them know how much their ministry means to you through written notes, gifts, and words of encouragement. Card boxes and blank cards are available in the narthex at church or on the welcome table at The Bridge. Keeping our staff in your prayers throughout the year is also appreciated!

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org	Worship and Counseling
Ms. Arica Drezdzon	Ext. 128	adrezdzon@stpmuskego.org	Social Media & Communications
Mr. Randy Fink	Ext. 120	rfink@stpaulmuskego.org	Church Administrator
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org	School Administrator/Principal
Mrs. Sue Kant	Ext. 112	skant@stpmuskego.org	Accountant
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	Member Care
Mrs. Tammy Miller	Ext. 111	tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org	Graphic Design & Project Specialist
Mr. Dave Panitzke	Ext. 129	dave@thebridgemke.org	Campus Planter
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	Ministerial Team Leader
Mr. Paul Schuessler	Ext. 117	pschuessler@stpmuskego.org	Family Minister
Mrs. Heidi Schuh	Ext. 115	hschuh@stpmuskego.org	Asst. Director of Worship Operations
Pastor Nate Strobel	Ext. 293	nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org	Resident Missionary
Mrs. Sally Wallner	Ext. 294	swallner@stpaulmuskego.org	Community Outreach Coordinator
Mr. Mike Westendorf	Ext. 295	mwestendorf@stpmuskego.org	Director of Worship Operations