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LORD, HAVE MERCY
PATIENCE IN THE FACE OF ARROGANCE
March 15 and 16, 2025

Immaturity is a season of life, or a moment in life, when we are so certain that we know ourselves and what we are capable of, yet we fail to see our glaring blind spots, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities. The disciples argued over who of them was best fit to lead in the kingdom Jesus was going to establish. Peter asserted that nothing could dissuade him from fighting for and even dying for Jesus. Grown men talking and acting more like children! Yet, Jesus responds with incredible patience and love. The Bible reveals God's patience as a quality of his character that deters him for long periods from retaliating against those who sin against him. It is another piece of the puzzle of God's mercy. Jesus' patience in the face of arrogance is further fulfillment of his active obedience which through faith God credits to us. How will Jesus' patience change and shape you?



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 and find other resources 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.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC MEDITATION (Sunday)

Jesus Paid It All with Amazing Grace

*Music by J. T. Grape and R. Lowry, Arr. C. Stamegna
St. Paul's Woodwind Ensemble*

BELLS AND WELCOME

We welcome first year Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Student Caleb Little as our guest liturgist today. In addition to his studies at the seminary, Caleb serves at The Bridge MKE Lighthouse Youth Center. He will be preaching his first sermon at The Bridge MKE on Sunday, May 4. We are happy to provide Caleb with these service opportunities as part of his training to become a pastor.

OPENING PRAISE RED 353, vv. 1-2

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.**

M In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

M Dear friends, Jesus warns us, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak" (Matthew 26:41).

C **Yet, like Jesus' first disciples, we often become weary in the battle. We foolishly lean on our own strength. And we fall prey to the devil's temptations.**

M Fully aware of the gravity of our spiritual weakness and the eternal consequences of our sin, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

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.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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.

**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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds.

C **Yet your Son Jesus willingly submitted himself to the cross to bear that punishment for us.**

M Thank you for graciously cleansing us from all our sin.

C **Fill us with your love, teaching us to be patient with others as you are so incredibly patient with us.**

M We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

C **and forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM (*Sunday 9:30 am*)

Seek Ye First

St. Paul's School Children's Choir

THE PASSION HISTORY

Lord's Supper

M While they were eating, on the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

"Dear children, I am going to be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Simon Peter said to him,

C **"Lord, where are you going?"**

M Jesus answered, "Where I am going you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." Peter asked,

C **"Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you!"**

M Jesus replied, "Will you really lay down your life for me? Simon, Simon, pay attention: Satan has asked to have you all, so that he may sift you as wheat. But I prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have returned to me, strengthen your brothers." Peter answered him,

C **"Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."**

M Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him,

C **"Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you." And all the disciples said the same.**

M He said to them, "When I sent you out without money bag, traveler's bag, and sandals, did you lack anything?"

"Nothing," they said.

Then he told them, "But now, let the one who has a money bag take it, and likewise a traveler's bag. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'He was counted with transgressors.' Indeed, what is written about me is going to have its fulfillment."

They said, "Lord, look, here are two swords."

He said to them, "That is enough."

Then Jesus said to them,

C **"This night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."**

M After they sang a hymn, Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, to the Mount of Olives, where there was a garden called Gethsemane. He and his disciples went into it. Now Judas, who was betraying him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples.

When he reached the place, Jesus told his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray. Keep praying that you may not enter into temptation."

Then he took Peter, James, and John along with him and began to be troubled and distressed. He said to them,

C **"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow, even to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch."**

M He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done."

When he rose from prayer, he went to the disciples and found them sleeping as a result of sorrow. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Were you not strong enough to keep watch for one hour?"

C **Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."**

M He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to pass from me unless I drink it, may your will be done." Again he returned and found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what they should answer him.

He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time. He said the same words as before.

C **An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. As he was in agony, he prayed more fervently. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.**

M Then he returned to his disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise. Let us go. Look, my betrayer is near!"

While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly Judas (one of the Twelve) arrived. With him was a large crowd with lanterns, torches, swords, and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Judas was leading them.

Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who are you looking for?"

"Jesus the Nazarene," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus told them.

Judas, the betrayer, was standing with them. When Jesus told them, "I am he," they backed away and fell to the ground.

Then Jesus asked them again, "Who are you looking for?"

"Jesus the Nazarene," they said.

"I told you that I am he," Jesus replied. "So if you are looking for me, let these men go." This was to fulfill the statement he had spoken: "I did not lose any of those you have given me."

Now the betrayer had given them a sign: "The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him." Immediately he went to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

Jesus said to him,

C **"Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"**

M Then they advanced, took hold of Jesus, and arrested him. When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, "Lord, should we strike with a sword?" Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

But Jesus responded, "Stop! No more of this! Put your sword back into its place, because all who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you not realize that I could call on my Father, and at once he would provide me with more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen this way?"

C **Then he touched the servant's ear and healed him.**

M At that same time Jesus said to the crowd, "Have you come out to arrest me with swords and clubs as if I were a robber? Day after day I was sitting in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets would be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The company of soldiers, their commander, and the Jewish guards arrested Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas, because he was father-in-law to Caiaphas, who was the high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews,

C **"It is better that one man die for the people."**

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 371, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

Oh, Love, How Deep

Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!

He sent no angel to our race,
Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame,
And to this world himself he came.

For us he prayed, for us he taught;
For us his daily works he wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus
Still seeking not himself but us.

For us, by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us he gave his dying breath.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

**All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad,
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.
- C **We confess that without your love we are lost.**
- M Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.
- C **Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**
- M We pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.
- C **By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**
- M We pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.
- C **Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**
- M We pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.
- C **Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**
- Special prayers and intercessions.*
- M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.
- Silent prayer.*
- M Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful, even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **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 460, vv. 1, 3, 5

How can I thank you, Lord, For all your loving-kindness,
That you have patiently Borne with me in my blindness!
When dead in many sins And trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God, Your anger ev'ry day.

Lord, you have raised me up To joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way That leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away; For this I thank you, Lord.
Now with my heart and soul All evil I abhor.

O Father, God of love, Now hear my supplication;
O Savior, Son of God, Accept my adoration;
O Holy Spirit, be My ever faithful guide
That I may serve you here And there with you abide.

How Can I Thank You, Lord

CLOSING PRAYER

M Let us pray.

Jesus, your great love for the world moved you to take on our human flesh and blood. In more ways than one, you allowed yourself to be broken so that we could be made whole.

C **We stand in awe of the sacrifice you made for us. As we go out into the world, make us strong to do your will and to live for your glory.**

M We pray, Jesus, in your name. You live and reign with the Father 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.

C **Amen.**

MARCH WELS CONNECTION – ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONSIDER A LIFE OF MINISTRY

“Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field.” This weekend we celebrate our young people attending our synod’s called worker training schools – Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Martin Luther College, and Luther Prep School. We pray that the Lord bless their studies and lead them into full-time ministry. It is their spring break this week, so if you see some of them in worship, please let them know you are praying for them.

- Nathan Wranovsky – Seminary
- Zach Klement – MLC Staff Ministry Intern
- Isaiah Durkee – MLC
- Molly Fitzsimmons- MLC
- Noah Gruetzmacher – MLC
- Nathan Miller – MLC
- Isabelle Steidl – MLC
- Ivy Durkee – LPS
- Hannah Fitzsimmons LPS
- Caleb Fitzsimmons – LPS
- Mason Navarrete – LPS



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.
