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HE GETS US: ANXIETY
GOD KNOWS WHAT WE DON'T
September 14, 16, and 17, 2023

Anxiety loves the question, "What if?" We listen and often believe that knowing the answer is the only way to get relief. If we knew the answer to, "What if?" then we would feel better! But if that is the case, how could Jesus feel anxiety? Jesus is God, and as God knows everything—even the answer to the question, "What if?" So, knowing isn't the solution to anxiety, but the fact that God knows is the key.



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 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.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN BLUE 602, vv. 1-2

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided:
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided:
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

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

C **Amen.**

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, God gives us this command: "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

C **These commandments that I give you are to be upon your hearts. 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 6:5-7).

M Heavenly Father, your mighty words deserve our meditation both day and night. But we are weak and frail. We have taken your words for granted, ignored them, or filled our minds with words that have no real value. This, more than anything, has been the root of our frequent and overwhelming feelings of anxiety. For this we are truly sorry. We come to you for the forgiveness that you can give us only through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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



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.

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided:
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good.

C **Help us to rest secure in your love, strengthen us in true faith, and fill us with confidence that you will hold us safe in your strong arms in the future just as you have in the past.**

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

Jeremiah 20:10-13, Bible page 776

In your anxiety, do you ever feel like you bounce back and forth between hope and despair? The Prophet Jeremiah knew the feeling. Throughout Jeremiah chapter 20, he struggles with his anxiety, bouncing repeatedly between fear and faith.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*Thursday, Saturday, Sunday 8:00 am*)

Psalm 33, Red Hymnal page 79

The earth is full of the Lord's unfailing love.

ANTHEM (*Sunday 9:30 am*)

Yesu, Kwetu ni Rafiki (What a Friend We Have in Jesus)

*Arr. Mark Burrows
St. Paul's Junior Choir*

SECOND LESSON

Acts 12:1-16, Bible page 1104

Persecution! King Herod's reign of terror had begun. The Apostle James was dead, and Peter was next. Christians were anxious. But God brought about salvation that surprised them all.

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.**

If God himself be for me, I may a host defy;
For when I pray, before me My foes, confounded, fly.
If Christ, my head and master, Befriend me from above,
What foe or what disaster Can drive me from his love?

This I believe, yea rather, Of this I make my boast,
That God is my dear Father, My friend who loves me most,
And that, whate'er betide me, My Savior is at hand
Through stormy seas to guide me And bring me safe to land.

I build on this foundation: That Jesus and his blood
Alone are my salvation, My true, eternal good.
Without him all that pleases Is valueless on earth;
The gifts I have from Jesus Alone have priceless worth.

No danger, thirst, or hunger, No pain or poverty,
No earthly tyrant's anger Shall ever vanquish me.
Though earth should break asunder, You are my Savior true;
No fire or sword or thunder Shall sever me from you.

SERMON

Mark 14:32-36, Bible page 1020

Pastor Pete Panitzke

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,
'Tis full of joy and singing, Sees only sunshine glad.
The sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;
The heav'n I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.

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.

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish;
In his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them;
In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
Unto them his grace he showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, 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.

C Amen.

ST. PAUL'S CONNECTION