

We should all be grateful to the millions of men and women who have fought over the 200-plus years of our country's history to win for us the freedom to speak our minds, the freedom to worship as we feel is right, the freedom to carry guns, etc.



***But there is a much greater freedom that we have, a freedom won for all people around the world by the greatest Warrior of all.***

***Jesus said, "When the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36***

Many people wonder how Jesus can be called a great warrior. After all, he never had an army, he never took up a weapon, and he died at the hands of Roman soldiers.



But Jesus fought against our most intangible enemies – he healed blind and crippled people, restored the sick, and fed the hungry. And his toughest battle was fought as he was crucified, for on the cross he conquered our greatest enemy of all – **death**.



Most people don't think of death as an enemy, but this is how it is described in the Bible. It was not God's intention when he created us that we would die, rather that we would live with him eternally.

We brought death upon ourselves by rebelling against God -- we all have disobeyed God and deserve death. Jesus, however, never disobeyed his Father, yet he was put to death. His death was unjust, and has become the way God can legally free us from the punishment our sins earn for us.

God will consider the unjust death of Jesus as a payment for our sins. So now

death is no longer a punishment for our sins, but the path to our eternal life with our loving God!

Are you afraid to die? As you place your hope in what Jesus did for you, you have no reason to fear death. **You have been forgiven!**

The Bible says:

*"The last enemy to be destroyed is death"* 1 Cor 15:26

*"Where, O death, is your victory, where, O death, is your sting?"* 1 Cor 15:55

People fear death because what comes after is unknown. But the Bible tells us what comes after the hour of our death. We will all be judged by Jesus for the way we lived our lives. And the Bible tells us that **only those whose lives are perfect will enter heaven.**

This may not sound like good news, because we know we sin every day. But Jesus' death has taken away all our sins. We **are perfect** for heaven. Jesus has won freedom from death for all of us!

You and I know that the day will come to each of us when it is our turn to leave this earth and meet our Maker. When this happens, we can have the confidence that King David had when he wrote:

***“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”***  
*Psalm 23:4*

This is the greatest freedom that Jesus brings, the freedom to face death without fear. Because **he has washed away all the sins of those who trust in him**, and they have no fear of the Judgment Day to come!

This message has been brought to you by:

St Peter's Lutheran Church  
325 Randolph St, Mishicot  
920.755.4555

*We worship on Sundays @ 9:00 am and  
Mondays at 6:30 am*

**You are always welcome to  
worship with us!**

**St Peter's Lutheran Church  
325 Randolph Street  
Mishicot, WI 54228**

# Freedom!



Here in America, each year on Memorial Day we are reminded of the wonderful freedoms we have in this country. These are freedoms that were won for us by the sacrifices of the men and women of our armed forces.

