

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 11/12, 2023

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Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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Prayer before worship: Dear Jesus, sometimes it seems like you're never going to return to take us to be with you as you promised. It's been almost 2,000 years! Forgive us for the times that we have grown impatient and sinned against you. Forgive us for the times we fail to stay ready for your return. But we know you will return and take us to be with you in glory. For you promised it and none of your promises ever fall short. Keep us ready by your Word and Sacrament so we are prepared for your return. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship The Service: Setting Two* page 172

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

CW481

CONFESSION

p. 173

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:1–6

¹Awake, awake, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. ²Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive. ³For this is what the LORD says: “You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed.” ⁴For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: “At first my people went down to Egypt to live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them. ⁵“And now what do I have here?” declares the LORD. “For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock,” declares the LORD. “And all day long my name is constantly blasphemed. ⁶Therefore my people will know my name; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 90C

Congregation sings even verses; Choir/ Cantor sings odd verses

1 We live, O Lord, with - in your grace, for you have
2 A thou - sand years with - in your sight pass like a
3 You say to chil - dren of the earth: "Re - turn to
4 The fu - ry of your wrath dis - mays! Your light our
been our dwell - ing place; be - fore the moun - tains came to
watch with - in the night, like yes - ter - day when it is
dust, which gave you birth!" We grow like grass be - neath the
se - cret sin dis - plays! Our years are mea - sured by our
be, you are true God e - ter - nal - ly.
through, the brief - est blink in all you view.
sun, but with - er when our day is done.
strength, yet toil and trou - ble is their length!

- 5 So teach us, Lord, to count our days; make wise our hearts to seek your ways.
How long, O LORD, till you return? How much, O LORD, for you we yearn!
- 6 Your steadfast love will satisfy and be our joy until we die.
Though evil days may grieve our soul, we trust that you will make us whole.
- 7 Lord, let your work to us be shown, your glory by our children known.
Your favor rest on us each day; establish all our work, we pray.
- 8 O Father, Son, and Spirit, be our dwelling place eternally,
and when the mountains are no more, your name we ever will adore!

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

¹Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you,
²for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
³While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.
⁴But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and

love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Therefore keep watch,

because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1–13

¹“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

⁷“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

⁹“ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

¹⁰“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

¹²“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

¹³“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

8 & 9:30 am Congregation sings stanzas 1 & 3; Choir sings stanzas 2

Matthew 25:1-13

On Your Marks! Get Set! ...

APOSTLES' CREED p. 181

PRAYER of the CHURCH p. 182

OFFERING	<i>see announcement</i>
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HYMN *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* CW493

PRAYERS (*Contemporary*) and **BLESSING** p. 171

CLOSING HYMN *Jerusalem the Golden* *CW890*

† † †

PREACHER	Pastor Rob Guenther
PRESIDING MINISTER	Pastor Jeff Bovee
ORGAN	Adrian Smith
SENIOR CHOIR	Craig Hirschmann
CANTOR	Kathy Wurster

Welcome, Visitors!

Please scan the QR code to
sign our Guest Register.



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
Mon	11:30 pm	OWLS Meeting at St. Paul's Church
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Wed	10 am	Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: Hard Sayings of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
Sat	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 19	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	8 am	Gr. K-4 sing
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
	3 pm	MLC Wind Symphony Concert
Nov 21	6 pm	Joint Council Meeting at St. Paul's Church
	7 pm	Council Meeting
Nov 22	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	6:30 pm	Thanksgiving Service
Nov 23	9 am	Thanksgiving Service
Nov 24		Church office closed
Nov 25	6:30 pm	Worship
Nov 26	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
Nov 27	1 pm	Stewardship Meeting
Nov 28	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Nov 29	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Services
	4:45 - 6 pm	Fellowship Supper
	7:15 pm	Choir
Nov 30	10:30 am	Bible Class: Hard Sayings of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
Dec 1	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus

Go to www.stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar for more events

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 599 with 503 attending Communion.

Has Your Contact Information Changed? ~ Please contact the church office at 354-6744 or office@stjohnsnewulm.com with any changes to your **home address, cell phone number, and email address**. Also, if your children have moved, please update us with their new contact information so we can better serve them, too. Thank you!

Pew Refinishing ~ To save about \$7,000 in Sanctuary Renovations costs, the Facility Task Force has asked Gerry Horner to head up volunteers who have had some experience in wood finishing to take the task of refinishing the pew top rails. He is working sample trials on a pew that will be replaced by chairs to create a good procedure for others to follow. The hope is to refinish all pew rails before Christmas. Please send a willingness to help email to sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com; sdeters46@gmail.com; or call Gerry Horner at 354-8334 to let him know directly.

Sanctuary Screens ~ It was recommended to the voters and passed at the July 25th Voter's meeting to purchase and install screens on the two sides of the sanctuary. Funds had already been raised for this technology during the past several years. The Tech Committee and other volunteers will coordinate the installation of the equipment as soon as feasible. Members will soon see two 85" screens, one on each side in front of the chancel area. Plans are that volunteers can easily advance slides during worship. If you would be interested in advancing slides for services, please contact Staff Minister, Jim Dretske at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com or fill out an interest survey online at <https://bit.ly/SJScreenSurvey>.

Offering Announcement ~ Visitors, there is no obligation or expectation that you should give to support our ministry at St. John's. This is our members' way of expressing their thanks to God and supporting the work that we do to share the Gospel in New Ulm and around the world. Members, you are invited to give your gifts of gratitude and thanks to God for all he's done for you in Christ by leaving your offerings in the drop box in the narthex. Or you can bring your offerings to the church during regular office hours: Mondays through Fridays, 8 am - 1 pm. You might also consider taking advantage of your bank's online bill pay service and have your offering automatically sent to the church on a one time or recurring basis.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Wreath Sales ~ MVL will again be selling wreaths, swags, live garland, and spruce pots to help bring the sights and scents of Christmas to your home or business! Look for friendly MVL students at your church to help you place your order. You may also go to the MVL website and place your order online. *Order deadline is this Sunday, November 12*, and we hope to deliver most products to your church by Thanksgiving. Thank you for your support! May God bless your upcoming celebrations!

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be meeting on Monday, November 13 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 am with a noon potluck meal. Please bring a dish to pass. Drinks and table wear will be provided. A devotion will be held at 12:45 pm, with a presentation to follow by Brad Price about our Lutheran Military Support Group. Hope you can make it.

MLC Wind Symphony Concert ~ tim•bre |'tambər| The character or quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity. In colloquial terms, musicians often refer to timbre as “color.” In a wind band, no single instrument family is considered the “core” timbre of the ensemble. Rather, the wind band is a varied mix of woodwinds, brass, and percussions, equally contributing their unique colors to bring a composition to life. Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony for Colors and Contours on Sunday, November 19, at 3 pm in the MLC Auditorium. Also featured on the program are three student conductors who are majoring in instrumental music: Richard Giese, Joseph Panning, and Emma Pufahl. The concert is free and open to the public. Can't make it in person? Catch the livestream on MLC's YouTube channel.

St. Paul's School Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale ~ benefitting the St. Paul's School Building Project will be held at St. Paul's church the weekend of November 18. If you would like to make a donation to the Bake Sale, please drop off your donations in the church kitchen before 6 pm on Saturday or before 8 am on Sunday. Please have your items packaged and priced to sell. For a suggested price list, head here at bit.ly/SPbakesalepricing. The Pancake Breakfast will be held for a freewill donation to the Building Project on Sunday, November 19, from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm in the St. Paul's Church Fellowship Hall. Lots of help is still needed. Please indicated your willingness to help by signing up here at signup.com/go/BFoPseV. For questions please contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com.

Job Openings ~ Assistant head cook needed at St Paul's Lutheran School. Job duties include but are not limited to preparing & serving lunch and clean up. If interested please pick up an application at St Paul's school or church office. If you have questions please feel free to contact me at cook@splnewulm.org.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is in need of bus drivers. If you are interested in becoming a bus driver, contact Ray Vulcan at rayv@palmerbusservice.com.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is also looking a substitute worker for the kitchen. Are you interested in casual employment or volunteering in the MVL kitchen? This is an on-call position to substitute on days regular workers are gone. Please contact Beth Fluegge for more information at foodservice@mvlhs.org or call or text 507-993-5195.

Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a full-time Director of Financial Aid, a full-time Director of Alumni Relations and a part-time Assistant Coaches in baseball and tennis. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover ~ Jesus told a parable about ten virgins preparing for a wedding. Five were wise and made sure they had plenty of oil in their lamps so they would be ready for the groom's arrival no matter when it came. But five were foolish. They didn't plan ahead and ran out of oil and were absent when then groom arrived. Jesus encourages us to always be ready for whenever he should return. For when he does, eternity is at stake. With Jesus' aid, and by his Means of Grace, you will always be ready for that great and glorious day when he calls you home to be with him in paradise for all of eternity!