

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



BY
Grace
YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED
EPHESIANS 2:1-10

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 9/10, 2024

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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

Prayer before worship: God, we know that for our selfish ways in which we used to live and walk around, we deserve to remain in our spiritual death, separated from you and damned to face your wrath. So we praise and thank you for your rich mercy that made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in sin. Thank you for giving us saving faith in your promises and in your work for us. What an incredible gift you've given to us in our salvation! Now help us to live for you as we look for those good works that you've prepared for us to do out of gratitude for all you've done for us! Amen.

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

OPENING HYMN *Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You* **CW581**

CONFESSION p. 173

ANTHEM - 6:30 pm *Jesus Loves Me* Yohan Anderson

*Jesus Loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but He is strong.
Alleluia, allelu, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, allellu, alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

*Jesus loves me, He who died. Heaven's gates to open wide.
He will wash away my sin. Let His little child come in
Alleluia, allelu, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, allellu, alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

*Jesus loves me, He will stay close beside me all the way.
And I know that when I die, He will take me home on high.
Alleluia, allelu, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, allellu, alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

FIRST LESSON **Numbers 21:4–9**

⁴They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

⁶Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON**Ephesians 2:1–10**

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and on - ly Son,

that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have e - ter - nal life. *Refrain*

GOSPEL**John 3:14–21**

¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their

deeds will be exposed. ²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY

By Grace I'm Saved

CW575

SERMON

Ephesians 2:1-10

You Are Alive!

I. Alive by the Grace of God

II. Alive in the Grace of God

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 181

PRAYER of the CHURCH

p. 182

OFFERING

HYMN

Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ

CW560

PRAYERS and BLESSING

p. 171

CLOSING HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

CW811

† † †

PREACHER

LITURGY

ORGAN

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

PIANO

GUITAR

Pastor Rob Guenther

Staff Ministry Intern, Ben Haferman

Jon Roux

Heidi Meyer

Christine Baganz

Aaron Spike

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
	12 pm	Basement Reserved
Mon	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Tue	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Wed	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Services
	4:45 - 6:15 pm	Fellowship Supper
	5:30 pm	Handbells
	7:15 p	Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	11:45 am	Stewardship Meeting at MLC
Fri	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
Sat	7 pm	St. Paul's School Raider Musical: <i>Wrangler Ranch</i>
	8 am	Men of Truth Conference at MLC
	6:30 pm	Worship
	7 pm	St. Paul's School Raider Musical: <i>Wrangler Ranch</i>

† Upcoming Services †

Midweek Lent Services: 11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm

Saturday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 17	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
	3 pm	MLC Choir Concert
Mar 19	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Council Meeting
Mar 20	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Services
	5:30 pm	Handbells
	7:15 pm	Choir
Mar 21	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
Mar 22	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	11 am	Highland Regency Service
Mar 23	8:30 am	Easter for Kids
	12 pm	Easter Canvas at St. Paul's Church
	6:30 pm	Worship

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 362 with 268 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$25,714	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$158,635 / Received to Date: \$182,629</i>	
\$1,872	MVL ~ <i>Year to Date: \$10,760</i>	\$635 K-12 Education Assistance
\$2,217	Missions ~ <i>Year to Date: \$13,977</i>	\$100 St. Paul's School
\$1,037	Building Fund	\$100 Benevolence Fund
\$523	Food & Fellowship	\$100 Technology Equipment
\$50	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	\$90 LWMS
\$50	Endowment Fund	\$50 MLC Ladies' Auxiliary
\$50	Lutheran Charities	\$50 Christian Family Solutions
\$25	St. Paul's School Building Fund	\$10 Sanctuary Renovation

Easter Flowers ~ Find the insert with the Easter flowers order form in your bulletin. You can find extra order forms in the narthex if you received a bulletin without an insert.

Easter Breakfast Sign-Up ~ Easter breakfast is just a few weeks away! You can find the signup sheets for that meal in the narthex. Many hands make light work! Email questions to Carrie Schaefer at carriehieb@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION YOUTH! Mission Trip & Youth Rally ~ If you are 8th grade and older and are interested in participating in a Mission Trip or the WELS Youth Rally this summer, please scan the QR code. Contact St. Paul's Staff Minister, Kris Kuschel, with any questions at kkuschel@splnewulm.org.



Ushers and Greeters Wanted ~ Ushers serve on the front line of evangelism for our guests attending St. John's. We seek to ensure all worshippers feel welcome and safe during our services. Ushers are needed for Saturday evening services, with some openings on Sunday morning crews. No experience is necessary. Male members and young men in confirmation class are encouraged to inquire.

Do you have a love for others, enjoy socializing, and are looking for a simple way to serve at St. John's? Consider serving as a greeter! Greeters ensure guests and members feel welcome and serve as guides and sources of information. Our greeter program is open to any member and youth in confirmation class. Contact Brad Price for more information at Deacon@stjohnsnewulm.com

New Ulm Food Drive ~ The collection boxes for the New Ulm Emergency Food Drive are in the narthex from March 1-24. Thanks for sharing with our community. Contact Carla Melendy at melendce@mlc-wels.edu or Deb Beatty at 5beatty@newulmtel.net with questions.

Sanctuary Screens ~ Volunteers are needed to advance the slides during services. Talk to Jim Dretske if you have questions. To sign up use the link bit.ly/SJSlideAdvance or scan the QR code. Thank you!



2024 Pictorial Directory ~ The Pew Copies of the 2024 Pictorial Directory are now in the pews. The old copies were well worn and used often--Awesome! Please use the Pew Copies to get to know each other by name. If members would like either a small (8x5) or a large (8x11) copy of the 2024 pictorial directory, please fill out the Directory Request Card, found in either narthex, include your printed name, check size desired, and place card in the J/C Dretske Mailbox or in the church office. For a great option, get an electronic version that is always up-to-date. Go to <http://instantchurchdirectory.com> to download the phone app: Instant Church Directory. It is easy to use, just follow online directions.

NEW Bible Class Offered ~ Join us in person or online at bit.ly/SJBibleClass Fridays at 7 am. The *Early Bird Bible Class* will include a light breakfast and the Word. There will be a freewill offering to help offset the cost of food.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week Devotions from MLC ~ Digital formats of *The Savior We Need* devotions are being offered beginning March 22. An online flipbook will also be available. Subscribe to the daily devotions at mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/.

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will meet on Monday, March 11, at Oak Hills Living Center, 1413 8th St N, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 am, with a lunch at noon. Part of the meal cost will be covered by Thrivent Action Team moneys. Each attendee is asked to bring \$5 for the meal. Any extra money will be given to the European Civilian Chaplaincy. If you have not signed up for the meal, contact Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or call 507-359-2424 by Wednesday noon, March 6. Following the meal, a presentation will be made on "What does Oak Hills provide and what do they need?" Hope you can attend.

St. Paul's Musical ~ St. Paul's Lutheran School Raider Choir invites you to come to their performance of the musical, "Wrangler Ranch," on Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16, at 7 pm. Enjoy Dio, Cibo e Musica (God, Food, and Music) at this year's Italian Bistro, Saturday, March 16 at St Paul Lutheran School. Social hour begins at 4:30 with dinner at 5:00, serving Salad, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Breadstick and Cheesecake. Then, stay and enjoy the Raider Musical at 7:00! The cost for adults is \$12 and children (10 and under) are \$8 (Immediate Family Maximum \$50). ALL PROCEEDS go to supporting the Raider Musical!!

"Lead the Next Generation" - Men of Truth invites you to a one-day men's conference, *Lead the Next Generation*. Pastors Jeremy Mattek and Dan Schmidt will take us through three sessions focused on leading the next generation. Join us to explore a life in service to Christ, identifying youth service gifts and understanding and engaging our youth. Join us on Saturday, March 16 at Martin Luther College. Visit www.MenofTruth.org for more information.

Southwest MN Area Lutheran Chorale Concerts ~ The Southwest Area Lutheran Chorale is made up of WELS and ELS singers from our congregations and many others in the area. They invite you to attend their spring concerts to be held on Sunday, March 17th at 2 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wood Lake at 7 pm at Grace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson. This year our theme will be "How Great Is Our God," and our program will include songs, hymns and anthems from Thanksgiving through End Times. Offerings gathered at our concerts will be used to support the school building project at Immanuel Grace Lutheran School in rural Hutchinson. Refreshments will follow each concert. Please join us!

Easter Canvas ~ Join John and Paul Ministries for an Easter canvas in our community on Saturday, March 23! Meet us in the St Paul's Church Fellowship Hall for a complimentary pizza lunch at 12:30 pm, then head out into the community at 1:30 pm to hand out invitations to our Easter services. Go to johnandpaulministries.com to register. Questions? Contact Beth Scharf (event coordinator) at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu. See you then!

"Camp Shetek" MN Valley Lutheran Camp ~ "Camp Shetek" will be held at the Group Center at Sibley State Park from June 16 - June 22. More information can be found in the narthex and online. Online registration is open at www.campshetek.org.

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat ~ We invite all singles (widowed, divorced, or never married) to join us at the 2024 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat for a weekend of fellowship and fun! The retreat will be April 26-28, 2024 at Camp Shiloh in Pittsburg, TX. Our theme is "Living In Our Season." The price is \$150. You can register at wels-els-singles.com/2024-texas-retreat. Any questions can be sent to texasingleswels@gmail.com.

MVL Summer Camps ~ See the information in the e-Bulletin and the poster on the youth board in the narthex for MVL Summer Camps information. Deadline is Friday, April 26.

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Teacher Phil Scriver	pscriver@splnewulm.org
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St. John's Church Office	office@stjohnsnewulm.com

About the Cover ~ "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live... But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead..." What grace God has shown us in bringing us to life when we were dead, to rescue us when we were damned, to give us faith when we were blind and hostile to him! Now we have opportunity to do good works to express our thanks to him! Let's get to work!