



"Now I
know that
there is no
God in all
the world
except in
Israel."

2 Kings 5:15

St-Takla.org

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost October 12 / 13, 2024



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Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 12 / 13, 2024

Prayer Before Worship: Almighty God, although your ways and will sometimes seem strange to us, we know that whatever you will and do will always be for our eternal good. Teach us to trust in your grace and mercy, and to hold fast always to your Word and promises in Christ Jesus our Lord. We pray it in his holy name as we now come before you in worship. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Service Setting 3 - p. 188

HYMN

I Leave All Things in God's Direction

CW 799

Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the

whole world. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest, glory to God, and peace to his people on earth, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. Refrain

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us forsake all trust in earthly gain and find in you our heavenly treasure; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

8:00 a.m. Children's Anthem *My Worth Is not in What I Own* CW 753
Grades 1-4

First Reading

2 Kings 5:14–27

¹⁴So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

¹⁵Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel.”

“So please accept a gift from your servant.”

¹⁶The prophet answered, “As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing.” And even though Naaman urged him, he refused.

¹⁷“If you will not,” said Naaman, “please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. ¹⁸But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I have to bow there also—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this.”

¹⁹“Go in peace,” Elisha said.

After Naaman had traveled some distance, ²⁰Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, “My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him.”

²¹So Gehazi hurried after Naaman. When Naaman saw him running toward him, he got down from the chariot to meet him. “Is everything all right?” he asked.

²²“Everything is all right,” Gehazi answered. “My master sent me to say, ‘Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.’ ”

²³“By all means, take two talents,” said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. ²⁴When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left.

²⁵When he went in and stood before his master, Elisha asked him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?”

“Your servant didn’t go anywhere,” Gehazi answered.

²⁶But Elisha said to him, “Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money or to accept clothes—or olive groves and vineyards, or flocks and herds, or male and female slaves? ²⁷Naaman’s leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever.” Then Gehazi went from Elisha’s presence and his skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *Fill Us with Your Love, O Lord* *Psalm 90*

Lord, you have been our / dwelling place
throughout all gener- / ations.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the / whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting / you are God.

You turn people / back to dust,
saying, “Return to dust, you / mortals.”

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has / just gone by,
or like a watch / in the night. *Refrain*

Teach us to number / our days,
that we may gain a heart of / wisdom.

May the favor of the Lord our God / rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work / of
our hands.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-13

¹²For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 194

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
For the word of God is alive and active.
It judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 10:17–27

¹⁷As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you

shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.””

²⁰“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

²¹Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²²At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

²⁴The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY *Your Works, not Mine, O Christ* CW 560

SERMON

2 Kings 5:14-27

Let God's Will Be Done

1. There is a way that seems right to a man
2. There is a way that is right with God

Stand

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Page 197

**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.**

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Page 198

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is

eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

OFFERING

HYMN

What God Ordains Is Always Good

CW 844

Please stand

PRAYERS

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Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.**

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.
Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN

Dear Lord, to Your True Servants Give

CW 896



**PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGAN**

**Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
Pastor Rob Guenther
Prof. Jacob Behnken**

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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Attendance for the past weekend was 319

Fruits of faith given:

Year to date needed: \$705,045; Year to date received: \$676,405

\$12,760	Home Operations
\$153	Food and Fellowship
\$75	K-12 Education Assistance
\$25	St. Paul's Building Fund
\$907	Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School
	YTD: \$44,962
\$135	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund
\$1,194	WELS Missions
	YTD: \$67,314
\$186	Christian Family Solutions
\$570	Building Fund
\$100	Sanctuary Renovation
\$25	Sunday School

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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

Please note the change in Bible class time for Thursday mornings. The class now begins at 10:00 a.m. rather than 10:30.

Sunday	8, 9:30, 11am Worship 5-8pm Basement Reserved
Monday	6:30pm Elders' Meeting
Tuesday	7pm Women of St. John's
Wednesday	3:30pm Homeschool and Public School Catechism 6pm Handbells 7pm Choir
Thursday	10am Bible Class: Vices & Virtues 7pm Bible Class: Proverbs
Friday	9:30am Women's Bible Class: Proverbs
Saturday, Oct 12	8am Board of Properties Meeting 6:30pm Worship
Sunday, Oct. 13	8, 9:30, 11am Worship
Monday, Oct. 14	6pm Board of Evangelism Meeting 7pm Board of Youth and Education Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 15 7pm Church Council Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 17 10am Bible Class – Vices & Virtues
7pm “Stump the Pastor” Bible Class
Friday, Oct. 18 9:30am -- NO Women’s Bible Class
Tuesday, Oct 22 7pm Voters’ Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cards of Caring ~ is a group that gathers six Saturdays a year to make cards to remember our homebound and thinking-of-you members, our Befriend a Mission LWMS families, and others, as needed. This year we will meet on October 12 and November 9 from about 9 am until noon at 403 N. Minnesota St. We are looking for more volunteers to assist and make cards using recycled cards and stamp sets plus other prep work. No talents are needed, and all materials are provided. We also welcome MLC students. Come as your schedule allows. A time for fellowship and service to the Lord. Contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230 with questions.

Stump the Pastors ~ Join us for another Stump the Pastors Bible study on Thursday, October 17 at 7 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to ask our pastors your questions about things that may not have come up in Bible class, but you have been wondering about or perhaps something a friend has asked you about and you weren't sure how to answer. There is a box on the table in the new narthex for question submissions. Please also add your name to the signup sheet next to the box if you plan to attend to help us plan for refreshments that evening. Everyone is welcome!

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MLC Wind Symphony Concert ~ pot • pour • ri | ˌpōpəˈrē | “a mixture of things” — Take one part fanfare, add two parts song, a dash of pasodoble, and just a hint of medievalism, and the result is a delightful mixture of melodies! Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony on Homecoming weekend for Potpourri! As the title suggests, the concert program is a collection of diverse musical traditions, with each piece presenting a distinct musical flavor. The concert will be held on Sunday, October 6, at a special time, 1 pm, in the MLC Auditorium. Can't make it in person? Watch the livestream on MLC's YouTube channel.

Men of His Word Conference ~ The 9th annual Men of His Word Conference (Theme: Built to SERVE) will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in downtown Rochester, MN on Saturday, October 26, 2024. Please go online at www.menofhisword.org to register and get details about schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost, etc. Please join us for a day of worship, praise and fellowship in God's Word!

More Than the Score ~ is an exciting offering on the MLC campus. Join us on home football game days to hear from MLC professors on various topics. Next up is "A Burnout Opportunity" by Dr. Bob Martens on October 26th. The free lectures start at 11 am in the MLC Cafeteria Conference Center. Please register since seating is limited. To register, scan the QR code, visit bit.ly/MLCMoreThanScore or email alumni@mlcwels.edu.

Now Hiring! ~ Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a regular part-time Assistant Teacher at the Early Childhood Learning Center. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

Focus on the Ministry – WLS ~ Have you ever thought of becoming a pastor? Has anyone ever told you that you should seriously think about the pastoral ministry? Have you ever wondered whether you might have the gifts to serve as a pastor someday in a congregation? To encourage and help you in your decision-making process, we invite you to visit Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS) in Mequon, Wisconsin, for a 2-day Focus on Ministry event. During this trip you'll tour the seminary campus, visit classes, worship in chapel, and stay in the dorms. You'll also enjoy fellowship, games, food, and entertainment with young men from the seminary who are preparing to be pastors. They will answer your questions and share with you what it's like to train to be a pastor.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran Christmas Wreaths: Tis the season!... MVL will again be selling wreaths, swags, and live garland 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. Or if you prefer, go to the MVL website and place your order online. Order deadline is Sunday, November 17th, and we hope to deliver most products to your church by Thanksgiving weekend. This year's proceeds are designated to help furnish the new fine arts center. Thank you for your support!

MVL Meeting: This is also just one last reminder about the MVL delegate meeting at 7:00pm this evening. Hope to see you there. Thank you for your past and continued support of MVL!

MVL Drama: Yee haw! Join the guests of Wilcox's Western Bed and Breakfast for squirrel hunting, knitting, relaxing, and detective work as they are taken by surprise with murder after murder! Who did it? Was it the disgruntled squirrel hunter, the sarcastic critic, the melodramatic actress, or someone else completely? See for yourself as the MVL Drama Department puts on Mike and Matt Steele's murder mystery comedy, "A Family Reunion to Die For." Shows will be held at State Street Theater, November 1 - 2 at 7 PM and the 3rd at 2 PM. Come watch the show now, ya hear?

† † †

About the Cover: A sketch by an unknown artist depicts the Aramean General Naaman who had leprosy, reluctantly following the command of Elijah the prophet of the LORD who told him to dip himself seven times into the waters of the Jordan River in order to be cleansed of his dreaded disease. Naaman knew that bathing in a river could not cure leprosy, but having been persuaded by his soldiers to do the simple thing God's prophet commanded, he did it, and found that what God had said was true. He was cleansed.

Although it might seem silly to human reason that simply trusting in God's grace and mercy in Christ is the means to salvation from sin and eternal life in heaven, it is what God tells us to do, and it really true. May we, without hesitation trust and do what God says, fully trusting his Word and Promise.

