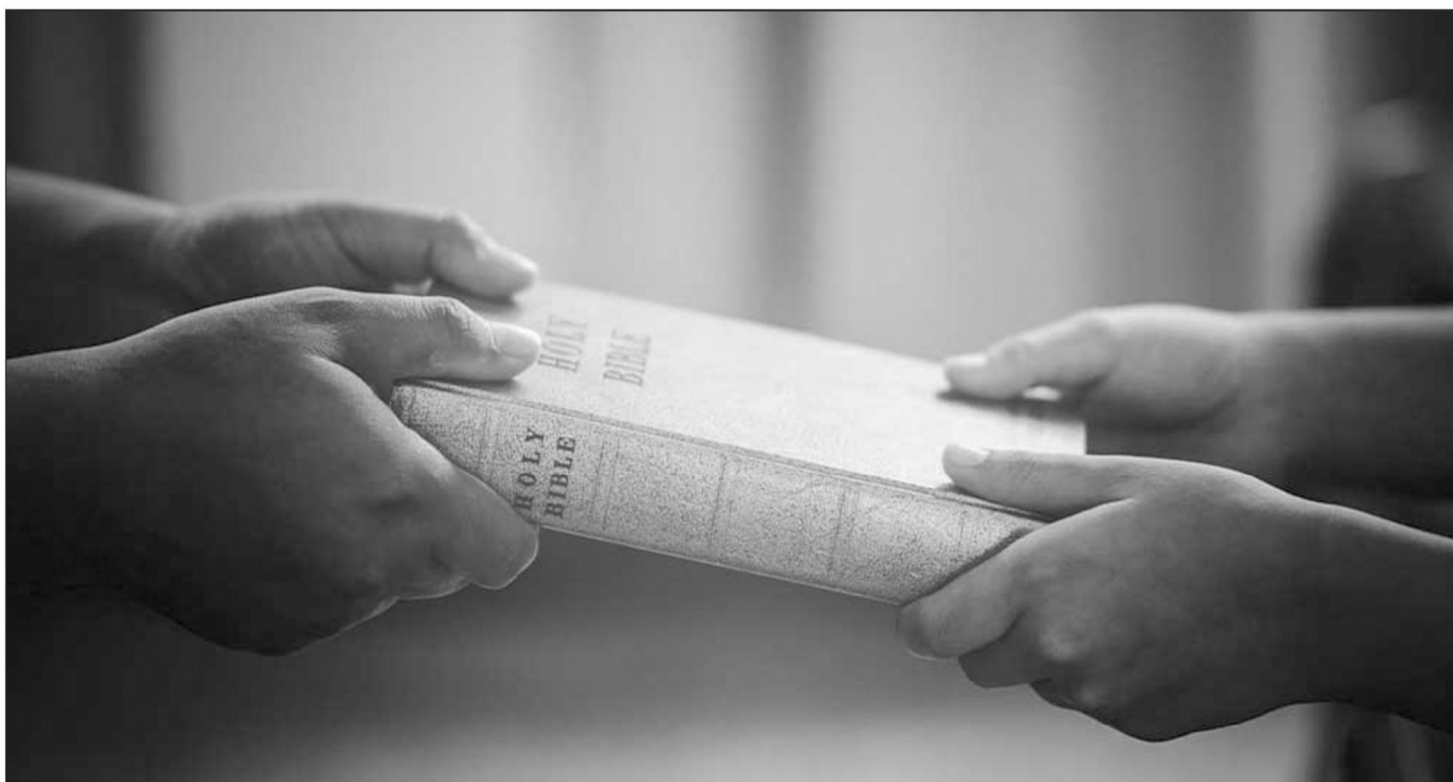




Share in the glory of Christ.

Second Sunday After Epiphany
January 13 / 14, 2024



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St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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Pastor Rob Guenther
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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.

Prayer before worship: Thoughts from the pen of St. Paul in today's sermon text:

Dear God, cause us to stand firm and hold to the teachings passed on to us. Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, you love us, therefore we pray that by your grace you continue to give us eternal encouragement and good hope, to encourage our hearts and strengthen us in every good deed and word.

Finally, cause your message, dear Lord, to spread rapidly and be honored by all. We pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. But you Lord are faithful, and by your promise you strengthen and protect us from the evil one. We have confidence in you, O Lord, and pray that you will cause us to continue to do the things your Word has commanded us to do. Lord, direct our hearts into your love and Christ's perseverance. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship The Service: Setting Three* page 188

OPENING HYMN *Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid* **CW589**

CONFESSION p. 189

FIRST LESSON **1 Samuel 3:1–10**

¹The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

²One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." ⁵And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

⁶Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 139G

1 God, you search me and you know me. All my
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me
thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I walk or lie down, you are be -
cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with love ev - er - last - ing you be -
known its mean - ing through and through. You are with me be - yond my un - der -
search for shel - ter from your light. There is no - where on earth I can es -
life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the won - der of who I am, I
fore me: ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
siege me: in ev' - ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
stand - ing: God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
cape you: e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
praise you: safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 2:13 - 3:5

¹³But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

¹⁶May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. ² And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. ⁴ We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. ⁵ May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

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!

John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God,

who takes away the sin of the world!" *Refrain*

GOSPEL

John 1:43–51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

⁴⁴Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶"Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

⁴⁹Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

⁵⁰Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY

Arise and Shine in Splendor

CW 375

SERMON

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

SHARE IN THE GLORY OF CHRIST

- 1. CALLED AND CHOSEN THROUGH HIS GOSPEL**
- 2. ENCOURAGED AND STRENGTHENED BY HIS LOVE**
- 3. PROTECTED AND ENABLED TO SERVE HIM BY HIS POWER**

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 197

OFFERING

HYMN

O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

CW716

PRAYERS (*Contemporary*) **and BLESSING**

p. 171

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

CW711

† † †

PREACHER

PRESIDING MINISTER

ORGAN

Pastor Jeff Bovee

Pastor Rob Guenther

Pastor Jacob Behnken

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
	11 am	Officer Installation
Mon	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Tue	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wed	10 am	Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: Topic: Don't Worry About It
	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Book of Esther
Sat	11 am	Funeral Service for Ikuko Poetter
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 21	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	11 am	Gr. 1-4 sing / Staff Minister Intern Installation
Jan 23	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Annual Voters' Meeting
Jan 24	10 am	Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Jan 25	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
Jan 26	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: TBD
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Book of Esther
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	6 & 7:30 pm	St. John's Night at MVL (Boys' Basketball)
Jan 27	6:30 pm	Worship
Jan 28	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	8 am	Jr. Choir sings
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of 1st John
Jan 31	10 am	Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 419 with 329 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$10,536	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$17,626 / Received to Date: \$10,765</i>
\$315	MVL
\$805	Missions
\$240	Building Fund
\$15	75th Ann. Sanctuary Renovation
\$10	Food & Fellowship
\$200	Memorial given in memory of Ikuko Poetter to WELS Intl. Christian Art Projects

Annual Voters' Meeting ~ will be Tuesday, January 23 at 7 pm.

Welcome, New Members! We give thanks to God for the following people who have been a part of our fellowship and have joined St. John's congregation in 2023. May their walk with us be a mutual blessing!

6:30 pm	Jeff Kiecker Samantha and Jackson Rieke
8 am	Martin, Nichole and Taylor LaGrow Judy LaGrow
9:30 am	Hannah Borgwardt
11 am	Mark and Mary-Jane Maurice

2022 Newly Elected/Appointed Officers to Council, Boards and Committees ~ Church Officer Installation will take place at the 11 am service Sunday morning. The following were elected or appointed to office and will be serving our Savior and congregation for 3 years:

Secretary	Pete Baganz
Treasurer	Perry Meyer
Education Chairman	Nick Schmoller
Evangelism Chairman	Jesse Zahrt
Stewardship Chairman	Mark Maurice
Properties Chairman	Sam Hunter
Education	Jon Laabs
Elders	Nick Price and Josiah Stoering
Endowment	Mike Thom
Evangelism	Brandon Hanevik and Alan Uher
Finance	Mark Micheel, Suzanne Schmidt, Dale Thom
MVL Delegate	Miles Wurster
MVL Delegate Alternates	Jim Danell and DJ Peterson
Stewardship	Mark Haefner and Kurk Kramer
Properties	Mikal Schwark

Senior Choir Rehearsals ~ will begin this Wednesday, January 17th at 7 pm in the balcony. All are welcome to join!

Handbell Ringers Needed! ~ Join the Handbell Choir for a fun and unique fellowship opportunity! There are openings in the group! You don't need to be able to read music. The notes are color coded for all levels of experience. Come join the fun! For more information contact Becky Berg at rberg@mvlhs.org.

Volunteers Needed ~ Now that we have screens in the sanctuary, we need volunteers to advance the slides during services. Use the link <http://bit.ly/SJSlideAdvance> to sign up for a service or two, or more. You can also scan the QR Code in the narthex. There will be a training session on Monday, January 15, at 5:30 pm, if you want to see what is involved.

2024 Contribution Envelopes ~ The 2024 offering envelopes can be found either in your bulletin box or in alphabetical order on the tables in the new narthex. To ensure you receive proper credit, please do not use the 2024 envelopes until January 1st. New numbers will change for many people with the 2024 envelopes. Please don't use the 2023 envelopes in 2024. Thank you for your cooperation.

St. John's MVL Night ~ Complimentary tickets for the boys basketball games at MVL beginning at 6 and 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 3rd at MVL can be found in the narthex. Come cheer on your MVL Chargers!

Pictorial Directory Update ~ Members, please submit a picture to sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com or have me take your picture before or after services during December if you are not pictured in our PEW Copy of our 2023 St John's Directory. If your picture is included but you would like to update it, you can do the same. You could also change it on your phone or computer by logging into your account and editing the picture yourself. Pew Copies will be updated in January. New Directories will be available upon request once the information and pictures have been updated.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Paul's Preschool Open House ~ Monday, January 15, 2024, from 4 – 7 pm! New preschoolers, please come and visit! St. Paul's Preschool offers full day & part-time sessions for 3-, 4- and 5-year-old children. Watch for a preschool Information/Registration mailing in early January. St John's (New Ulm & Sleepy Eye) and St. Paul's members and our school families are invited to have first choice of preschool sessions through January 15th. (Community "Open Registration" begins January 16th. Some sessions fill by early February). If you have questions, please contact our preschool director, Mrs. Heidi Meyer at preschool@splnewulm.org.

Bingo Night at MLC ~ This highly anticipated event sponsored by the MLC Ladies' Auxiliary is for all MLC students. Donation ideas are cash, baked goods, and quilts or blankets. Please drop them off at the MLC reception desk by February 1. Or mail them to 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm, MN 56073. Thank you!

About the Cover ~ This graphic borrowed from the WELS "Forward in Christ" website, depicts sharing Christ. It is through his Word that we find comfort and hope. It is only through his Word that our faith is created, strengthened, and sustained. We share his Word so that all who hear and believe it will share in the glory of Christ.