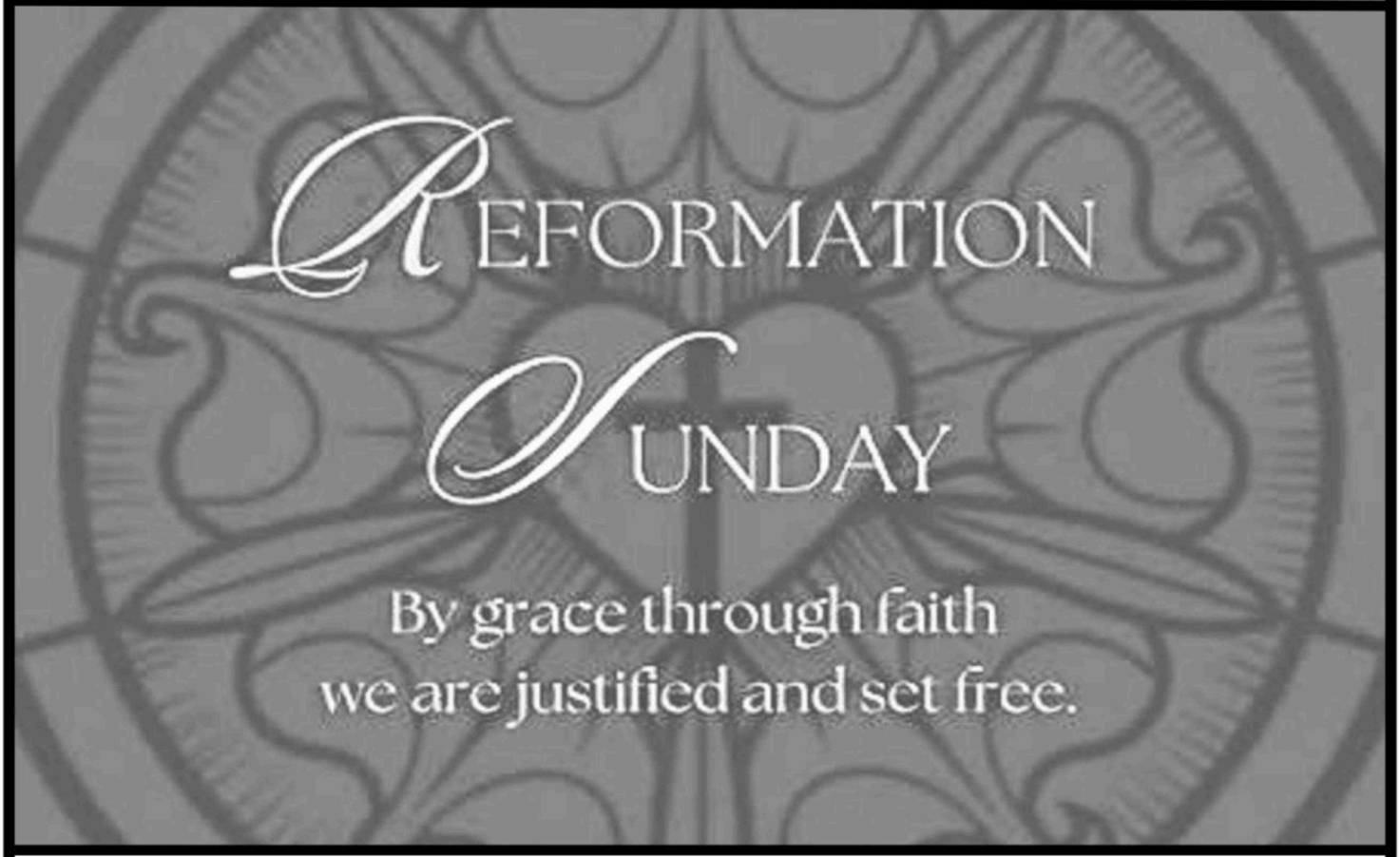
St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



Reformation Sunday

October 31/November 1, 2026

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
revbovee@gmail.com
507-217-6364

www.stjohnsnewulm.com
office@stjohnsnewulm.com
facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
507-354-6744
bit.ly/SJyoutube

Pastor Rob Guenther
pastorguenther@gmail.com
507-240-2433

Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am

REFORMATION SUNDAY
October 31/November 1, 2026

Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our guest register.
Visitors and members alike, use the same QR code for prayer requests.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: God, we know that on our own we could never achieve the holiness required to enter heaven. We could never be saints. But by your grace, you sent your Son to take away our sin and make us holy and righteous in your sight, so that we are saints. Thank you. Help us to live for you in gratitude. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE ***Service Setting 3*** pg. 188

OPENING HYMN ***If God Had Not Been on Our Side*** CW 866
8 & 9:30am Choir will sing verse 2

Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS pg. 188

LORD HAVE MERCY pg. 190

GLORY TO GOD pg. 191

PRAYER OF THE DAY pg. 193

Be seated

ANTHEM *8 & 9:30* ***Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel*** arr. Evelyn R. Larter

Refrain: Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel?
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man?

He delivered Daniel from the lion's den. Jonah from the belly of the whale, and the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace, so why not every man? (Refrain)

I set my foot on the Gospel ship, and the ship began to sail;
it landed me over on Canaan's shore, and I'll never come back no more! (Refrain)

FIRST LESSON Daniel 6:10-12,16-23

10 Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went
home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem.
Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his
God, just as he had done before. 11 Then these men went as a group and
found Daniel praying and asking God for help. 12 So they went to the king
and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that
during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being
except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions' den?"

The king answered, "The decree stands—in accordance with the law of the
Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."

16 So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into
the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve
continually, rescue you!"

17 A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king
sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that
Daniel's situation might not be changed. 18 Then the king returned to his
palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment
being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

19 At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den.
20 When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice,
"Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve
continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

21 Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! 22 My God sent his angel,
and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was
found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you,
Your Majesty."

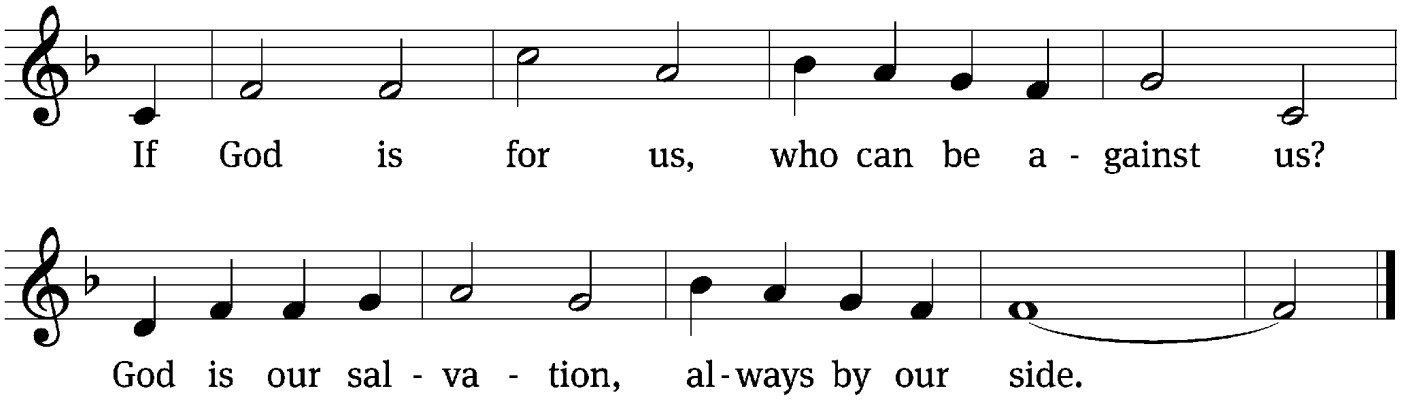
23 The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den.
And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him,
because he had trusted in his God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

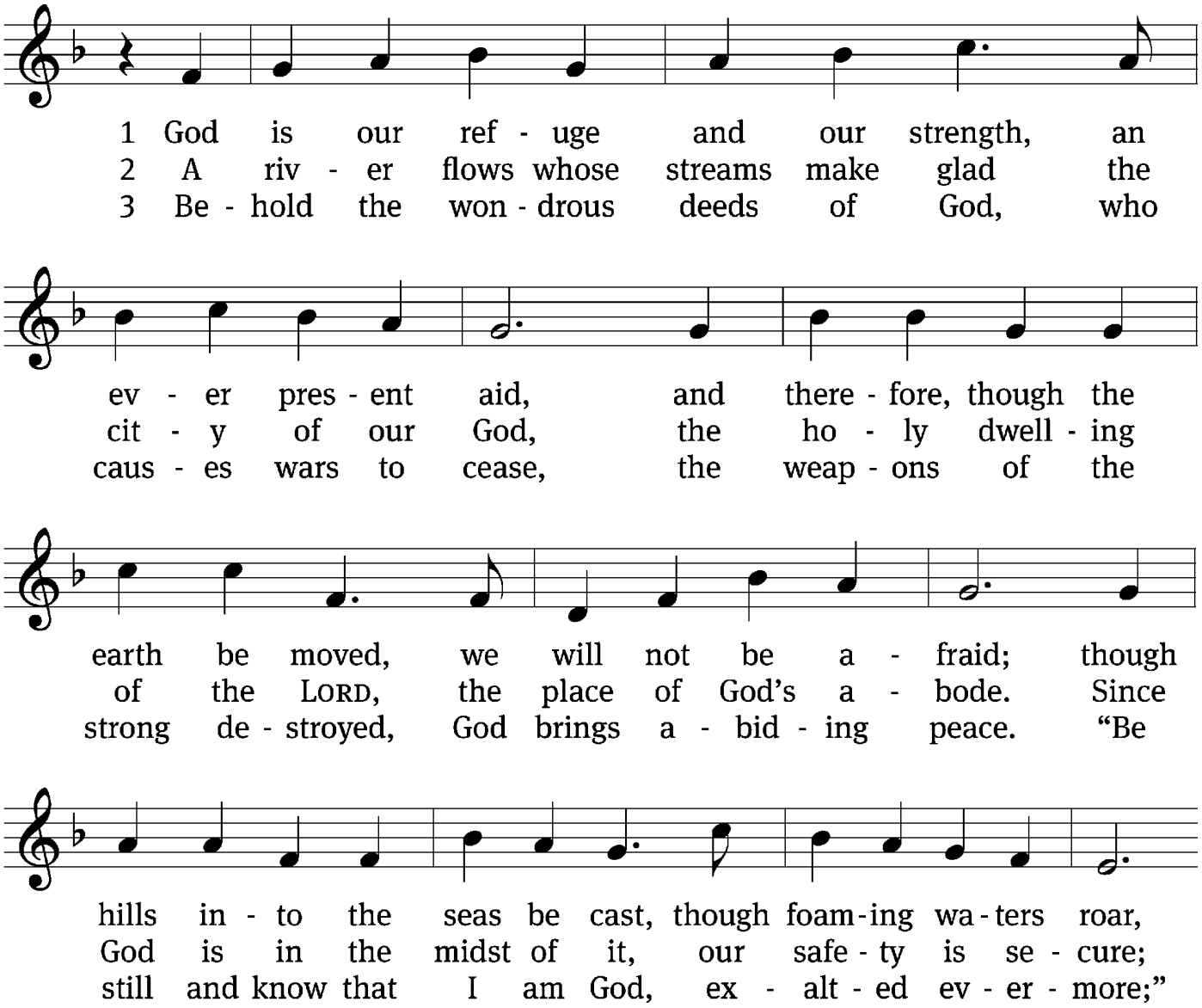
PSALM OF THE DAY ***If God Is for Us*** Psalm 46

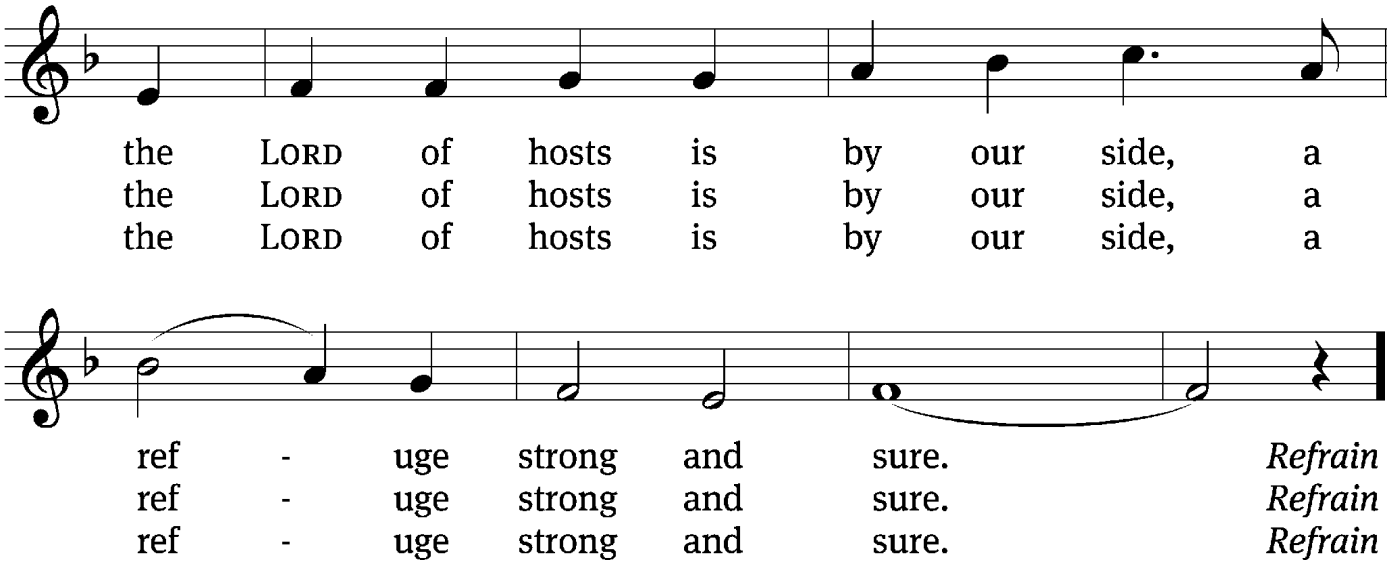
8 and 9:30 am Choir will sing the first refrain and verses 1 & 2.
Congregation will sing following refrains and verse 3.

Refrain



Verses





SECOND LESSON Romans 3:19-28

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under
the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held
accountable to God. 20 Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's
sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious
of our sin.

21 But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made
known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness is
given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference
between Jew and Gentile, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of
God, 24 and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that
came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement,
through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to
demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the
sins committed beforehand unpunished— 26 he did it to demonstrate his
righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies
those who have faith in Jesus.

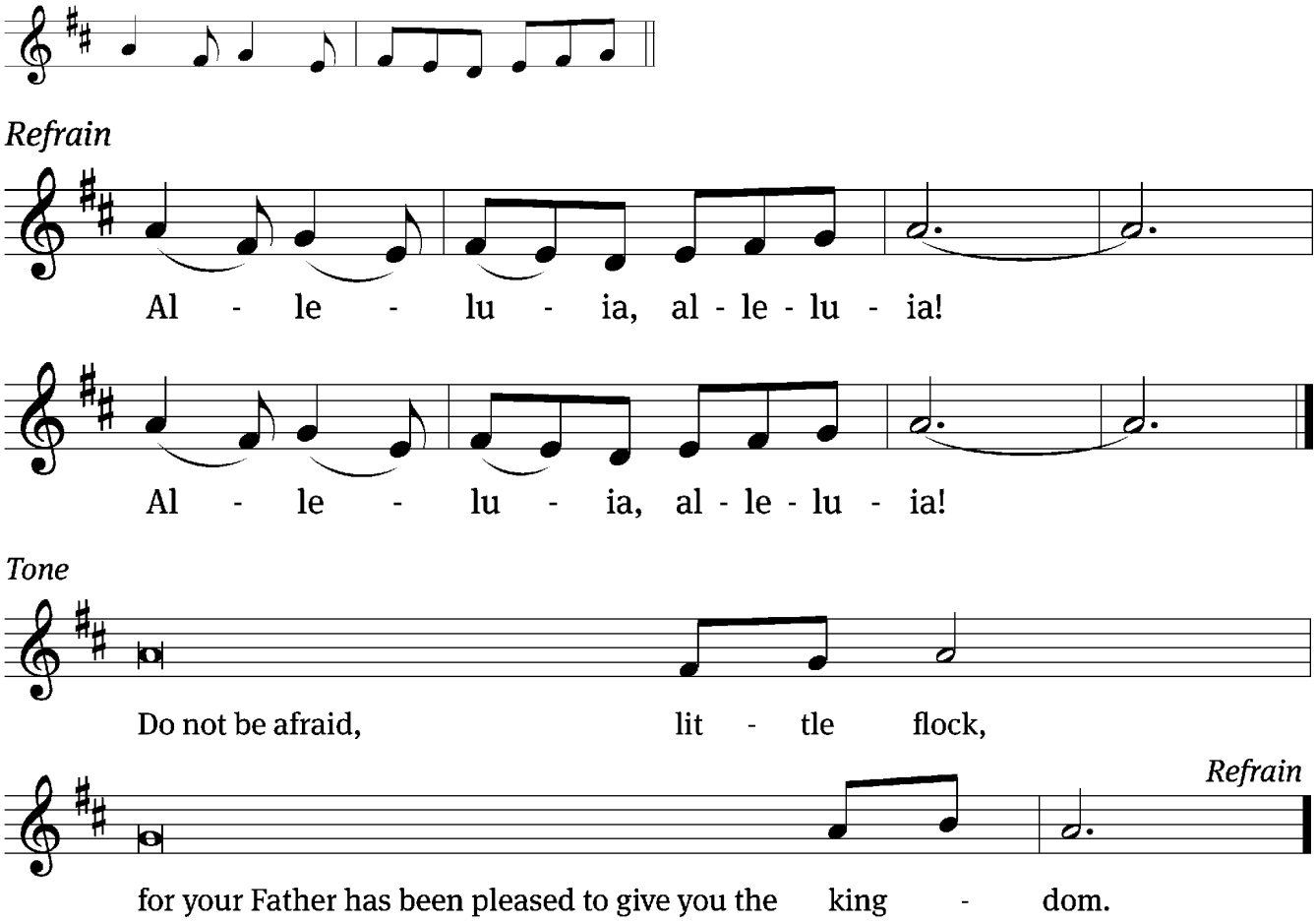
27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law
that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. 28 For we
maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 12:32



GOSPEL

Matthew 10:16-23

16 "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd
as snakes and as innocent as doves. 17 Be on your guard; you will be handed
over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. 18 On my
account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to
them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about
what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for
it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through
you.
21 "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will
rebel against their parents and have them put to death. 22 You will be hated
by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be
saved. 23 When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell

you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*** CW 863
8 & 9:30am Choir will sing verse 3.

SERMON God's Righteousness is Ours Romans 3:19-28
I. By Grace Alone
II. By Faith Alone
III. By Scripture Alone

Stand

NICENE CREED pg. 196

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH pg. 198

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT pg. 199
Guests, please see announcements for our policy on communion.

Stand

DISTRIBUTION HYMN ***Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior*** CW 659

DISTRIBUTION HYMN ***Draw Near*** CW 662

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING pg. 203

PREACHER	Pastor Rob Guenther
ORGANIST	Jacob Behnken
SR. CHOIR	Adrian Smith
PIANIST	Becky Berg
TRUMPET	Karen Ladner and Nathanael Smith
TROMBONE	John Stoering and Maria Vik
CELLO	Isaiah Smith
FLUTE	Micaiah Wagner
TIMPANI	Caleb Krahn

Acknowledgments
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THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles: 1 Timothy
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Wednesday	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
	7 pm	Bible Class: Bible Information Class
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Nov. 8	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles: 1 Timothy
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Tuesday, Nov. 10	6 pm	Sunday School Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 11	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Nov. 12	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	7 pm	Bible Class: Bible Information Class
Saturday, Nov. 14	6:30 pm	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 482.

Fruits of Faith:

$9,100 Home Operations ~ YTD: $713,426 / Needed: $740,864
$785 WELS Missions ~ YTD: $72,475 (2026 Goal: $100,701)
$1,130 MVL ~ YTD: $47,074 (2026 Goal: $62,278)
$545 Building Fund
$12 Food and Fellowship
$25 St. Paul's School Building Fund
$30 Memorials
$40 Organ Fund
$25 Library Fund
$99 Miscellaneous Receipts

Givelify Scan the QR code to use the Givelify app and donate your offering.

Close Communion ~ At St. John's we practice "close communion." That is, we invite only those who are in fellowship with us as members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church (or of a synod that is in fellowship with us) to commune with us. We are in no way judging your personal faith. But we recognize that in the Lord's supper we enjoy not only a close communion, or fellowship, with God, but we also enjoy a close communion with one another as we publicly express our agreement in every teaching of God's Word. And we wouldn't presume to ask you to publicly confess your agreement with all that we teach and believe without first being instructed in what it is that we teach and believe. But if you do desire to commune with us, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.

Ladies Night Out ~ is coming up on Tuesday, November 3rd, at 6:00 pm. The location will be at the Ratskeller in Turner Hall. A signup sheet is in the new narthex. Please indicate if you would like a ride. Feel free to bring a friend! For any questions, please reach out to Kara Johnson (763-218-6622).

Thanksgiving Pie Fellowship ~ Join us for pie and fellowship on Wednesday, November 25 after the Thanksgiving service. The sign up sheet will be in the new narthex. Contact Jackie Hieb for more information.

The Twelve Days of Christmas ~ Scripture, Family, and Service. You're invited this Christmas season to join us for The Twelve Days of Christmas, a devotional series designed to help us grow in God's Word, strengthen our faith at home, and serve one another and our neighbors. Beginning December 25, each day will include a short Scripture reading, a devotional reflection, a question for family discussion, a prayer, and a simple activity or service opportunity. Together, we'll explore Scripture and reflect on the gift of Jesus, the Word made flesh, who continues to speak to us through his Word. The hope is that this shared experience will help us build meaningful devotional habits, grow together in faith, and carry the joy of Christmas into our homes, congregation, and community.

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors) will be meeting on Monday, November 9, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM, Papa Murphy's pizza meal at Noon, devotion at 12:40 PM, followed with a video entitled "Held in MN: Untold WW II POW Stories." The costs for the meal and other incidental meal expenses are covered by Thrivent Action Team moneys. If you have not already signed up to attend, contact Myron Fluegge at 507-359-2424 or flueggemtj@hotmail.com by Wednesday noon, November 4, for a meal count. Hope you can make it.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Drama Presents ~ WARNING! WARNING! THE SUN IS OUT… AND IT'S LOOKING FOR TROUBLE! Prepare for an out-of-this-world night of sci-fi thrills, cosmic chills, alien antics, and laughs that are truly astronomical! When a mysterious menace from the sun comes crashing to Earth, it's up to a brave band of heroes to save the day! Will Earth survive? Will science save us? Will anyone remember to duck?! There's only one way to find out… COME SEE IT LIVE ON STAGE! Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School Drama presents ATTACK! OF THE KILLER MAN FROM THE SUN!, a sci fi B movie comedy made for the stage! Performances are held at MVL Fine Arts Center on October 30-31 at 7pm, and November 1 at 2pm. Tickets at the door. Bring your friends and family, and prepare to have a solar-powered good time! Space suits optional.

Spirit of MVL ~ You are invited to join MVL in a night of fellowship supporting Christian education as we recognize and celebrate our Spirit of MVL award winners: Alan (posthumously) & Loretta Johnson, Pastor Richard & Marley Kuckhahn, and Craig Morgan. The gala will be held on November 21st, at 5 p.m. at The Venue in Mankato. The night includes a social hour, dinner, an award program, a live auction, and the Afterglow. Tickets are for sale on the MVL website, mvl.org. You can also contact Sarah Allee with any questions at sallee@mvlhs.org. RSVPs are due by November 6th.

MVL Veterans' Day ~ The public is invited to our annual Veterans' Day Recognition Program on Wednesday, November 4th at 10:00 a.m. in the fieldhouse. A complete breakfast specifically for veterans and their personal guests will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center. If you or a veteran you know would like to come, please RSVP at mvl.org, hgiefer@mvlhs.org, or 507-354-6851. We thank you for your service!

MLC Presents Wind Symphony Concert ~ Please join us on Sunday, November 22, at 3 pm in the MLC Auditorium for "In Every Season," a celebration of the experiences that shape us and the music that gives them voice. Whatever season we find ourselves in, there is something to hear, something to feel, and something worth celebrating.

MVL Band Concert ~ The MVL Music Department invites you to its annual Fall Concert on Wednesday, November 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the MVL Fine Arts Center. This concert will feature MVL's Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Chargaliers. Come and join us for an evening of exciting music. See you there!

MVL Wreaths ~ Tis the season!… MVL will once again be selling wreaths, swags, crosses, and live garland to help bring the sights and scents of Christmas to your home or business! Wreath orders are now open and all orders must be placed by Sunday, November 15th. This year all ordering will be done online. Simply go to the MVL website, click on wreaths, and place your order! We hope to deliver most products to your church by Thanksgiving weekend. Thank you for your support!

School Building Campaign Bake Sale and Pancake Breakfast ~ With the 2026 Amazing Race, Dig In Gala, and .5K in the rear view mirror, the last Campaign event is coming up soon! This year's Bake Sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 21 and 22, and the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 22. This joint event will benefit the St. Paul's School Building Campaign and will be held in the St. Paul's Church narthex and Fellowship Hall. It will be perfect timing for your Thanksgiving needs - pies, cakes, cookies, and more will be included in the bake sale. If you'd like to donate items for the bake sale, please drop those items in the church kitchen on Saturday, November 21. Please have them priced and ready to sell. If you'd like to volunteer to help the weekend of the event, you can find sign-up information at https://signup.com/go/TxTdXDd. Contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com with your questions and suggested bake sale pricing information.

Travel With WELS Groups ~ Father's World Tours is partnering with WELS Home Missions to offer two upcoming trips. The Nov 8-19 journey to the Canyonlands and Apache Missions of the American Southwest is sold out. There are still a few spots to join the Jan 23-Feb 7 Flora & Fauna of Florida trip. In addition to visiting multiple nature parks and cultural attractions, the trip includes visits to and connections with home missions and missionaries as well as a 6-night Caribbean cruise on the Sky Princess. Visit http://www.fathersworldtours.com or contact Steve Balza at 507-217-1731 to learn more. Last date to register for Florida is November 1!

Job Openings at MLC ~ Director of Finance: Plays a vital role in advancing MLC's mission of preparing future leaders for public ministry by providing strategic financial leadership, strengthening long-term sustainability, and partnering with college and Synod leaders. Director of Academic Assessment & Licensure Unit Leader: Advances excellence in teacher preparation at MLC through academic assessment, program improvement, and licensure oversight, helping ensure graduates are well prepared for service in WELS schools. Grounds Worker: Maintains MLC's grounds throughout the seasons, creating a welcoming and well-kept campus for students, workers, and visitors. Female Dormitory Custodian: Helps care for the place that our female students call home during their time at MLC. Assistant Baseball Coach: Promotes excellence in competition while supporting the formation of student-athletes for lives of Christian service. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover ~ "By grace alone, through faith alone, revealed through Scripture alone." That is the rallying cry of the Lutheran Reformation! That is what makes us saints (set apart from unbelief, sin, satan, and hell in God's sight). We are rescued and redeemed! We are sinless and holy! "Grace alone, faith alone, Scripture alone." Praise God!

Saints Triumphant *~ Among the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, we give thanks to God for those who have gone from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant during the past Year:*

Saints in Glory:	**They Entered Glory on:**
Jack Havemeier	*11/9/25*
John Gaertner	*11/14/25*
Marlene Zimmerman	*2/20/26*
Del Ulrich	*4/22/26*
DeWayne Blaalid	*4/23/26*
Dean Bartch	*7/10/26*
Marlene Lambrecht	*8/16/26*
James Wieland	*8/19/26*
Ruth Mack	*9/17/26*
Ruth Anderson	*10/7/26*
Bruce Backer	*10/8/26*