

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

**SANCTIFY THEM
BY THE TRUTH;**
your word is truth.

JOHN 17:17

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 11/12, 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 praise and thank you that you have sanctified us; that is, you have set us apart. You set us apart from unbelief. You set us apart from the consequences of our sin. You set us apart from eternal death in hell. But you also set us apart for a new purpose: to live lives to your glory and to spread the message of your love and grace with all who will hear. Help us to do so in thanks to you for all you've done for us. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *The Service: Setting One* page 154

OPENING HYMN

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

CW537

CONFESSION

p. 155

FIRST LESSON

Acts 6:1–9, 7:2a, 51-60

¹In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ²So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

⁵This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

²To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

⁵¹“You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵²Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— ⁵³you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

⁵⁴When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory

of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY *Our Help Is in the Name of the Lord* **Psalm 124**

SECOND LESSON

1 John 5:1–6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 17:11b–19

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

¹³“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense* **CW446**

SERMON **John 17:11b-19**

You Are Set Apart!
I. From the World
II. For the World

APOSTLES' CREED p. 163

OFFERING

HYMN *What Is the World to Me* **CW717**

PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER p. 171

CLOSING HYMN *Abide, O Dearest Jesus* **CW924**

† † †

PREACHER	Pastor Rob Guenther
PRESIDING MINISTER	Pastor Jeff Bovee
ORGAN	Jon Roux

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: Worship
	2 pm	Church reserved
Mon	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Wed	6:30 pm	Softball practice at Harman Park
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	11:45 am	Stewardship Meeting at MLC
	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter
Fri	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
	7 pm	MLC Commencement Concert
Sat	9 am	Greeter / Usher Training
	10 am	MLC Commencement Service
	2:30 pm	MLC Call Service
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 19	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
May 21	5:30 pm	Joint Council Meeting
	7 pm	Council Meeting
May 22	6:30 pm	St. Paul's School Closing Service at MLC
May 23	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter
May 24	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	11 am	Highland Regency Service
May 25	6:30 pm	Worship
May 26	8 & 9:30 am	Worship: Summer Schedule Begins (No 11 am service)
	2 pm	MVL Graduation
May 27		Church office closed
May 28	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
May 29	6 pm	Campus Facilities Taskforce Meeting
Jun 1	6:30 pm	Worship
Jun 2	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class: Bible Stories Not Taught in Sunday School
	3 pm	Cancer Support Group Meeting
	7 pm	Soccer Camp Meeting

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 592 with 483 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$15,293	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$317,270 / Received to Date: \$351,888</i>	
\$1,532	MVL ~ <i>Received to Date: \$22,072</i>	\$100 St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,602	Missions ~ <i>Received to Date: \$30,916</i>	\$100 Benevolence Fund
\$942	Building Fund	\$100 Christian Family Solutions
\$275	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	\$18 Food & Fellowship
\$110	K-12 Education Assistance	\$15 Sanctuary Renovation

Volunteers Needed ~ Many hands help make an outreach event go smoothly, and with 100-150 kids participating in Summer Soccer Camp, please consider joining the Soccer Camp team! There are a variety of ways you can help, from first aid tent to snacks to coaching! Sign up now at johnandpaulministries.com! Questions? Reach out to Beth Scharf (JPM event coordinator) at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu.

Summer Soccer Camp 2024 Registration NOW OPEN! ~ Join John and Paul Ministries June 3-6, 2024, from 9-11:30 am at the MLC Soccer Fields as experienced leaders and coaches help children ages 4-10 improve their soccer skills through skill practice and scrimmages and learn the love of Jesus through daily devotions! \$30/child (\$20 additional children of the same family.) Register now at johnandpaulministries.com! Registration deadline is May 12. Questions? Reach out to camp coordinator Nick Schmoller at nick.schmoller@gmail.com.

Renovation Prep Volunteers Needed ~ In preparation for the renovation, the vestry and sacristy closets need to be emptied in order for flooring to be installed in early June. A date has been set for Monday, May 20, at 6:30 pm. With enough volunteers it should only take about an hour. Pastors and Staff Minister will be there to help sort the items. "Many hands make light work" - hope to see you there.

St. John's Cancer Group ~ will meet on Sunday, June 2 at 3 pm in the church basement fellowship area. Our purpose is encouragement from God's Word and each other. Consider coming if you or someone close to you has experienced a cancer diagnosis of any kind, either recently or at any time in the past. Our gatherings are not just for the person diagnosed with cancer. Spouses, adult family members, or other support persons are also very welcome to attend. For more information contact Wayne Wagner at wwagner50@outlook.com.

Church Campout 2024 ~ We are excited to announce that after taking a year off, the church campout is back on the calendar for June 21-23! It will be held again at the Sportsmen's Park in Sleepy Eye. Like in previous years, there will be a church service held at the campground over the weekend, and there will be several other fellowship opportunities as well. Reserve your spot at: bit.ly/ChurchCampout24. We hope to see many of you there!

Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund ~ We are pleased to report that for the 2024-25 school year there are 11 students from St. John's who are planning to attend Martin Luther College or Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to prepare for serving in the public ministry. To encourage these students and assist in meeting the rising cost of their education, we plan to send MLC and WLS financial assistance to be applied to each student's account. As of April 14, \$4,760 has been contributed. Please consider making a special offering for this purpose. MLC's Congregational Partner Grant Program will match the support that a congregation provides up to \$1,450 per student. If you make a contribution for this purpose, please indicate whether you want your offering to go to the regular Ministerial Student Assistance Fund or to the Ministerial Student Assistance Endowment Fund. Offerings to the endowment fund are invested, and only the investment earnings are distributed each year. Offerings to the regular student assistance fund are distributed in the current school year.

Summer Church Softball ~ Our St John's slow-pitch softball team season runs from early June to early August. **The first practice is this Wednesday at 6:30 pm at Harman Park!** **Feel free to stop by if you would like to try it out!** All St John's members age 12 and older are welcome to join! If you are interested in playing please fill out the survey at bit.ly/SJNUSB or scan the QR code.



You Are Invited to Usher/Greeter Training ~ Are you interested in serving at church in a different way? Consider joining an usher crew or greeter team. We will meet on Saturday, May 18th, from 9 - 10:30 am to review basic usher and greeter duties, such as greeting worshippers, lighting candles, and collecting the offering. Currently, the usher program serves as an entry point for male leadership at St. John's. With this in mind, the usher program is open to males in confirmation class in 7th grade and higher. Greeter teams are open to students in confirmation class, 7th grade and higher. Contact Deacon Brad Price at deacon@stjohnsnewulm.com if you are interested or if you have any questions.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ammo Can ~ Each May and November, Lutheran Military Support Group holds its Ammo Can Campaign. Financial gifts toward this campaign fund scholarships for Veterans as they pursue a public ministry at MLC, BLC, and WLS, spiritual retreats and workshops for WELS and ELS Veterans dealing with PTSD, and more. Please place your donations in the ammo can in the new narthex. For specific details, see the poster near the ammo can, or contact Brad Price at bprice@lutheranmilitary.org.

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be traveling to Madelia for a noon meal at the La Plaza Fiesta Mexican Restaurant on Wednesday, May 15. Each person will order their own meal, with part of it covered by Thrivent Action Team moneys. Following the meal, we will walk/drive to The Greenhouse at Total Landscape for a tour. Those who are willing to drive or want a ride should meet at 11:15 am at the St. Paul's Church, New Ulm, parking lot. Contact Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or call 507-359-2424 by Monday noon, May 13 if you plan to attend. Hope you are interested.

Preschool Cleaning Party ~ Don't miss this fun fellowship event on Thursday, May 30 from 9 am - noon (at the latest). A sloppy joe lunch will be provided to all volunteers. There will be indoor and outdoor cleaning options. To RSVP or ask questions contact Heidi Meyer at hmeyer@splnewulm.org.

MLC ECLC Open House ~ You're Invited! The MLC Early Childhood Learning Center will be hosting a community open house on Saturday, June 8 from 10 am to 1 pm to celebrate 10 years of serving children and their families in our current facilities. Please join us at 405 N Highland Ave. for walk-throughs of our classrooms, gift baskets, and more! We thank God for the 10 years with which he's blessed us!

"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 Women's Conference ~ **Registration is open** for the 2024 WELS Women's Ministry Conference, on Sunday, July 28-30, at the Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee, WI. This conference is for any woman who is passionate about the spread of the Good News of Jesus in our world today, no matter her age and background. New to the faith or seasoned, married or single, the keynotes and wide variety of breakout sessions will encourage, equip, and empower you in your walk of faith. You can find more information at welswmconference.net.

Job Openings ~ St. Paul's School is looking for After Preschool Care workers who enjoy working with 3-, 4- and 5-year-old children. The position is open to anyone older than 18 and is for the school year. Contact Heidi Meyer at preschool@splnewulm.org with questions or to apply. There are several job openings at Martin Luther College including a full-time Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, full-time Accountant, full-time Administrative Assistant for Mission Advancement, part-time Administrative Assistant for Academic Deans, part-time Men's Basketball Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball Assistant Coach and part-time Athletics Equipment Manager.. Interested individuals may apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover ~ Sanctify means, "Set apart." But from what? For what? And how? By the truth of God's Word, that is, by Jesus' work for us by the cross and empty tomb, and by the Spirit's work for us in bringing us to trust in God's promises, we are set apart from unbelief. And as such, we are set apart from the consequences of our sin and eternal death in hell. But as such, we are also set apart for a new life of service to God. We are set apart for a special purpose. We are set apart to declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness and to share the message of God's love and grace with the world.