## "I am the Good Shepherd."

# Fourth Sunday of Easter / Good Shepherd April 20 / 21, 2024



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# St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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YouTube:

bit.ly/SJyoutube

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.

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Prayer before worship:** Dear Shepherd of the Sheep, Jesus Christ, Bishop of our souls: Bless our time of worship. Lead us by your Word. Feed us with the promises of your love and forgiveness. Teach us to be shepherds of others by leading them to follow you. We pray these things in your holy name. Amen.

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

OPENING HYMN Jesus, She	pherd of the Sheep C	<i>CW</i> 551
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#### CONFESSION

#### FIRST LESSON

<sup>28</sup>Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. <sup>29</sup>I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. <sup>30</sup>Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

<sup>32</sup>"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM** of the DAY I Will Live in the House of the Lord *CW*23

#### SECOND LESSON

<sup>1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

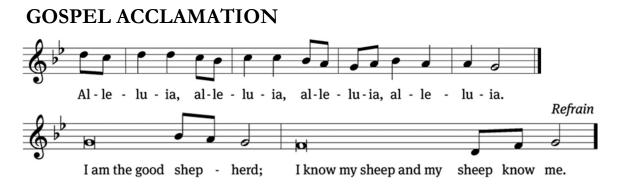
<sup>4</sup>You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Acts 20:28–32

## 1 John 4:1–6

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#### GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

<sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup>The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

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

HYMN of the DAY	The King of Love My Shepherd Is	<i>CW</i> 552
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#### SERMON

John 10:11-18

THERE IS ONE FLOCK AND ONE SHEPHERD

- 1. THE GOOD SHEPHERD OWNS THE SHEEP
- 2. THE GOOD SHEPHERD KNOWS THE SHEEP
- 3. THE GOOD SHEPHERD CARES ABOUT THE SHEEP
- 4. THE GOOD SHEPHERD ENCOURAGES US TO BE SHEPHERDS

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#### **OFFERING/ COMMUNION**

If you are not a member of a WELS/ELS congregation, please see the explanation in the announcements.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not WantCW 555Jesus Comes Today with HealingCW 668

#### **PRAYERS and BLESSING**

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+ + +

PREACHER PRESIDING MINISTER ORGAN Pastor Jeff Bovee Pastor Rob Guenther Becky Berg





**Sanctuary Renovation Action** ~ The work toward the sanctuary renovations will begin the week of April 29 with painting the walls and registers of the nave. Later in the month of May, the chairs, pew upholstery with padding, and flooring materials will be delivered. The chairs will be set up and kept in the narthex. The upholstery, padding, and floor materials must be kept out to acclimate to the church climate. This acclimating may lead to some open storage in the narthex and basement. Ahead of installation, volunteers will be needed to help clear the side rooms and closets of the sanctuary. Installation is tentatively set for the first weeks of June. The facilities task force continues to check the schedules and hear from members to coordinate the renovations and avoid conflicts with worship services.

#### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship
	7 pm	MVL Concert at MLC
Tue	7 pm	Voters' Meeting
Wed	6 pm	Confirmation Pictures
	7 pm	Confirmation Examination Service
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
	7 pm	MVL Spring Musical
Sat	6:30 pm	Worship
	7 pm	MVL Spring Musical
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#### + Upcoming Services +

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Apr 28	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship		
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship		
	11 am	Confirmation		
	2 pm	MVL Musical		
Apr 30	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service		
May 2	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus		
·	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter		
	7 pm	St. Paul's School Band Concert		
May 3	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians		
·	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God		
May 4	3 pm	MLC Children's Theater		
·	5 & 8 pm	MVL Prism Concerts		
	6:30 pm	Worship		
May 5	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship		
-	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship		
May 6	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting		
May 7	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting		
May 9	4 & 6:30 pm	Ascension Services		
May 10	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians		
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God		
	6 pm	St. Paul's School Dig-In Gala at Turner Hall		
May 11	6:30 pm	Worship		
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Go to www.stjohnsnewulm.com/ calendar for more events

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 598.

Fruits of faith given:

- \$15,208 Home Operations ~ Needed to Date: \$264,392 / Received to Date: \$304,786
  - \$1,907 MVL ~ Received to Date: \$15,984
  - \$1,447 Missions ~ Received to Date: \$25,081
  - \$665 Building Fund
  - \$255 K-12 Education Assistance
  - \$220 Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund
- \$160 St. Paul's School
- \$100 Memorials
  - \$60 Martin Luther College
  - \$20 Sanctuary Renovation

**Voters' Meeting** ~ There will be a Voter's Meeting on Tuesday, April 23, at 7 pm in the basement fellowship area. In January, the Voters passed the 2024 Constitution for St. John's. Several copies of the new constitution are available in the new narthex on the table. If they are all taken, please fill out a Constitution Request Sheet (visible when the Constitution booklets are gone) and put in Dretske J/C Mailbox and one will be provided to you. They will also be available at the Voter's meeting. All Voters will be asked to sign the 2024 Constitution to be eligible to vote at the meeting. Voters can be any 18 year-old or older confirmed male member of the congregation. Come and join in the work the Lord has set before our congregation!

**Stump the Pastor**  $\sim$  Do you have any questions that you wish you could ask a pastor? Perhaps a question came to you in a Bible study and you thought it would take too long to answer, or seemed too off-track, or perhaps it's a question that you have wondered about from time to time and never asked. Tuesday, May 7, at 7 pm, the Women of St. John's are hosting a Stump the Pastors night, open to everyone. A box is available in the narthex to place your questions. A sign-up sheet is located next to the box for you to sign up to help us plan for refreshments.

**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 johnandpaulministires.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.

**Education Assistance Fund** ~ Due to an increase in tuition for St. Paul's Lutheran School, St. John's has established an Education Assistance Fund to assist families that might find it a financial hardship to enroll their children at St. Paul's Lutheran School. If you are moved to give a special offering to the Lord, please consider contributing to this fund so the blessing of Christian education can be shared with all of the families at St. John's. You can write "Education Assistance Fund" to designate a portion of your offerings to this cause. Please consider doing so!

**Summer Church Softball** ~ Our St John's slow-pitch softball team season runs from early June to early August. 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.



**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!

**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

**Communion Announcement:** 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.

#### **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MVL Choir Concert** ~ is Sunday, April 21 beginning at 7 pm in the Chapel of the Christ at MLC. The concert will feature the MVL A Capella Choir and Chargaliers singing our favorite tunes from this school year.



**St. Paul's School Survey** ~ The St. Paul's Lutheran School MNSAA Survey supports the reaccreditation efforts with the Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA). If you have not done so already, scan the QR code to fill out the survey. Thank you for taking the time to consider and respond to the survey questions. The survey will be open through Friday, April 26, 2024. If you have any questions, please feel free to email splsaccreditation@splnewulm.org.

**MVL Spring Musical** ~ Be sure to check out the crazy musical comedy, *How to Succeed in Business* Without Really Trying, for some good laughs, great singing and dancing, (and a tap number to boot!) Show times are Friday and Saturday, April 26-27 at 7 pm, and Sunday, April 28 at 2 pm. All performances will be held at The State Street Theater Co., in New Ulm. Tickets are \$5 (K-12) and \$7 for adults and may be purchased at the door. Can't wait to see you there!

**MLC Faculty Anniversary Service** ~ On Sunday, April 28, at 3 pm, in Chapel of the Christ the MLC family will recognize milestones of faithful service for three faculty members at a special anniversary service: Professor Heath Dobberpuhl, 25 years of service, and Professors Brian Dose and Craig Hirschmann, 40 years of service. Please join us in honoring these faithful servants.

St. Paul's School Band Concert ~ The St. Paul school Raider Band program will be presenting its Spring Concert on Thursday, May 2 at 7 pm in the school gymnasium. The Junior Band will be rocking "Row Your Boat" while the Raider Band will entertain you with Tales of Sea and Sail. The Wellerman and Pirates of the Caribbean will conclude the program in mass band style! Come join us for an evening on the sea!

**Teacher Appreciation Week at St. Paul's School** ~ Howdy! This year, National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th -10th and we are celebrating our teachers with a whole rootin' tootin' western-themed Teacher Appreciation Week hootenanny! We're fixin' to show our gratitude bigger than a Texas two-step!

So, mosey on over to https://signup.com/go/ekLOduS and sign up to lend a hand, or donate what you can. Together, we'll make it a week the teachers won't soon forget!



**St. Paul's School Dig In Gala** ~ We are looking forward to celebrating the blessings of our **INTRO** school with the 5th Annual St. Paul's School Dig In Gala! The Gala will be held on Friday, May 10, at Turner Hall in New Ulm, starting at 6:00pm. Individual and full-table tickets for the event are on sale NOW at https://buytickets.at/digingala2024 or in the school office. Ticket proceeds, as well as donations made during the silent and live

auctions - and other fun activities - will go to Phase 3 of the Building Project, It's Time. Encouraged dress for the event is business casual or dress with our Dr. Seuss theme for this year, if you wish. If you own a business that would like to be an event sponsor, please contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com.

"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.

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

**About the Cover** ~ Jesus Christ our Lord is the Good Shepherd. He guards us, guides us, he leads us, he gave his life to save us. For this, we gratefully follow him and seek to imitate his love for us as we seek to bring others into the fold of his blessed kingdom.