

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



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17/18, 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 know that true wisdom only comes from you in your Word. Forgive us for too often chasing after worldly wisdom while neglecting your Word. Thank you for sending Jesus to pay for our sin. Help us to live for you and to resolve to be in your Word to gain godly wisdom from it every day. Amen.

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

OPENING HYMN

O Word of God Incarnate

CW642

CONFESSION

p. 172

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 9:1–6

¹Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars. ²She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city, ⁴“Let all who are simple come to my house!” To those who have no sense she says, ⁵“Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. ⁶Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of insight.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

We Sing the Almighty Power of God

CW504

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 2:6–16

⁶We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷No, we declare God’s wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”— the things God has prepared for those who love him— ¹⁰these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

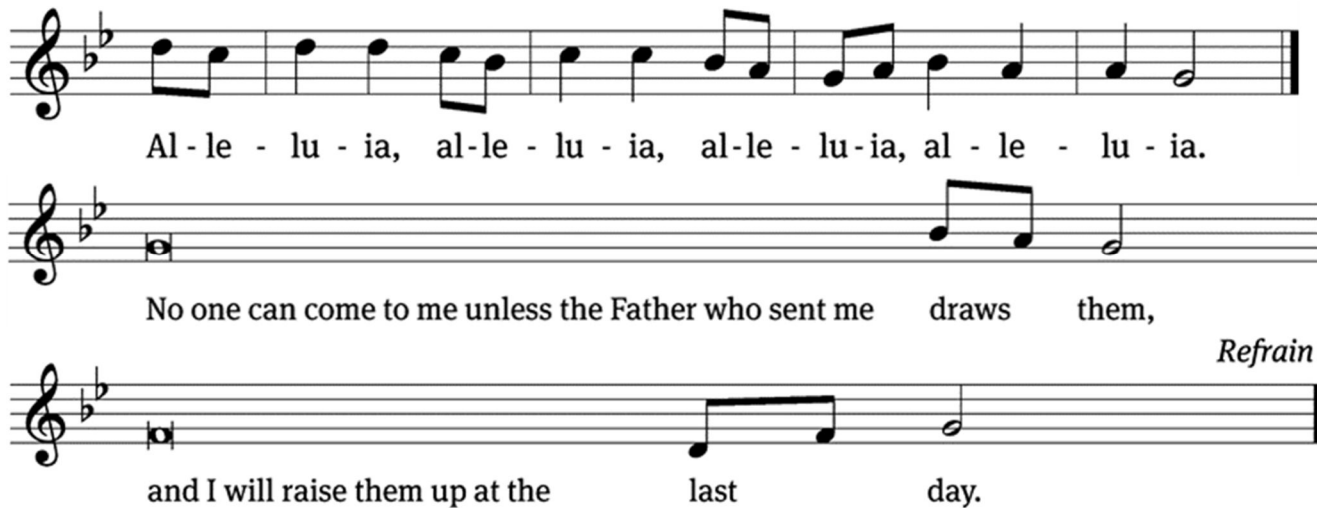
The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. ¹⁴The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. ¹⁵The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is

not subject to merely human judgments, ¹⁶for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

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.

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them,

and I will raise them up at the last day. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

John 6:35–51

³⁵Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

⁴¹At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I came down from heaven?’”

⁴³“Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus answered. ⁴⁴“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* CW614

SERMON 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
Wise Up!

NICENE CREED p. 180

OFFERING/ COMMUNION

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

DISTRIBUTION *Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow* CW794
HYMNS *What Is This Bread* CW665

PRAYERS and BLESSING p. 187

† † †

PREACHER Pastor Rob Guenther
PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor Jeff Bovee
ORGAN Adrian Smith

Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our Guest Register.



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.



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	10:45 am	Bible Class: Bible Stories Not Taught in Sunday School
	6 pm	Confirmation Family Meeting
Mon	4 pm	OWLS Meeting at 1415 N. Minnesota St.
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Council Meeting
Fri	9 am	Fellowship in the Park: Highland Park
Sat	12:30 pm	Youth Group Event
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 25	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship (Fall Schedule Begins)
	2 pm	MVL Opening Service
Aug 26	10:15 am	MLC Opening Service
Aug 27	8:15 am	St. Paul's School Opening Service
Aug 28	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
Aug 31	6:30 pm	Worship
Sep 1	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
Sep 2		Labor Day: Church office closed
Sep 3	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Sep 4	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
Sep 5	10 am	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
	7 pm	Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 6	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 7	5 pm	Summer Send-Off at St. Paul's School
	6:30 pm	Worship
Sep 8	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Psalms
	3 pm	Cancer Support Group Meeting
Sep 9	11:30 am	OWLS Meeting
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Sep 11	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
Sep 12	10 am	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
	7 pm	Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 13	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Proverbs

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 403.

Fruits of faith given:

\$14,613	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$546,410 / Received to Date: \$528,437</i>	
\$847	MVL ~ <i>Received to Date: \$35,487</i>	
\$2,362	Missions ~ <i>Received to Date: \$53,599</i>	\$60 Martin Luther College
\$297	Building Fund	\$50 K-12 Education Assistance
\$90	Memorials	\$50 St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$61	LWMS	\$35 Sanctuary Renovation

Memorial Gifts ~ A number of memorial gifts have been received in the past several weeks. Gift totals are given here, and a detailed listing of individual gifts will be provided in the next monthly issue of the *Fortress*. In memory of Mary Ann Hussman: church renovations (\$40), St. John's Endowment (\$20), LWMS (\$100), Missions (\$20), Women of St. John's (\$20), and undesignated (\$615). In memory of Paul Fritze: Building Fund (\$100), Education Fund (\$20), Ministerial Education Endowment (\$50), and undesignated (\$65). We thank the donors.

Volunteers Needed ~ St. Paul's School in New Ulm is looking for a couple volunteers to help tape the spines of some new textbooks we received this year. The times are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of next week (8/19, 8/20, 8/21) from 8 am - noon. Please contact Sarah Spike if you are able to help at sspike@splnewulm.org.

Confirmation Family Meeting ~ All parents of 7th and 8th grade students (of St. Paul's School, public school, and homeschool students) are invited to attend an informational meeting Sunday, August 18th, at 6 pm in the church basement. On that night Pastors Bovee and Guenther will be giving out schedules, passing out materials, and disseminating other information for the upcoming year. Check your email for more information.

Women of St. John's ~ Pastor Joel Gaertner, Director for WELS Special Ministries will be our guest speaker about Freedom for the Captives (www.freedomforcaptives.com). Freedom for the Captives is dedicated to equipping the Body of Christ to protect children and empower abuse survivors. We will meet in the church basement at 7 pm on Tuesday, September 3. Everyone is welcome to join us for the presentation. The ladies will have a brief business meeting following the presentation.

Cancer Journey Group ~ St. John's Cancer Journey Group will meet on Sunday, September 8 at 3 pm in the lower-level fellowship area. Anyone whose life has been touched by cancer is encouraged to attend, whether they themselves have had a cancer diagnosis at any time in their life, are an adult family member of someone who has had a cancer diagnosis, or are supportive friends. If you know of someone who is not a St. John's member but might be interested in attending, invite and come with them! Our purpose is to receive encouragement from God's Word and each other. Snacks will be provided. Retired Christian counselor Dan Loe will lead a short discussion about organizing personal information and preferences for others to use when we are not able to speak for ourselves.

Time and Talent Survey ~ The Board of Stewardship is requesting the help of all members by having them fill out a Time & Talent Survey to indicate their interest in various ministries. This survey is not intended to sign you up for various groups, but to allow those who currently serve in these areas to call on interested people for help when needed. Paper copies can be found in the narthex, but the hope is that most members fill out the Online survey so that information won't need to be entered manually. The survey follows the order of ministries as printed in the 2024 Time & Talents Booklet that has been placed in your church mailbox. Use the booklet and survey together to get the best understanding of what each ministry entails. Both the book and survey can be found online. Please fill out as soon as possible.

Booklet: bit.ly/SJTandTBooklet2024 | Survey: bit.ly/SJTandTSurvey

Cards of Caring ~ 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 September 14, 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. Maybe you have new ideas. 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.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Point 5K School Campaign Event ~ Join us for the Point 5k Family Fun-raiser on Sunday, August 18, at Kegel Klub, open-house style, from 12 - 4 pm. With a silly .5K "race" great for any age, a bean bag tournament, bowling, food, and "burpee" contest, there is something for everyone! Join one or more of the activities in support of the St. Paul's School Building Project. More information, advance tickets, and registration information can be found at <https://buytickets.at/point5k2024>. If you're available to help with the event, we'd love for you to get involved by signing up here: <https://signup.com/go/FCZjVUy>



OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be gathering on Monday afternoon/evening, August 19, for our annual picnic at the home of Gary and Geri Steffen. Fellowship begins about 4 pm and the picnic meal at 5 pm. The cost of the meal will be covered with Thrivent Action Team moneys. A meal count is needed. Contact Myron Fluegge via email at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or call 507-359-2424 by Wednesday noon, August 14, if you did not sign up earlier. Hope you are interested.

MVL Opening Service ~ On August 25th at 2 pm Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School will have its Opening Service for the 2024-2025 school year. This Opening Service will include:

1. The dedication of our new fieldhouse and science classrooms
2. The installation of our new teachers, Elijah Dorn and Noah Ungemach
3. The 40th teaching anniversary of Rollin Timm

Come join us for a day of celebration and fellowship. Explore our new facilities, enjoy refreshments, meet our new teachers, and thank Mr. Timm for his faithful service.

Calling All Charger Fans! ~ Join us for “Pack the Stands Night” on Tuesday, August 27 when MVL will hold its FIRST athletic event in the new Storm Activities Center. The MVL girls volleyball team will be hosting Sleepy Eye St. Mary’s for a non-conference game and there will be lots of extra fun and energy that night. Visit the Go Big Blue booth for Chargers swag, sign up to win some amazing door prizes, and enjoy other fun antics during the Varsity game. What a blessing watching our Lady Chargers take the floor for our first home game in our new space. There will be three games with C team beginning at 4:30, JV at 5:45 and Varsity at 7 pm. For the full MVL activity calendar visit: <https://mvl.rschooltteams.com/>

Summer Send-Off at St. Paul’s School ~ Join us for Summer Send-off on Saturday, September 7 from 5 - 7 pm! John and Paul Ministries will say goodbye to summer with complimentary food, bounce houses, games, outdoor worship, and the best seats on the school grounds for the HermannFest fireworks! See you then and bring a friend! Many helpful hands and friendly faces are needed to run an outreach event! Please sign up at johnandpaulministries.com to volunteer! Questions? Contact Beth Scharf at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu.

MUMs Group is Back! ~ Moms Understanding Moms in view of the Savior (MUMS) is a group of Christian moms from St. Paul's and St. John's churches and St. Paul’s school that meet to encourage one another in God's Word and prayer. We meet on Tuesdays, starting September 10 at 9 am in the basement of St. Paul’s church. We are excited to get back together. We plan to study prayer while a babysitter hangs with the kids in the playroom. Join us for coffee, treats and fellowship! Please join our Facebook group called MUMs for more details and updates! If you have questions please call or text Cori Waldschmidt at (989) 245-9256.

High Schoolers! ~ are you thinking about college? You’ve got so many choices! What about Martin Luther College? MLC is the WELS College of Ministry, where students come to prepare for ministry as WELS pastors, teachers, and staff ministers. Here you’ll have an amazing Christian college experience where you can use all your God-given gifts, dive deep into God’s Word, and make friends for life! Want to know more? Use the QR code to sign up for our free e-newsletter, KnightWatch Weekly, which gives you a weekly peek into campus life.



Job Openings ~ *St. Paul’s Lutheran School* is looking for 2 - part time paras for the upcoming school year. To learn more about the positions, contact Amber Brown at abrown@splnewulm.org. Applications may be picked up from the school or church offices. Application deadline is Tuesday, August 20.

MVL is looking for a head softball coach for the 2025 softball season. For more information contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org.

There are several job openings at *Martin Luther College*. For the complete list of openings and to apply go to mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover ~ Worldly wisdom may lead to success and accolades, but it ultimately leads to nothing and does not bring true fulfillment or salvation. But true wisdom comes from understanding God's plan for salvation through Jesus, as revealed by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables us to understand spiritual truths and discern God's will. Let's grow in true wisdom by studying God's Word and by sharing it with others.