



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 12 / 13, 2026

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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 facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
507-354-6744

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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12/13, 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: Almighty God, by your power you control all things in the universe. But what is mankind that you should be mindful of us? It is because of your great love and mercy that you direct every event for our eternal good. Cause us always to know that whatever may befall us in this life you will use it to bless us, refine us, and draw us closer to you. Bless us now as we come before you in worship. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Service Setting 1

pg. 154

ANTHEM

Oh, How Good It Is

CW 731

*The children will sing the stanzas and the first refrain.
The congregation will join in the subsequent refrains.*

*Oh, how good it is when the fam'ly of God
dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
are the fruits of his presence here among us. (Refrain)*

*Refrain So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
and with one heart we'll live out his word,
till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
for he dwells in the presence of his people.*

*Oh, how good it is on this journey we share
to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace
when we offer the blessing of belonging. (Refrain)*

*Oh, how good it is to embrace his command
to prefer one another, forgive as he forgives.
When we live as one we all share in the love
of the Son with the Father and the Spirit. (Refrain)*

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

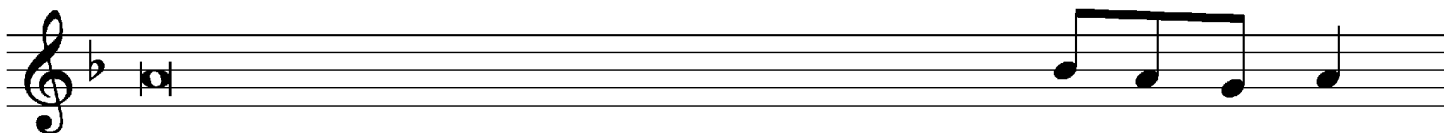
Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

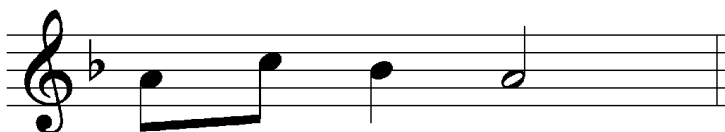
Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY

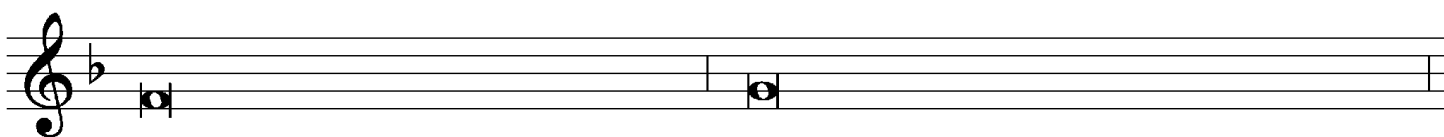
In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



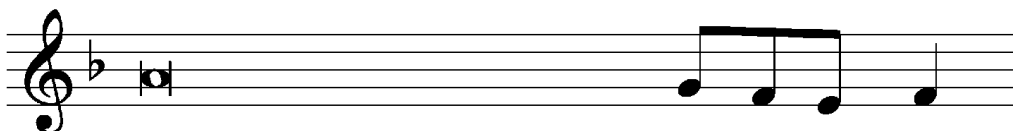
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



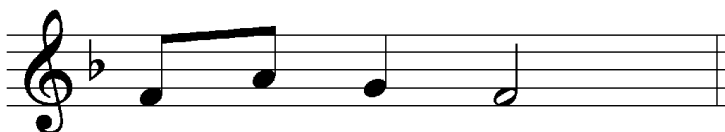
Lord, have mer - cy.



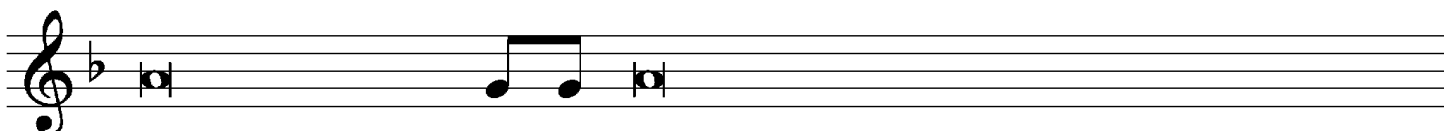
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

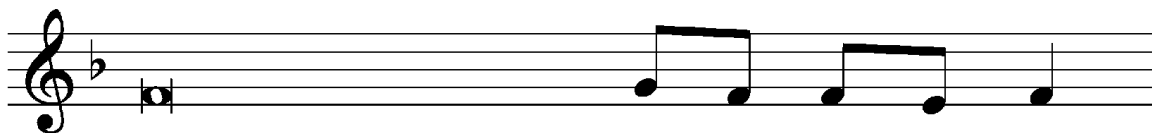


For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

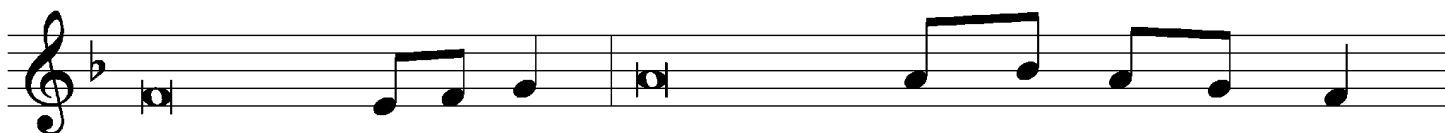


Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

GLORY TO GOD



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



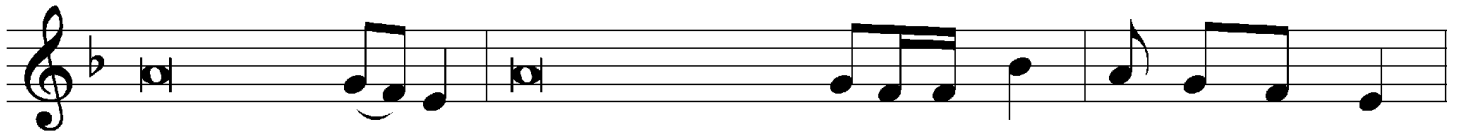
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



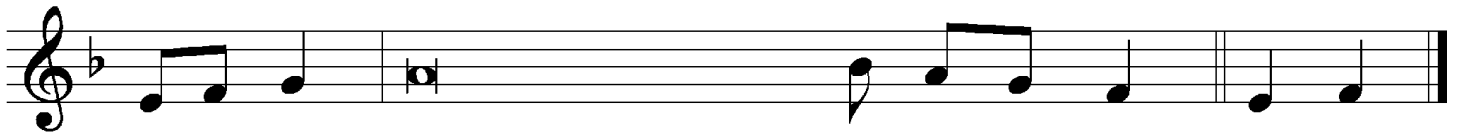
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

ANTHEM***I Will Greatly Rejoice***

arr. Knut Nystedt

*I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
for my soul shall exult in my God;
for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

*For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up;
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring forth before all the nations!*

ANTHEM***Jesus Christ is Lord***

arr. Philip W. J. Stopford

*Though he was in the form of God,
he did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death,
even death on the cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above ev'ry name,
so that at the name of Jesus ev'ry knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and ev'ry tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

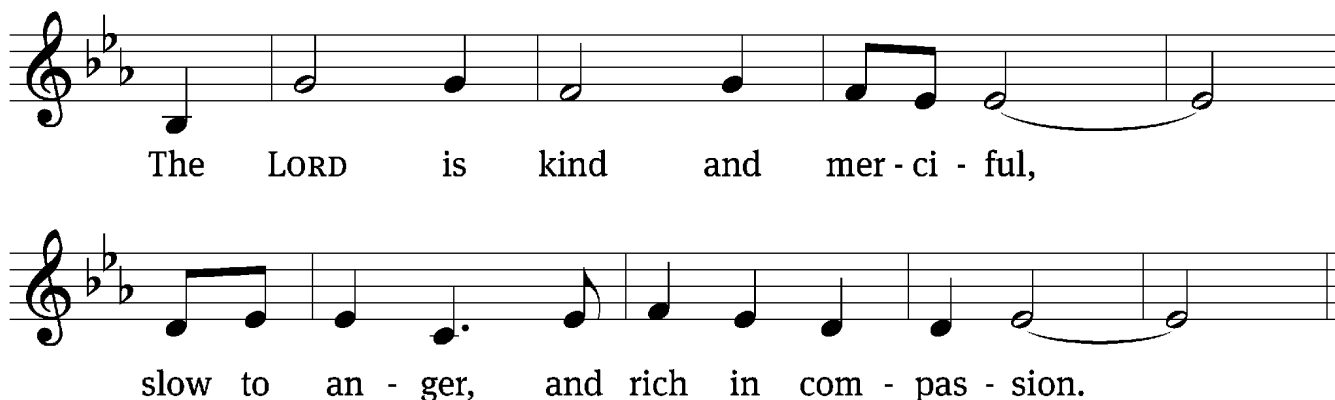
¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

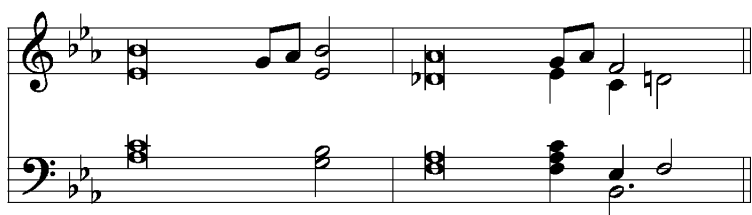
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *The LORD Is Kind and Merciful* *Psalm 103*

Refrain



Tone



Praise the LORD, / my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his / holy name—
who forgives / all your sins
and heals all your dis- / eases,
who redeems your life / from the pit
and crowns you with love and com- / passion,
who satisfies your desires / with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the / eagle's. *Refrain*

The LORD is compassionate and / gracious,
slow to anger, abound- / ing in love.
He does not treat us as our / sins deserve
or repay us according to our in- / iquities.
For as high as the heavens are a- / bove the earth,
so great is his love for those who / fear him;
as far as the east is / from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions / from us.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Colossians 3:13

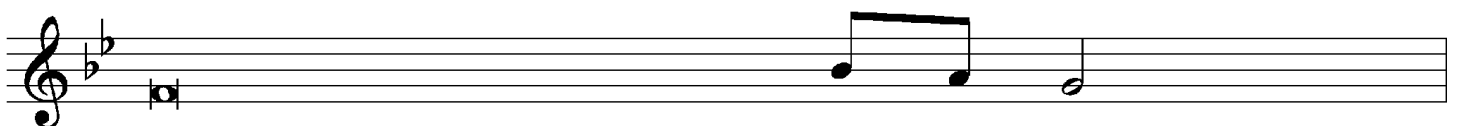


Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Bear with each other and forgive one another.

Refrain



Forgive as the Lord for _____ - _____ gave _____ you.

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

- 1 What God ordains is always good: his will is just and holy.
As he directs my life for me, I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed in ev'ry need
knows well how he will shield me; to him, then, I will yield me.
- 2 What God ordains is always good: he never will deceive me;
he leads me in his righteous way and never will he leave me.
I take content what he has sent;
his hand that sends me sadness will turn my tears to gladness.
- 3 What God ordains is always good: though I the cup am drinking
which savors now of bitterness, I take it without shrinking.
For after grief God grants relief,
my heart with comfort filling and all my sorrow stilling.
- 4 What God ordains is always good: this truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm, for with his arm
he will embrace and shield me; so to my God I yield me.

SERMON

God's Plan Is to Save the World

Genesis 50:15-21

*Stand***APOSTLES' CREED****I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.****I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.****I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

OFFERING

ANTHEM *Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen* arr. Johannes Brahms

*Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen,
Herr Zebaoth!
Meine Seele verlangt und sehnet sich
nach den Vorhöfen des Herrn;
mein Leib und Seele freuen sich
in dem lebendigen Gott.
Wohl denen, die in deinem Hause wohnen,
die loben dich immerdar.*

*How lovely are your dwellings,
O Lord of hosts!
My soul yearns and longs
for the courts of the Lord;
my body and soul rejoice
in the living God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
those who praise you forever more.*

- 1 “Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
how small are others’ debts to us, how great our debt to you!
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;
then, bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus

arr. Robert Sterling

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

And when I am alone, give me Jesus.

You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

And when I come to die, give me Jesus.

You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

PREACHER

PRESIDING MINISTER

ORGANIST

GRADES 3-4

PIANIST

CANTICUM NOVUM

Pastor Jeff Bovee

Pastor Rob Guenther

Craig Hirschmann

Emily Stoering

Laura Balza

Jon Laabs

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Jesus Christ Is Lord #50-3061 Words and Music - ©2016 MorningStar Music Publishers / Birnamwood Publications Contributors: Philip WJ Stopford

Give Me Jesus Traditional Spiritual arr. Robert Sterling Copyright © 2001 by Word Music, Inc.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Ruth
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Monday	6 pm	Board of Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Board of Youth and Ed. Meeting
Tuesday	3:30 pm	Oak Hills Worship Service
	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	7 pm	Ask the Pastors
Saturday	8 pm	Board of Properties Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Sep. 20	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Ruth
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Wednesday, Sep. 23	6 pm	Handbells
	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Sep. 24	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	7 pm	Bible Class: Bible Information Class
Friday, Sep. 25	10 am	Sunset Apt. Worship Service
	11 am	Highland Worship Service
Saturday, Sep. 19	6:30 pm	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 546 with 460 receiving the Lord's Supper.

Fruits of Faith:

\$16,004 Home Operations ~ YTD: \$625,919 / Needed: \$620,258

\$790 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$61,072 (2026 Goal: \$100,701)

\$755 MVL ~ YTD: \$40,024 (2026 Goal: \$62,278)

\$665 Building Fund

\$20 St. Paul's School Building Fund

\$60 K-12 Tuition Assistance Fund

\$35 Women of St. John's

\$100 Benevolence Fund

\$135 MLC/WLS Ministerial Student Assistance



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

Ask the Pastor ~ Come to the next “Ask the Pastor” evening on September 17th at 7pm and bring a friend! We have really enjoyed listening to and learning from the pastors' responses in the past events we have had! Bring your questions that evening or place your questions in the box on the table in the narthex area. There is a sign-up sheet next to the box to help us plan for refreshments. Hope to see you there!

Cards of Caring ~ Members of St. John's and MLC students are invited to help make cards our congregation sends to homebound members, LWMS-Befriend a Mission Families and others from our church. We use donated, recycled, and created cards. Supplies are furnished. We need help writing messages, stamping, and assembling cards. This fall our main focus will be on Thanksgiving and Christmas. We meet Saturday mornings between 9am-12pm at 403 N. Minnesota St. (across from the Glockenspiel). We will meet on September 19, October 17th, and November 14th, 2026. Thank you for considering to serve our members. For further information contact Lois Willems at (507) 676-1230.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors) will be meeting on Monday, September 14, at St. John's Lutheran Church, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM, subway meal at Noon, devotion at 12:45 PM, followed with a presentation by Heather Huebner on "Chair Exercises." 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, September 9, for a meal count. Hope you can make it.

MLC Wind Symphony Concert ~ This is a special year for the United States of America. With joy, we're commemorating our 250th birthday, and with sorrow we're remembering the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Two very different events. Two very different kinds of reflection. Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony for "Reflections," a concert program commemorating our country's history through patriotic selections and both solemn and joyful remembrances. The free concert will be held in the MLC Auditorium on Sunday, October 4, at 1:00 pm. (Note the earlier start time!) Can't make it in person? Stream the live performance on MLC's YouTube channel.

5K Event Coming Soon ~ Whether or not a 5K race is your thing has no bearing on our next School Capital Campaign event. Why? Because this is a .5K...yes, a POINT 5K, and it's for everyone. This is no joke! We are thrilled to bring you the Third Annual - and bigger and better - .5K event, where there is something for all ages...and definitely NO running involved. Want to participate in the "race?" Great! Do you eat? Super! We'll have food! Do you bowl, even if just for fun? There will be that, too! And the most serious of all (for real): a bean bag tournament! Join us for all the fun on Sunday, September 27, at Kegel Klub in New Ulm. Come and go as it works for you. Have fun as you donate to the St. Paul's School Capital Campaign all at the same time! More details coming soon.

Travel with WELS Groups ~ Father's World Tours is partnering with WELS Home Missions to offer two upcoming trips, and we'd love to have you along. Cool Canyons (Nov 7-19) takes us to see some of the Southwest U.S.'s most stunning scenery, including the Mighty Five national parks in Utah, the Grand Canyon, and much more. We'll also worship with and tour our Apache missions in Peridot and East Fork, along with a home mission in St George, UT. Flora and Fauna of Florida (Jan 23-Feb 7, 2027) offers a two-week midwinter warmup to the Sunshine State as well as an Eastern Caribbean Cruise aboard the Sky Princess. We will again connect with our missions and missionaries in the area while enjoying encounters with wildlife (gators, manatee, and maybe monkeys), gorgeous gardens, and fabulous fellowship. Learn more at www.fathersworldtours.com or call Steve at 507-217-1731.

About the Cover ~ Joseph was sorely mistreated by his brothers, who threw him into a pit, sold him as a slave, staged his alleged death, and callously thought he was dead. However, four times over in the account of Joseph in Egypt we read: "But God was with Joseph." God made it clear that it was by his grace and by his wisdom, and to accomplish his divine plan, that he had brought Joseph to Egypt, even through trials and difficulties, for the eternal good of his people. And so it shall always be for us.

Who is Canticum Novum? ~ Canticum Novum is a WELS choir that strives for excellence in proclaiming the name of Christ through the choral art and, through the work of the gospel, seeks to spur God's people on toward excellence in their own musicianship. Founded in 2005 and presenting its first performances in 2006, the ensemble brings together singers from WELS congregations across the Midwest and beyond. Under the artistic direction of Jonathan Laabs, members prepare music independently before gathering each summer for an intensive retreat week of rehearsals, fellowship, and performances. As the choir celebrates 20 years of God's grace, it continues its mission of glorifying God through the choral art and sharing the gospel through song.

Stay Connected With Us ~ To learn more about Canticum Novum, join our mailing list, or receive updates about future concerts and events, visit canticumnovumwels.org/contact. Canticum Novum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported by freewill offerings and donations. If you would like to support our ministry, you may make a secure online contribution at canticumnovumwels.org/contribute. Thank you for your interest, support, and prayers as we share the gospel through song.

CANTICUM NOVUM ROSTER

Artistic Director: Jonathan Laabs

Collaborative Pianist: Jessi Kolberg

Sopranos: Joanna Ericson, Anne Hafenstein, Kari Hahm, Naomi Hathaway, Martha Johnson, Jessi Kolberg, Erin Laabs, Emma Nolte, Kayli Pesch, Sarah Schlicht, Lisa Uttech, Leah Wendland

Altos: Nicole Cottman, Madelyn Krueger, Naomi Laabs, April Marquardt, Melissa Nolte, Jessica Peck, Rachel Pierson, Jessica Randazzo, Rachel Renno, Kiara Ristow, Kari Tiarks, Karen Vasatko

Tenors: Joseph Eick, Danny Hafenstein, Lucas Krogmann, Colin Krueger, Jarrod Pfarr, Alex Randazzo, Matt Reichardt, Zach Scharlemann, Eric Stein, David Wendland

Basses: Cameron Ausen, Ryan Kluba, Andrew Kramer, Mike Marquardt, Seth Marquardt, Paul Mleziva, Levi Nagel, Matthew Schmidt, Jason Snodie, Evan Witz