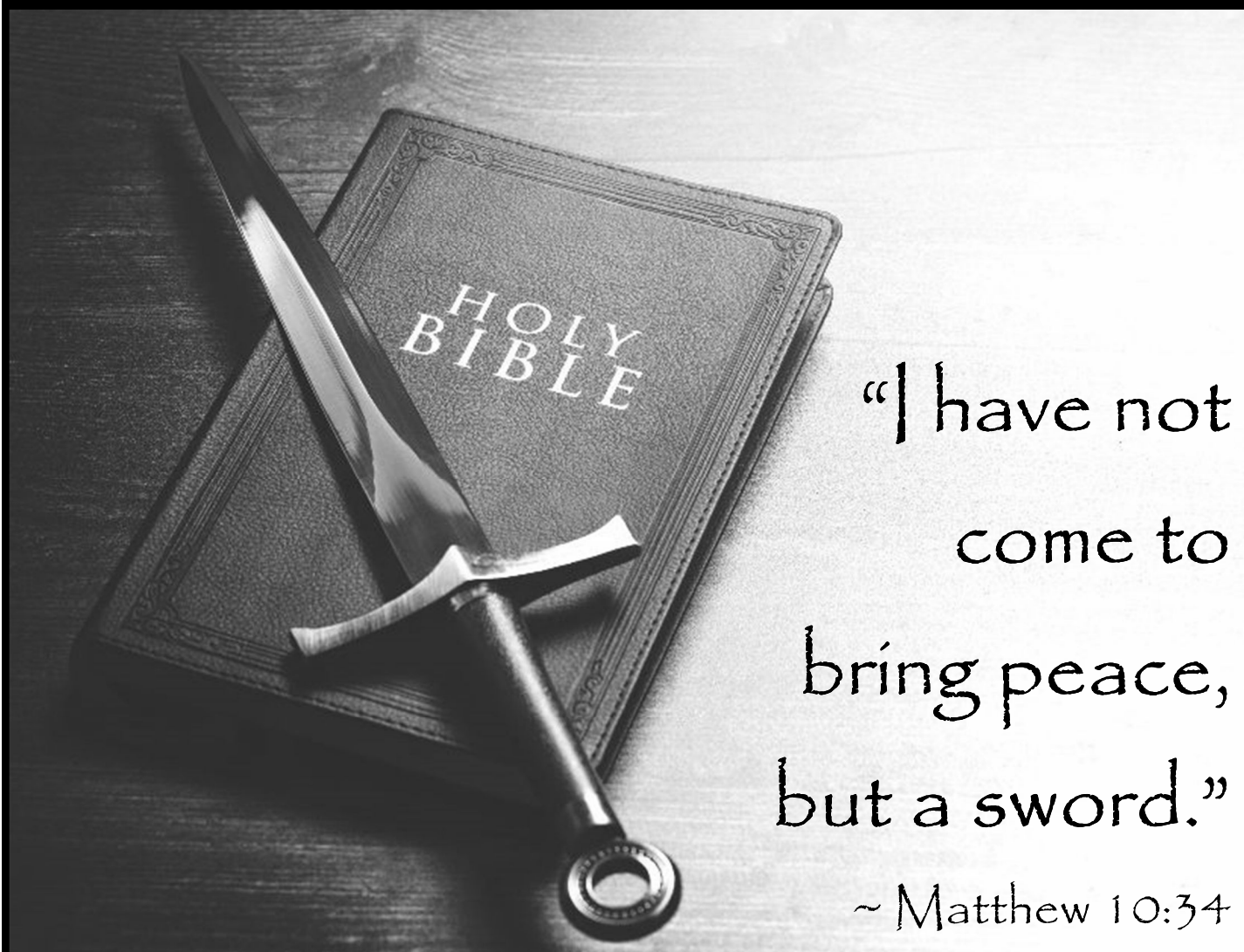


St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



"I have not
come to
bring peace,
but a sword."
~ Matthew 10:34

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 1/2, 2023

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
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354-6744
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Pastor Rob Guenther
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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 we ought to "fear, love, and trust in [you] above all things." But too often we love our family, our friends, our sinful pleasures, ultimately ourselves more than we love you. Forgive us for Jesus' sake. Because he was separated from you to separate us from our sin, help us to separate from anyone or anything that might ever separate us from you. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship The Service: Setting Three* page 188

OPENING HYMN

Fight the Good Fight

CW876

CONFESSION

p. 188

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 32:15–29

¹⁵Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. ¹⁶The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

¹⁷When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, "There is the sound of war in the camp."

¹⁸Moses replied: "It is not the sound of victory, it is not the sound of defeat; it is the sound of singing that I hear."

¹⁹When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰And he took the calf the people had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.

²¹He said to Aaron, "What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?"

²²"Do not be angry, my lord," Aaron answered. "You know how prone these people are to evil. ²³They said to me, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him.' ²⁴So I told them, 'Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.' Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!"

²⁵Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. ²⁶So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the LORD, come to me." And all the Levites rallied to him.

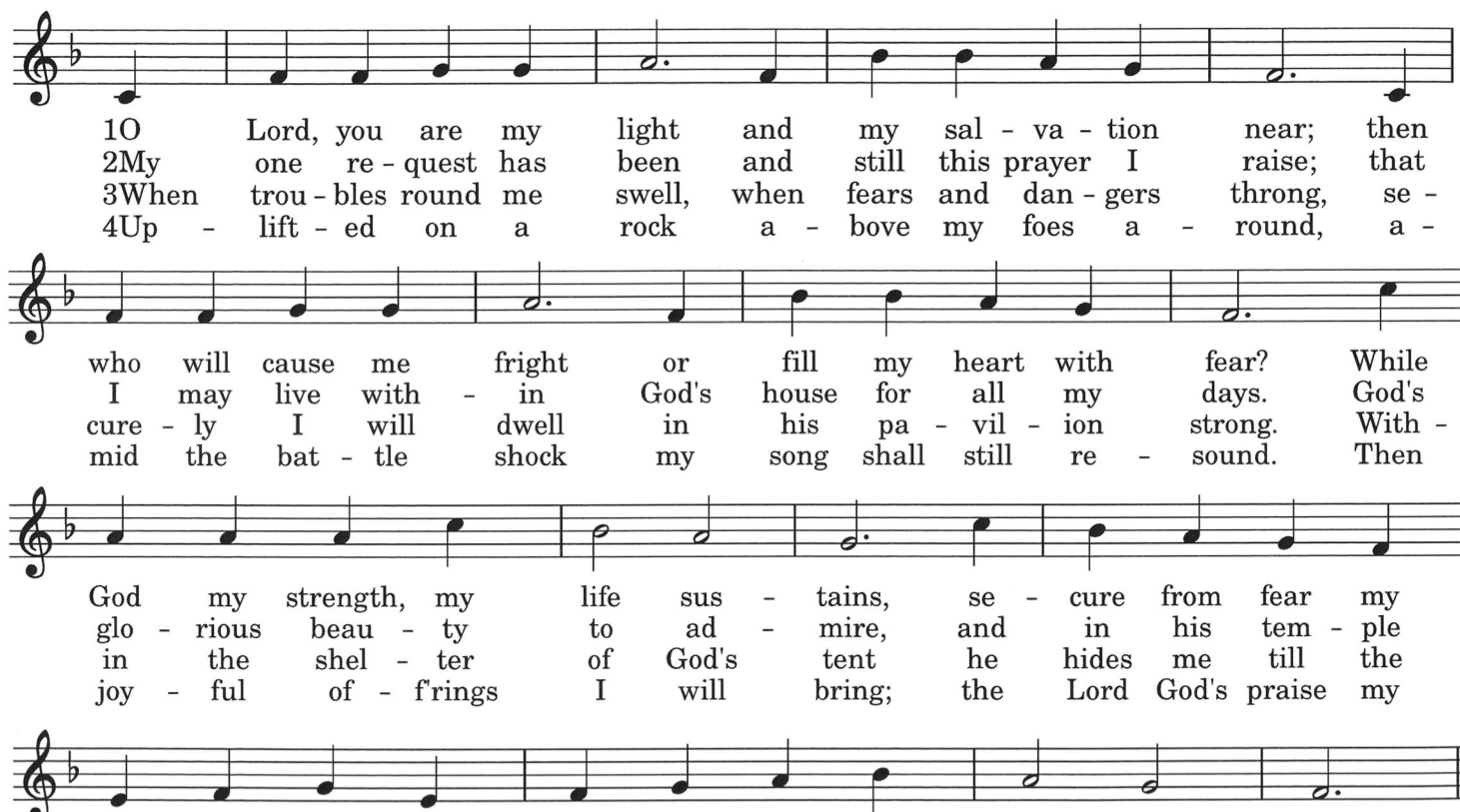
²⁷Then he said to them, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.' " ²⁸The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. ²⁹Then Moses said, "You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 27B



1O Lord, you are my light and my sal - va - tion near; then
 2My one re - quest has been and still this prayer I raise; that
 3When trou - bles round me swell, when fears and dan - gers throng, se -
 4Up - lift - ed on a rock a - bove my foes a - round, a -
 who will cause me fright or fill my heart with fear? While
 I may live with - in God's house for all my days. God's
 cure - ly I will dwell in his pa - vil - ion strong. With -
 mid the bat - tle shock my song shall still re - sound. Then
 God my strength, my life sus - tains, se - cure from fear my
 glo - rious beau - ty to ad - mire, and in his tem - ple
 in the shel - ter of God's tent he hides me till the
 joy - ful of - f'ings I will bring; the Lord God's praise my
 soul re - mains, se - cure from fear my soul re - mains.
 to in - quire, and in his tem - ple to in - quire.
 storm is spent, he hides me till the storm is spent.
 heart shall sing, the Lord God's praise my heart shall sing.

SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

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!

Whoever wants to be my disciple must de - ny them - selves

and take up their cross and fol - low me. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34–42

³⁴“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to turn ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— ³⁶a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

³⁷“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. ⁴²And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

CW702

SERMON

Matthew 10:34-42

Divide and Conquer

I. Separated from Sin by Jesus, who was Separated from God

II. Separate from Any Who Would Separate You from Him

NICENE CREED

p. 196

OFFERING / COMMUNION

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

What Is This Bread

CW 665

PRAYERS (*Contemporary*) **and BLESSING**

p. 203

† † †

PREACHER

PRESIDING MINISTER

ORGAN

Pastor Rob Guenther

Pastor Jeff Bovee

Becky Berg

Welcome, Visitors!

Please scan the QR code to
sign our Guest Register.



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles
Tue		Church office closed
Fri	9 am	Summer Fellowship at Nehl's Park
	4:30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sat	2:30 pm	Uher/Thomford Wedding
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 9	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles
	6:45 pm	Softball Game at Harman Park
Jul 10	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Jul 11	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Jul 14	9 am	Summer Fellowship at South Park
Jul 15	9:45 am	Pool Party at Sleepy Eye Aquatic Center
	6:30 pm	Worship
Jul 16	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles
	8 pm	Softball Game at Harman Park
Jul 17	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Jul 18	7 pm	Council Meeting
Jul 21	9 am	Summer Fellowship at German Park
Jul 22	6:30 pm	Worship
Jul 23	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles
	6:45 pm	Softball Game at Harman Park
Jul 25	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Voters' Meeting
Jul 26	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Jul 28	9 am	Summer Fellowship at Hermann Heights Park
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
Jul 29	11 am	Basement Reserved
	6:30 pm	Worship

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 366.

Fruits of faith given:

\$8,395	Home Operations ~ \$19,371 <i>is our weekly need</i>	
\$814	MVL ~ \$1,278 <i>is our weekly need</i>	\$75 St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$979	Missions ~ \$1,818 <i>is our weekly need</i>	\$25 Christian Family Solutions
\$764	Building Fund	\$10 Kitchen Fund
\$10	MLC Ladies Auxiliary	

St. John's/St. Paul's Pool Party Fellowship Opportunity ~ On Saturday, July 15, all St. John's and St. Paul's members are invited to gather for a fellowship opportunity at the Sleepy Eye Aquatic Center from 9:45 - 11:45 am. Admission is FREE. If you would like to stay longer, you will need to leave the pool area at 11:45, and then pay to reenter when it opens up to the public at 12 pm. Between the splash pad and the larger pool there is a max capacity of 387 people. The concession stand will be open. We hope to see many of you there catching up with friends and making some new connections!

Summer Fellowship in the Park ~ The Friday morning women's Bible study group invites all parents and their children to join them during the summer months for Christian fellowship in the park. We meet at 9 am at the listed park for free play and a picnic lunch (optional). Feel free to bring a friend! If you have any questions, please contact Erika Grundmeier at (989) 529-8729.

Jul 7 Nehl's Park: 1100 Summit Ave.

Jul 14 South Park: 1800 S. State St.

Jul 21 German Park: 200 N. German St.

July 28 Hermann Heights Park: 14 Monument St.

75th Anniversary Choir ~ A special anniversary service choir is being assembled to sing for the anniversary services on August 6. Participating in this choir would involve two rehearsals: Wednesday, July 26 and Wednesday, August 2 beginning at 7 pm. The rehearsals will take place in the church balcony. There will also be a warm-up on Sunday, August 6 before the service. If you are interested in being part of this special choir, please contact Craig Hirschmann at chirschmann1@gmail.com by July 6. Please indicate the voice part you can sing: soprano, alto, tenor, or bass.

75th Anniversary Meal Update ~ The 75th Anniversary meal will be held on Sunday, August 6th at 12 pm in the MLC gymnasium. We will be having a picnic type of meal with salads and desserts. There will be a brief program to follow the meal. Registration and payment for the meal will be held each Saturday and Sunday in June before and after services in the new narthex. The deadline for registration is July 9th. The cost of the meal is \$12.50 for adults. Those 17 and younger are free. We will accept cash or check payments. Exact change is appreciated. Please contact Denise Karstens if you have any questions at 507-766-5899.

Offering Announcement ~ Visitors, there is no obligation or expectation that you should give to support our ministry at St. John's. This is our members' way of expressing their thanks to God and supporting the work that we do to share the Gospel in New Ulm and around the world. Members, you are invited to give your gifts of gratitude and thanks to God for all he's done for you in Christ by leaving your offerings in the drop box in the narthex. Or you can bring your offerings to the church during regular office hours: Mondays through Fridays, 8 am - 1 pm. You might also consider taking advantage of your bank's online bill pay service and have your offering automatically sent to the church on a one time or recurring basis.

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

Domestic Abuse Class ~ What is domestic abuse? What does the Bible say about it? And, what can you say to someone who is stuck in an abusive situation? Pastor Frank Italiano, who has had extensive experience dealing with domestic abuse will lead this class along with "Mary," one of his members who has escaped an abusive marriage of almost 20 years. The class is open to all. Because of the topic, it will include "mature" content. The class will meet via Zoom Wednesdays June 21 through July 26, 2023. It will be from 8 to 9:30 pm. Once you register, a secure zoom link will be emailed to the email address you provide.

Register at: <https://trinitycrete.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/149/responses/new>.

Job Openings ~ MVL is looking for a freshmen volleyball coach, if interested contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org.

Martin Luther College is accepting applications for part-time Assistant Coaches in football, basketball, and tennis. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover~ It might seem odd that the "Prince of Peace" would tell us that he came to bring a sword. But Jesus was just telling his disciples (and us) what to expect: There will be persecution for putting him first in our lives, and it might even come from our own families. But we ask God to help us put him first, even above father or mother, son or daughter, and to help us separate from anyone or anything that might separate us from him.