



“Son of man,
I have made
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watchman
for the
house of
Israel;
so hear the
word I
speak and
give them
warning
from me.”

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 5 / 6, 2026

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 5/6, 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, you have made us watchmen who warn of danger and promise blessings to those who heed your voice. Please give us the wisdom, courage, zeal, and joy faithfully to proclaim your message of both warning and comfort to every soul so that they may know there is refuge and salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Cause us also to listen to your Word as it is now proclaimed and respond with hymns of joy and praise to you. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE	<i>Service Setting 2</i>	pg. 172
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OPENING HYMN	<i>I Hear the Savior Calling</i>	CW 743
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Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS	pg. 172
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LORD HAVE MERCY	pg. 174
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GLORY TO GOD	pg. 176
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PRAYER OF THE DAY	pg. 178
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Be seated

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰“Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’”

The Word of the Lord.

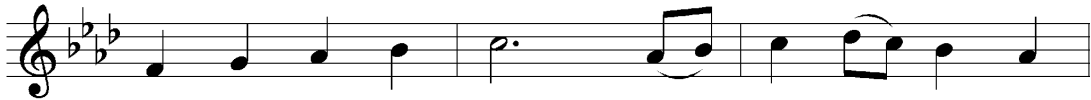
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY***How Blest Are Those***

Psalm 32B



1 How blest are those the LORD for - gives; how
2 I si - lent - ly con - cealed my guilt, but
3 I then con - fessed my sin to you, my
4 Let all the faith - ful pray to you while
5 You hide me, LORD; you hold me fast in



glad they are to hear their sin is gone, their
then I groaned all day: your heav - y hand, like
griev - ous guilt and shame, and you for - gave my
you may still be found; you place them safe a -
all ad - ver - si - ty, sur - round - ing me with



guilt a - toned, their rec - ord clean and clear.
sum - mer heat, took all my strength a - way.
wick - ed - ness by your most gra - cious name.
bove the flood, se - cure on high - er ground.
faith - ful love and songs of vic - to - ry.

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 2:11–16

¹¹ When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³ The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴ When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?”

¹⁵ “We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles ¹⁶ know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Timothy 2:4



Refrain



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

Tone



God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

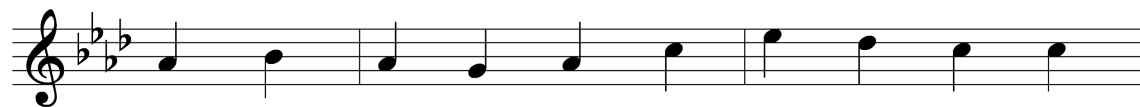
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY *With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh* CW 982



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, a trem - bling
2 I bow my head by sin dis - tressed, with deep and
3 Far off I stand with tear - ful eyes nor dare up -
4 No gifts, no deeds that I have done can for a
5 And when, re - deemed from sin and hell, with all the



sin - ner, Lord, I cry. Your par - d'ning grace is
pain - ful guilt op - pressed, the cross of Christ my
lift them to the skies, but you can all my
sin - gle sin a - tone. To Cal - va - ry a -
ran - somed souls I dwell, my joy - ous song shall



rich and free— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
on - ly plea— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
an - guish see— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
lone I flee— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
ev - er be: God has been mer - ci - ful to me!

SERMON Listen to the Message of God's Watchman Ezekiel 33:7-11

Stand

NICENE CREED pg. 180

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH pg. 182

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT pg. 183

Stand

LORD'S PRAYER pg. 185

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Salvation unto Us Has Come* CW 558

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING pg. 187

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

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship No Bible Class
Monday (Labor Day)		Office Closed
Tuesday	6 pm	Sunday School Meeting
	6:30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Wednesday	6 pm	Handbells
	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class ~ Isms
	7 pm	Bible Class ~ Bible Instruction Class bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline
Saturday	5 pm	Summer Send-Off @ St. Paul's School
	6:30 pm	Worship

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Sep. 13	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class ~ Ruth bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Tuesday, Sep. 15	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, Sep. 16	6 pm	Handbells
	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Sep. 17	10 am	Bible Class ~ Isms
	7 pm	Ask the Pastors
Saturday, Sep. 19	8 am	Board of Properties Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 552.

Fruits of Faith:

\$22,744 Home Operations ~ YTD: \$604,691 / Needed: \$603,029

\$1,163 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$59,633 (2026 Goal: \$100,701)

\$924 MVL ~ YTD: \$39,005 (2026 Goal: \$62,278)

\$645 Building Fund

\$25 St. Paul's School Building Fund

\$35 K-12 Tuition Assistance Fund

\$150 Food and Fellowship

\$100 St. Paul's School

\$70 LWMS

\$25 Iris Box Project

\$200 Technology Fund

\$62 Miscellaneous Receipts



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

Join the Handbell Choir! ~ The handbell choir consists of 11 ringers, all dedicated to bringing music to enhance worship. The group includes St. John's members and MLC students. It would really be nice if we had more St. John's members step up to be part of the choir. The Choir plays for worship 3+ times each semester (when MLC students are present). There are times when members cannot play for whatever reason, so we are looking for more people to join the group- even if it is on a substitute basis. Ringing involves mostly being able to count rhythms. It is not necessary to be able to read music, since each note to be played is highlighted. We are all patient when someone new joins the group, because most members have never played before. Give it a try! The group rehearses on Wednesdays at 6:00. During Lent and Advent, the group decides which night is better for rehearsal (Tues. or Thurs.). This fall we will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 9. If you're interested/have questions, contact Becky Berg 989-280-7674 or rberg@mvlhs.org.

Join us for Summer Send-off ~ on Sept 12th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm! John & 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 Herman Fest fireworks! See you there 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! Don't have the time but still want to help? There is also a donation form on the website to sign up to donate food and drinks for the meal. Questions? Contact Laura Martens at lmartens@splnewulm.org

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

Free Choral Concert ~ Canticum Novum is extending its 20th-anniversary celebration with a special weekend of music and ministry in New Ulm, Minnesota, and you are invited to join us! After celebrating its 20th season with performances throughout southeastern Wisconsin in June, the choir will continue its anniversary celebration with a special concert at Martin Luther College's Chapel of the Christ. The concert will take place Saturday, September 12, at 6:30 PM at the Chapel of the Christ on the campus of Martin Luther College. We are also excited to welcome members of the Martin Luther College Choir and the Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School Choraliers for special musical selections during the concert. On Sunday, September 13, Canticum Novum will sing selections from its anniversary program as part of worship at St. John's Lutheran Church in New Ulm at 8:00 AM and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Ulm at 11:00 AM. Visit our website (canticumnovumwels.org), our Facebook page (facebook.com/CanticumNovumWELS), or our Instagram (@canticumnovumwels) for more information.

.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 ~ God made Ezekiel the Watchman of Israel. His duty was to warn them of danger by proclaiming God's Word in its truth and purity, whether they would listen or not. But God made it clear that this was his duty, not an option. God also calls us as Christians to be watchmen. By teaching God's Word we warn those to whom we speak that God's judgment is against those who go against his will and fail to trust in him as their Savior. However, we also have the privilege of telling them that God has saved us from our enemies: sin, death, and the devil. We plead with all who are willing to hear and obey so that they may be saved. When they do listen there is great joy, even among the angels of heaven.