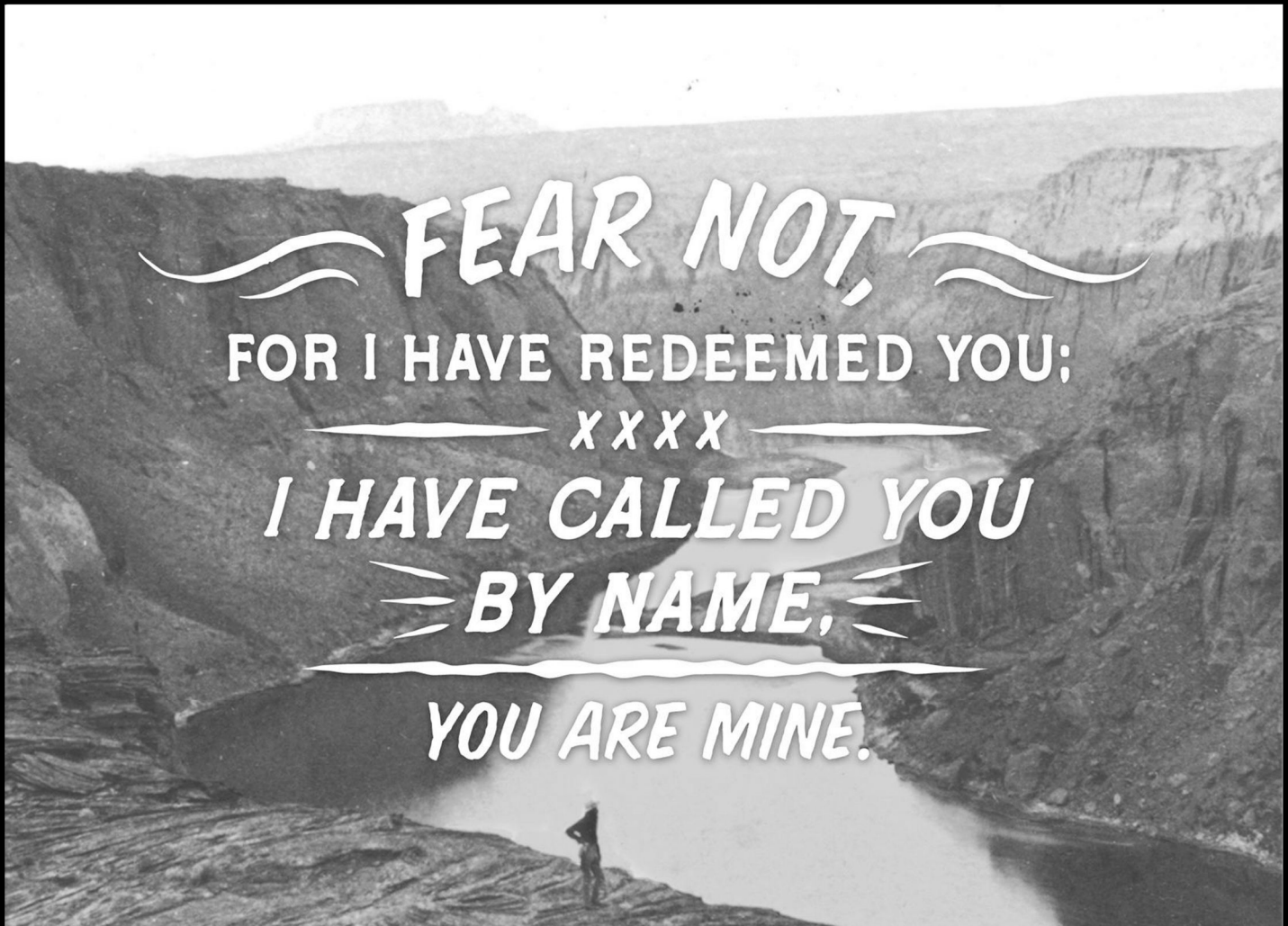


St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



FEAR NOT,
FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU;
XXXX
I HAVE CALLED YOU
BY NAME,
YOU ARE MINE.

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 16/17, 2024

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
revbovee@gmail.com
507-217-6364

www.stjohnsnewulm.com
office@stjohnsnewulm.com
 facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
354-6744
 **YouTube** bit.ly/SJyoutube

Pastor Rob Guenther
pastorguenther@gmail.com
507-240-2433

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 thank and praise you that you care so much about us that you were willing to send your Son to die to pay for our sins. For all of the times that our eyes have wandered and for all the times that we've lost sight of your grace, Jesus set his eyes on the cross and walked the difficult path to Calvary for us. Now, help us to live for you in thanks for the way Jesus lived, died, and rose for us. Amen.

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

OPENING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

CW800

CONFESSION

p. 188

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:1–7

¹But now, this is what the LORD says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. ⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. ⁶I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY

I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountain

CW121

SECOND LESSON

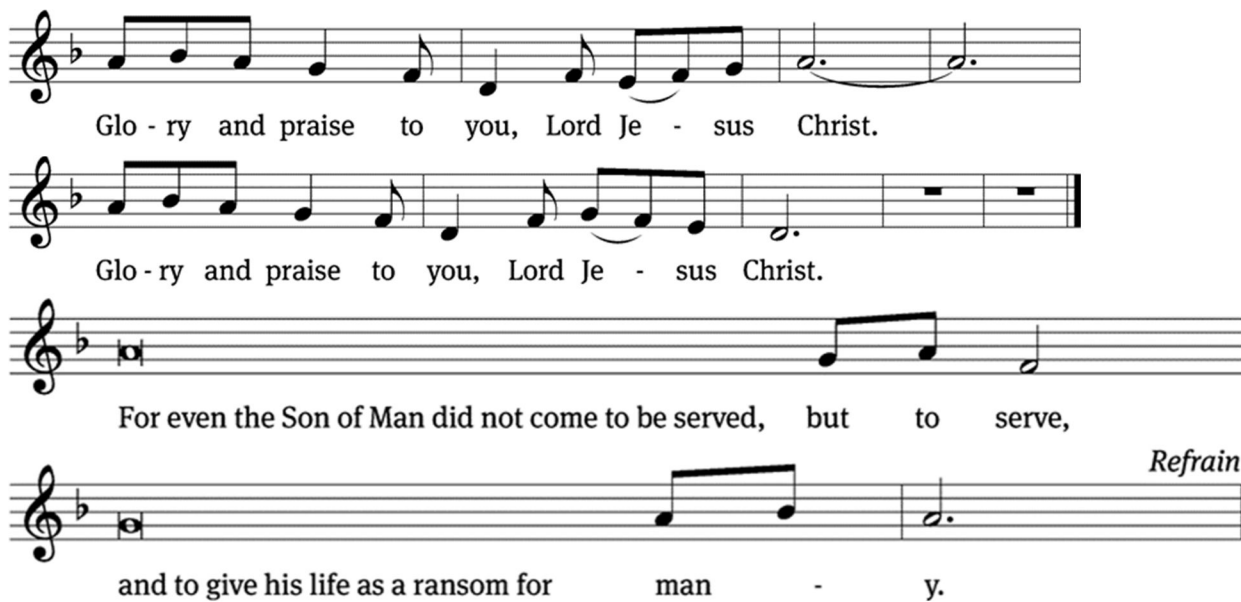
Hebrews 5:7–9

⁷During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,

and to give his life as a ransom for man - y. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

John 12:20–33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

CW571

SERMON

Isaiah 43:1-7

He Only Has Eyes for You!

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 *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared* **CW 667**

PRAYERS and BLESSING

p. 203

† † †

PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGAN

Pastor Rob Guenther
Pastor Jeff Bovee
Craig Hirschmann

Welcome, Visitors!

Please scan the QR code to
sign our Guest Register.



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
	3 pm	MLC Choir Concert
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wed	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Services
	4:45 pm	Fellowship Meal
	5:30 pm	Handbells
	7:15 pm	Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
Fri	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	11 am	Highland Regency Service
Sat	8:30 am	Easter for Kids
	12 pm	Easter Canvas at St. Paul's Church
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Midweek Lent Services: 11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm

Saturday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 24	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
Mar 26	7 pm	MVL Concert
Mar 27	7 pm	Choir
Mar 28	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Services
Mar 29	12 pm	Tre Ore Service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church
	7 pm	Tenebrae Service
Mar 30		NO Saturday service
Mar 31	7 & 9:30 am	Worship
	8 am	Easter Breakfast
	10:30 am	Basement Reserved
Apr 1		Church office closed
Apr 2	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Apr 3	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
	7 pm	Choir
Apr 4	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: The Hard Sayings of Jesus
Apr 5	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 340.

Fruits of faith given:

\$16,586	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$176,261 / Received to Date: \$200,824</i>	
\$912	MVL ~ <i>Received to Date: \$11,672</i>	\$60 St. Paul's School
\$1,577	Missions ~ <i>Received to Date: \$15,554</i>	\$60 Martin Luther College
\$557	Building Fund	\$50 Memorials
\$407	Food & Fellowship	\$25 St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$300	K-12 Education Assistance	\$10 Sanctuary Renovation

Easter Flowers ~ Find the insert with the Easter flowers order form in your bulletin. You can find extra order forms in the narthex if you received a bulletin without an insert.

Easter Breakfast Sign-Up ~ Easter breakfast is just a few weeks away! You can find the signup sheets for that meal in the narthex. Many hands make light work! Email questions to Carrie Schaefer at carriehieb@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION YOUTH! Mission Trip & Youth Rally ~ If you are 8th grade and older and are interested in participating in a Mission Trip or the WELS Youth Rally this summer, please scan the QR code. Contact St. Paul's Staff Minister, Kris Kuschel, with any questions at kkuschel@splnewulm.org.



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

New Ulm Food Drive ~ The collection boxes for the New Ulm Emergency Food Drive are in the narthex. Any food or donations (donation checks made out to New Ulm Food Shelf) need to be in by Sunday, March 24. Thanks for sharing with our community. Contact Carla Melendy at melendce@mlc-wels.edu or Deb Beatty at 5beatty@newulmtel.net with questions.

Sanctuary Screens ~ Volunteers are needed to advance the slides during services. Talk to Jim Dretske if you have questions. To sign up use the link bit.ly/SJSlideAdvance or scan the QR code. Thank you!



2024 Pictorial Directory ~ The Pew Copies of the 2024 Pictorial Directory are now in the pews. The old copies were well worn and used often--Awesome! Please use the Pew Copies to get to know each other by name. If members would like either a small (8x5) or a large (8x11) copy of the 2024 pictorial directory, please fill out the Directory Request Card, found in either narthex, include your printed name, check size desired, and place card in the J/C Dretske Mailbox or in the church office. For a great option, get an electronic version that is always up-to-date. Go to <http://instantchurchdirectory.com> to download the phone app: Instant Church Directory. It is easy to use, just follow online directions.

NEW Bible Class Offered ~ Join us in person or online at bit.ly/SJBibleClass Fridays at 7 am. The *Early Bird Bible Class* will include a light breakfast and the Word. There will be a freewill offering to help offset the cost of food.

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

Holy Week Devotions from MLC ~ Digital formats of *The Savior We Need* devotions are being offered beginning March 22. An online flipbook will also be available. Subscribe to the daily devotions at mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/.

MLC Choir Homecoming Concert ~ Once again we have the opportunity to hear more about the music included in this year's MLC College Choir Homecoming Concert from a composer whose music is featured in the program. Minnesota native Eric Barnum will be giving a pre-concert talk in the Chapel basement from 2:15 - 2:45 to discuss his featured piece, "Mitzvah," as well as his other choral works. Please stop by early to take in this special presentation. The concert begins at 3 pm on Sunday, March 17 in the chapel.

Southwest MN Area Lutheran Chorale Concerts ~ The Southwest Area Lutheran Chorale is made up of WELS and ELS singers from our congregations and many others in the area. They invite you to attend their spring concerts to be held on Sunday, March 17th at 2 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wood Lake at 7 pm at Grace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson. This year our theme will be "How Great Is Our God," and our program will include songs, hymns and anthems from Thanksgiving through End Times. Offerings gathered at our concerts will be used to support the school building project at Immanuel Grace Lutheran School in rural Hutchinson. Refreshments will follow each concert. Please join us!

Jesus Cares Easter Celebration ~ will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, March 23, at 10 am. Everyone is welcome to this special Worship at the Cross service for our members and friends with special needs. Join us for snacks in the Fellowship Hall afterward, too!

Easter Canvas ~ Join John and Paul Ministries for an Easter canvas in our community on Saturday, March 23! Meet us in the St Paul's Church Fellowship Hall for a complimentary pizza lunch at 12:30 pm, then head out into the community at 1:30 pm to hand out invitations to our Easter services. Go to johnandpaulministries.com to register. Questions? Contact Beth Scharf (event coordinator) at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu. See you then!

Lent Vespers at MLC ~ You are cordially invited to a Lent Vespers service at Martin Luther College in the Chapel of the Christ Sunday, March 24 (Palm Sunday), at 7:30 pm. The choirs of MLC will present "The Suffering Servant," a piece based on Isaiah 53, written for Holy Week by K. Lee Scott, as well as choral selections from Bach's *St. John Passion*. We hope to see you there!

Annual Carnival in Nicollet ~ Come one and all to the Trinity Lutheran School Annual Carnival to be held on Saturday, April 13th from 11 am - 3 pm. Games, Silent Auction and a Pie Auction will be held during this time. We hope to see you there!

"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.

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat ~ We invite all singles (widowed, divorced, or never married) to join us at the 2024 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat for a weekend of fellowship and fun! The retreat will be April 26-28, 2024 at Camp Shiloh in Pittsburg, TX. Our theme is "Living In Our Season." The price is \$150. You can register at wels-els-singles.com/2024-texas-retreat. Any questions can be sent to texasingleswels@gmail.com.

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

Staff Minister Jim Dretske	sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com
Staff Minister Intern, Ben Haferman	hafermbw@mlc-wels.edu
Teacher Christine Baganz	cbaganz@splnewulm.org
Teacher Laura Balza	lbalza@splnewulm.org
Teacher Phil Sriver	psriver@splnewulm.org
Teacher Emily Stoering	estoering@splnewulm.org
St. John's Church Office	office@stjohnsnewulm.com

About the Cover ~ God says that we are his. He promises that nothing can separate us from his love! What grace! What love! Since we belong to him, we will live for him too.