

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota

“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.”
Mark 6:34 NIV



First Sunday After Epiphany January 10/11, 2026

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Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 10/11, 2026

Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our guest register.



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Dear Savior, bless us as we gather to hear your Word. Thank you for rescuing us from sin, death, and the devil. Help us to remember that your life, death, and resurrection was for all people. Forgive us for our sins of shutting our ears and harboring our own sinful opinions. Strengthen us and comfort us in knowing that our sins are forgiven. Equip and enable us to reach those on the “campuses” that we encounter with your Word. In your name, we pray. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE	<i>Service Setting 3</i>	pg. 188
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OPENING HYMN	<i>Hail to the Lord's Anointed</i>	CW 384
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Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS		pg. 189
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LORD HAVE MERCY		pg. 190
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GLORY TO GOD		pg. 191
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PRAYER OF THE DAY		pg. 193
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Be seated

ANTHEM 8am

Rejoice in the Lord Always

arr. Dale A. Witte

*Do not be anxious or complain, the Lord is on your side,
Call out to him, revere his name, for you our Savior died.
The peace of God will be your own, his Word will be your guide.
Protection for your heart and mind in Christ the Lord abide.*

Refrain:

*Rejoice in the Lord always, rejoice in the Lord always.
Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!*

*To be content in ev'rything, whate'er the time or place,
Is given by the Lord above, a gift of God's own grace.
In need or plenty, fed or not, God knows your ev'ry need.
God gives you strength to do all things - his Word your soul will feed.
Refrain*

*Whatever is true, whatever is right, whatever is noble or pure,
Whatever is lovely or adm'able: think about such things.
Refrain*

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FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-7

¹ “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. ² He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. ³ A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; ⁴ he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.” ⁵ This is what God the LORD says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: ⁶ “I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, ⁷ to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *Great Are the Works of the LORD* Psalm 45B

Refrain



Tone



My heart is stirred by a / noble theme
as I recite my verses / for the king.
You are the most excel- / lent of men
and your lips have been anoint- / ed with grace.
Gird your sword on your side, you / mighty one;
clothe yourself with splendor and / majesty. *Refrain*

Your throne, O God, will last for ever and / ever;
a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your / kingdom.
You love righteousness and hate / wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has set you above your com- / panions.
I will perpetuate your memory through all gener- / ations;
therefore the nations will praise you for ever and / ever.

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

Acts 10:34-38

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1:11



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tone



You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.

¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY *To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord* CW 377

SERMON Commission Course 201: Connecting Christ to... Acts 10:34-38

I. Connecting Christ to Cornelius

II. Connecting Christ to Campuses

Stand

APOSTLES’ CREED

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

pg. 198

OFFERING

HYMN

O Light of Gentile Nations

CW 497

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING

pg. 171

CLOSING HYMN

Abide, O Dearest Jesus

CW 924

PREACHER

Pastor Dan Lindner

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pastor Jeff Bovee

ORGANIST

Becky Berg

JR. CHOIR

Emily Stoering

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class – 2 Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Monday	11:30 am	OWLS – Tour Firmenich
	6 pm	Board of Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Board of Youth and Ed. Meeting
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism
	7 pm	NO Choir
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class – Simple Way to Pray
	7 pm	Bible Class – The Life of David

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Jan. 18 th	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 pm	Bible Class – 2 Thessalonians
	9:30 pm	Sunday School
Tuesday, Jan. 20 th	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 21 th	6:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Jan. 22 nd	10 am	Bible Class – Simple Way to Pray
	7 pm	Bible Class – The Life of David

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 394 with 288 receiving the Lord's Supper.

2025 Donor Offering Statements ~ were printed this past week. To save on printing and postage costs, the majority of statements were sent by email. If your statement did not reach you or if you would like a printed copy, please contact our bookkeeper at 507-217-7671. If your statement does not appear in the email inbox, please check your spam folder.

Cards of Caring ~ Members of St. John's are invited to help make cards we give to congregation members — homebound, elderly, and others. We use donated, recycled, and create our own cards. Cards to be made include Valentine, Warm Winter Wishes, Easter, Confirmation, and Birthday. Help is needed with writing messages, stamping, and assembling cards. Please join us at 403 N. Minnesota St. between 9:00am and noon on Saturday, January 17th, February 7th, and March 21st. Come and go as your schedule allows. Thank you for helping to serve our members. Contact: Lois Willems (507-676-1230).

Jim Drestke's Celebration of Ministry ~ Jim Drestke was born in Waukegan, Illinois. After graduation at DMLC (MLC) in 1989, he began his ministry at Trinity Lutheran in Hoskins, Nebraska, in 1990. He then taught at St. Paul's in Saginaw, MI from 1995-1998. He accepted a call in 1998 from St. John's Lutheran Church in New Ulm as the



Administrative Teacher for St. John's Church at St. Paul's School and has served as Staff Minister at St. John's since 2019. We will have a celebration of ministry service on January 25th at 11am. An open house reception with taco bar will follow from 12pm to 2pm. Please join us as we rejoice in God's gift to the Church through Jim's 36-year ministry!

Grand Piano on the Wish List ~ St. John's Worship Committee would like to replace the piano in the front of the church. The existing piano was not designed for a large space seating 350 people, but for a house or small music studio. The council has approved that a new 5-foot Yamaha grand piano (to be placed in the front of the sanctuary near the lectern) be added to the wish list. This piano would enrich our worship as it fills the church with sound. It's known for its stability of tuning and action and delivers a clear sound that would accompany the congregation and choirs well. The cost is approximately \$21,400 for the piano, delivery and installation, and all needed accessories. If you are interested in contributing to this worship enhancement, please note "Piano" on your offering envelope or electronic gift. To God be the glory!

Active Threat Training Available ~ St. John's is hosting active threat training provided by Protect His House. This training is being offered at no cost to all interested St John's and St. Paul's members. Training will cover situational awareness, action planning, and tactics to respond to threatening situations. The class will be held at St. John's LC, Saturday, January 24th from 9am - 12pm. Registration is required. Use promo code SJLCFREE at registration. Use the QR code on the posters found around church, or go to <https://phhtraining.com/event/phh-level-1-active-threat-awareness-seminar-new-ulm-minnesota/> to register.

Thank You! ~ Women of St John's would like to express our gratitude to everyone who generously donated toward the gift card collection for our non-traditional (second career) MLC students. We were able to give \$25 worth to each of these 19 students for Christmas.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors) will be meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church, New Ulm on Monday, January 12. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM with a Jimmy John's meal at noon, the cost covered by Thrivent Action Team moneys. Following a devotion, interested members will car pool to Firmenich for a tour and tasting session. If you have not signed up and plan to attend, contact Myron Fluegge at 507-359-2424 or flueggemtj@hotmail.com by Wednesday noon, January 7 for a meal and tour count. Hope you can make it.

St. Paul's Preschool Open House ~ Mon. Jan. 19, 2026 – 3PM – 6PM New preschoolers, please come and visit! (And SPP children moving to a new SPP classroom!) St. Paul's Preschool offers full day & part-time sessions for 3, 4 and 5 year old children. Watch for a preschool Information/Registration mailing in early January. St John's (NU & SE) & St. Paul's members and our school families are invited to have first choice of preschool sessions through Jan 19th . (Community "Open Registration" begins Jan. 20.) If you have questions, please contact our preschool director, Mrs. Heidi Meyer: preschool@splnewulm.org.

Amazing Race ~ The 2026 Amazing Race - the 10th running of the race - is right around the corner! This FUN raising event will benefit the School Building Project and is always one of the must-attend events of the year. It will take place on Sunday, February 1, with lunch for all starting at 11:30 and race time at 1pm. There will be events at school for everyone, even those who don't wish to race. If you would like to race, get your team together and prepare for a trip around town that you won't soon forget! You can register your team of 4-7 people here:

<https://buytickets.at/amazingrace2026/1926609>. Cost is \$15 per racer. Team registration is due Friday, January 23, with a deadline of January 15 to order your Amazing Race short sleeve or long sleeve t-shirt and winter caps at <https://bit.ly/amazingracets26>. We are already looking forward to the big day! The Amazing Race Committee.

WELS Group Outing to Les Mis in Minneapolis ~ Father's World Tours and the MLC Student Senate invite WELS/ELS members to join us on Tue, Feb 17, for an evening of professional theater as we venture to the Orpheum Theater in Minneapolis and experience Les Misérables, the world's most popular musical. Ticket cost is just \$85 and includes round trip motorcoach transportation from your choice of MLC in New Ulm; Trinity in Nicollet, or Arby's in St Peter. Limited spots are available. Visit <https://bit.ly/mlclesmis26>.

About the Cover ~ The photo on the cover is a scene from the waters approaching the mass population found around New York City. Whether it's New York or New Ulm, there are people in need of hearing the gospel. These are two distinct places, two very different cultures. The short passage from Mark summarizes the need and the solution all people of all cultures. In today's sermon two cultures cross and we see how the Gospel addresses both and begins to spread beyond Jerusalem and Judea.