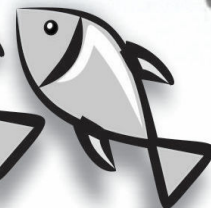
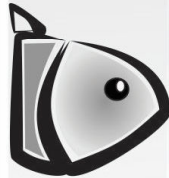
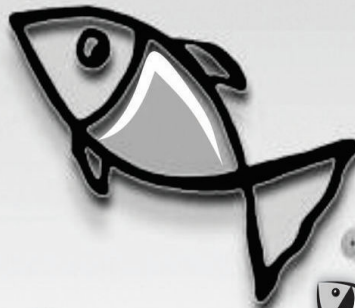
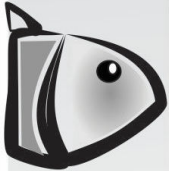




But as for me and my household,



we will serve the

LORD.

Joshua 24:15b

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost ~ August 24 / 25, 2024



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

YouTube:
bit.ly/SJyoutube

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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507-354-6744



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

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.

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, in this world where many voices call out to us and many paths are offered to us, guide us by your Word and wisdom so that we may know best how to follow you and know the path to take. Give us wisdom and zeal to lead others to follow your Word and will as well. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

OPENING HYMN

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening

CW631

CONFESSION

p. 189

FIRST LESSON

Joshua 24:1-2,14-18

¹Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

²Joshua said to all the people, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.

¹⁴“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY

Teach Me, O Lord

Psalm 119D



Oh, how I / love your law!

I meditate on it / all day long.

Your commands are always / with me

and make me wiser than my / enemies.

I have more insight than all my / teachers,

for I meditate on your / statutes. *Refrain*

I have kept my feet from every / evil path

so that I might o- / bey your word.

How sweet are your words / to my taste,

sweeter than honey / to my mouth!

I gain understanding from your / precepts;

therefore I hate every / wrong path.

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

Hebrews 11:24–28

²⁴By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 6:51–69

⁵¹“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

⁵²Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

⁵³Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

⁶⁰On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

⁶¹Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. ⁶⁴Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

⁶⁶From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷“You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

SERVE THE LORD

1. DO NOT FOLLOW THE WORLD

2. RELY ON GOD'S WORD AND PROMISES

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 197

OFFERING

HYMN

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

CW748

PRAYERS and BLESSING

p. 171

CLOSING HYMN

Our Father, by Whose Name

CW761

† † †

PREACHER

PRESIDING MINISTER

ORGAN

Pastor Jeff Bovee
Pastor Rob Guenther
Jon Roux

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
	2 pm	MVL Opening Service
Mon	10:15 am	MLC Opening Service
Tue	8:15 am	St. Paul's School Opening Service
Wed	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
Sat	12:30 pm	Youth Group Event
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 1	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
Sep 2		Labor Day: Church office closed
Sep 3	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Sep 4	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Sep 5	10 am	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
	7 pm	Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 6	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 7	5 pm	Summer Send-Off at St. Paul's School
	6:30 pm	Worship
Sep 8	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Psalms
	3 pm	Cancer Support Group Meeting
Sep 9	11:30 am	OWLS Meeting
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Sep 11	3:30 pm	Public Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Sep 12	10 am	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
	7 pm	Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 13	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Proverbs
Sep 14	9 am	Facilities Task Force Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 390 with 313 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$12,925	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$581,662 / Received to Date: \$558,098</i>		
\$647	MVL ~ <i>Received to Date: \$37,481</i>		
\$1,577	Missions ~ <i>Received to Date: \$57,138</i>	\$100	St. Paul's School
\$952	Building Fund	\$25	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$200	MLC Ladies' Auxiliary	\$25	Sanctuary Renovation
\$100	LWMS	\$10	K-12 Education Assistance

Altar Flowers ~ have been given in honor of a veteran of our congregation, Harold Lange, who is celebrating his 90th birthday.

Join the Handbell Choir ~ for a fun and unique fellowship opportunity. You don't need to be able to read music. The notes are color-coded for all levels of experience. Any interested MLC bell ringers can play and earn IFE hours (category A). Come join the fun. For more information, contact Becky Berg at rberg@mvlhs.org or text 989-280-7674.



Babysitters Needed ~ to help watch children from ages 1 – 5 on Friday mornings beginning Friday, September 6th. The session is from 9:30 – 11 am. The rate is \$15 per session. Please contact the church office at office@stjohnsnewulm.com. Thank you!

Women of St. John's ~ Pastor Joel Gaertner, Director for WELS Special Ministries will be our guest speaker about Freedom for the Captives (www.freedomforcaptives.com). Freedom for the Captives is dedicated to equipping the Body of Christ to protect children and empower abuse survivors. We will meet in the church basement at 7 pm on Tuesday, September 3. Everyone is welcome to join us for the presentation. The ladies will have a brief business meeting following the presentation.

Cancer Journey Group ~ St. John's Cancer Journey Group will meet on Sunday, September 8 at 3 pm in the lower-level fellowship area. Anyone whose life has been touched by cancer is encouraged to attend, whether they themselves have had a cancer diagnosis at any time in their life, are an adult family member of someone who has had a cancer diagnosis, or are supportive friends. If you know of someone who is not a St. John's member but might be interested in attending, invite and come with them! Our purpose is to receive encouragement from God's Word and each other. Snacks will be provided. Retired Christian counselor Dan Loe will lead a short discussion about organizing personal information and preferences for others to use when we are not able to speak for ourselves.

Cards of Caring ~ is a group that gathers six Saturdays a year to make cards to remember our homebound and thinking-of-you members, our Befriend a Mission LWMS families, and others, as needed. This year we will meet on September 14, October 12 and November 9 from about 9 am until noon at 403 N. Minnesota St. We are looking for more volunteers to assist and make cards using recycled cards and stamp sets plus other prep work. No talents are needed and all materials are provided. We also welcome MLC students. Come as your schedule allows. A time for fellowship and service to the Lord. Contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230 with questions.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Opening Service ~ On August 25th at 2 pm Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School will have its Opening Service for the 2024-2025 school year. This Opening Service will include:

1. The dedication of our new fieldhouse and science classrooms
2. The installation of our new teachers, Elijah Dorn and Noah Ungemach
3. The 40th teaching anniversary of Rollin Timm

Come join us for a day of celebration and fellowship. Explore our new facilities, enjoy refreshments, meet our new teachers, and thank Mr. Timm for his faithful service.

Summer Send-Off at St. Paul's School ~ Join us for Summer Send-off on Saturday, September 7 from 5 - 7 pm! John and 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 HermannFest fireworks! See you then 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! Questions? Contact Beth Scharf at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu.

Help Needed ~ Help is needed on Tuesday, September 10 and Thursday, September 12, from 1:30 - 3 pm to prepare our 60 baptism blankets by cutting fringes for an upcoming St. Paul's Lutheran School crew event. Meet in the St. Paul's School cafeteria. Contact Sue Schone at sschone@splnewulm.org with questions.

You Know a Combat Veteran ~ You know a combat veteran in your family or even a member here that has been impacted by their deployments. They may wrestle with what they did or saw and feel like no one else understands. They may doubt the forgiveness and peace God offers them. They are invited to join fellow WELS and ELS veterans for a weekend spent learning that God is invested in their spiritual and mental health. LMSG is hosting their annual spiritual retreat November 14-17, at Camp Shiloh, Texas entitled Building Bridges, A Spiritual Retreat for Battle Buddies. Attendees are encouraged to come with their "battle buddy" - a trusted friend, spouse, or caregiver, but may come on their own and meet a future battle buddy there. Registration ends October 1st. Assistance with travel is available. Retreat details and registration information can be found at www.lutheranmilitary.org. Invite the person you know today.

Job Openings ~ *MVL* is looking for a head softball coach for the 2025 softball season. For more information contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org.

There are several job openings at *Martin Luther College*. For the complete list of openings and to apply go to mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

About the Cover ~ It is easy to get caught up in the crowd, like a school of fish that all head in the same direction. If everybody else is doing it, it must be okay. However, the Bible warns us that following the path of popularity is not necessarily good. In fact, when the rest of the crowd is taking us in the opposite direction God wants us to go it is very bad. We will always want to follow the Word of God and teach others to do so, even as Joshua did.