

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota

FAITH
TO
FORGIVE



Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 4/5, 2025

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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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4/5, 2025

To prepare for the Lord's Supper, the questions for examination are on pg. 295 in the front of the hymnal.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Father, help us. We know that we deserve nothing but hell for our sins against you and against our fellow man. But you forgive us fully and freely for Christ's sake who went to the cross to pay for that sin and set us free. Now help us to forgive as we've been forgiven. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Service Setting 3

pg. 188

ANTHEM *11 am*

My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

CW 818

*My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation;
a fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness, I'll look to him who hears me. (Refrain)*

*Refrain O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.*

*Find rest, my soul, in God alone amid the world's temptations;
when evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go, don't set your heart upon them;
the fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven. (Refrain)*

*I'll set my gaze on God alone and trust in him completely;
with ev'ry day pour out my soul, and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, a sigh too brief to measure,
my king has crushed the curse of death and I am his forever. (Refrain)*

OPENING HYMN *I Know My Faith Is Founded* CW 797

Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS pg. 188

LORD HAVE MERCY pg. 190

GLORY TO GOD pg. 191

PRAYER OF THE DAY pg. 193

Be seated

ANTHEM 6:30pm *Not Unto Us* arr. David M. Cherwien

Choir:

*Not unto us, not unto us be glory, Lord;
not unto us but to your name be praise;
not unto us but to your name all honor be giv'n
for matchless mercy, forgiveness, and grace.*

*Amazing grace—that chose us ere the worlds were made;
amazing grace—that sent your Son to save;
amazing grace—that robed us in your righteousness
and taught our lips to sing glory and praise.*

*O faithful love—that shepherded through faithless years;
forgiving love—that led us to your truth;
unyielding love—that would not let us turn from you
but sent us forth to speak pardon and peace.*

Congregation:



4 Not un - to us but to your name be glo - ry, Lord,
for grace so rich, so wide, so high, so free.
A - bide with us till trav - 'ling days are o - ver and done,
and pil - grim feet lead us home, Lord, to you.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a 4-measure rest, indicating the start of the verse. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the fourth staff.

FIRST LESSON

1 Chronicles 29:1-2,10-18

¹ Then King David said to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. ² With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities.”

¹⁰ David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, “Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹ Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

¹² Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In

your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

¹³ Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴ “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. ¹⁵ We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. ¹⁶ LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. ¹⁷ I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. ¹⁸ LORD, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone*

Psalm 62C

8 & 9:30am



1 My soul finds rest in God a-lone, my rock and my sal -
 2 Find rest, my soul, in God a-lone a - mid the world's temp -
 3 I'll set my gaze on God a-lone and trust in him com -



va - tion; a for - tress strong a - gainst my foes, and
 ta - tions; when e - vil seeks to take a hold I'll
 plete - ly; with ev - 'ry day pour out my soul and



I will not be shak - en. Though lips may bless and
 cling to my sal - va - tion. Though rich - es come and
 he will prove his mer - cy. Though life is but a



hearts may curse, and lies like ar - rows pierce me, I'll
 rich - es go, don't set your heart up - on them; the
 fleet - ing breath, a sigh too brief to mea - sure, my



fix my heart on right-eous-ness, I'll look to him who hears me.
 fields of hope in which I sow are har-vest-ed in heav - en.
 King has crushed the curse of death and I am his for - ev - er.

Refrain



O praise him, hal-le - lu - jah, my de-light and my re - ward;



ev - er - last - ing, nev - er fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone* arr. Lynn L. Petersen

6:30 pm

Choir:

*My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation;
a fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness, I'll look to him who hears me.*

*O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.*

Congregation:

Refrain



Choir:

*Find rest, my soul, in God alone amid the world's temptations;
when evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go, don't set your heart upon them;
the fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven.*

*O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.*

Congregation: Refrain

Choir:

*I'll set my gaze on God alone and trust in him completely;
with ev'ry day pour out my soul, and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, a sigh too brief to measure,
my king has crushed the curse of death and I am his forever.*

Congregation: Refrain (sung twice)

SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12

¹ Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

² Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. ⁴ Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

¹¹ With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. ¹² We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

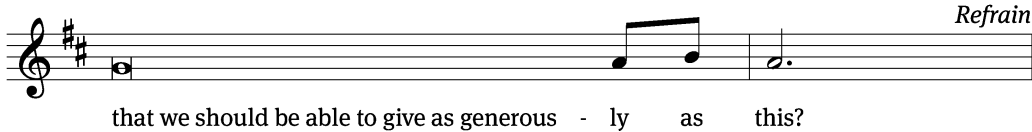
1 Chronicles 29:14



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

GOSPEL

Luke 17:1-10

¹ Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. ² It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. ³ So watch yourselves.

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. ⁴ Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

⁶ He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

⁷ “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along

now and sit down to eat'? ⁸ Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* CW 733

SERMON Your Duty to Forgive Luke 17:1-10

- I. A Burden that Requires Faith
- II. A Burden that Faith Gladly Bears

Stand

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

pg. 198

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pg. 199

Please see announcements for our communion practice.

Stand

LORD'S PRAYER

pg. 201

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Salvation unto Us Has Come

CW 558

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING

pg. 203

PREACHER

Pastor Rob Guenther

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pastor Jeff Bovee

ORGANIST

Craig Hirschmann

SR. CHOIR

Adrian Smith

1-4 GRADE

Christine Baganz

VIOLINIST

Sebastian Smith

SR. CHOIR ACCOMPANIST

Becky Berg

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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

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



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class and Sunday School https://bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline
Monday	6:30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Tuesday	7 pm	Women of St. John's
Wednesday	6 pm	Handbells
	6:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday	10 am	Adult Bible Class
	11:30 am	Stewardship @ MLC
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class https://bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline
Saturday, Oct 11	8 am	Properties Board Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship
Sunday, Oct 12	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class and Sunday School
Monday, Oct 13	6 pm	Board of Evangelism
	7 pm	Board of Youth and Ed.

Tuesday, Oct 14	6 pm	Sunday School Meeting
Wednesday, Oct 15	6 pm	Handbells
	6:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Oct 16	10 am	Adult Bible Class
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for this past weekend was 617.

Fruits of Faith:

\$10,435 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$658,522/ YTD: \$621,495
 \$1,250 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$73,846 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)
 \$1,370 MVL ~ YTD: \$45,946 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)
 \$330 Building Fund
 \$85 St. Paul's School Building Fund
 \$10 Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund
 \$22 Food and Fellowship
 \$50 Ministerial Education Endowment Fund

Close Communion ~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.

St. John's Job Opening ~ Due to an upcoming retirement, St. John's is seeking applicants to fill the position of bookkeeper. This is a part-time position (10-15 hrs/week) that will begin on January 5, 2026. We are looking for a person who has previous experience in accounting or bookkeeping. If you know of someone who may be interested, please pick up a job description from the church office.

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) ~ Join us on Saturday, October 4th at St John's in Redwood Falls for the MN Valley Circuit's Fall Rally. Our guest speaker is Pastor Abram Degner about the mission work being done in Latin America and beyond through Academia Cristo. There is a sign up sheet in the new narthex if you need or are able to provide a ride to the rally.

Women of St John's ~ Please join us on Tuesday, October 7th at 7 p.m. in the church basement for a presentation on WELS Prison Ministry. If you are able to help out with snacks that evening, please contact Sarah Logston or Kara Johnson.

Missionary Presentation ~ Pastor Abram Degner will be giving a presentation about the mission work being done in Latin America during Bible Class on Sunday, October 5th. Missionary Degner currently resides and serves in South America.

Cards of Caring ~ Members of St. John's are invited to help make the cards our congregation sends to homebound members and others during the year. We used donated, recycled, and created cards. You can help by making cards, writing messages, using stamps and seals to assemble the cards. We make cards for birthdays, anniversaries, get-well, sympathy, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentines, Easter and Confirmation. Please join us at 403 N. Minnesota St. between 9:00 a.m. and noon on Saturdays: October 18, and November 15, 2025. Come and go as your schedule allows. About 80 cards are needed for each occasion. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve our members. For further information contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Part time Job Opening ~ Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is looking for an individual willing to serve as part time Study Hall Supervisor, beginning October 20 for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year. The time frame would be from approximately 10:10 – 12:30 each day. Individuals interested should contact MVL Principal Tim Plath at tplath@mvlhs.org.

MLC Job Openings ~ Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a full-time Dormitory Custodian, a regular part-time Early Childhood Learning Center Assistant Teacher, and part-time Early Childhood Learning Center Substitute Teachers. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) ~ Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 4th! St John's in Redwood Falls, MN is hosting the MN Valley Circuit's Fall Rally. Our speaker will be Pastor Abram Degner about the mission work being done in Latin America and beyond through Academia Cristo. Watch for more details in the coming weeks. Carpool Sign-up in the Narthex.

MLC Book Sale ~ The MLC library has over 600+ music books - all types - for sale right now. Each book is only \$0.25! Many of these are professionally hardbound to protect the music inside. In addition, we are selling a large stash of non-fiction children's books, also for \$.25 each. The sale runs through Wednesday, October 15. Our library hours and other information can be found here: <https://library.mlc-wels.edu/> . If you are interested or know of anyone who is interested in picking up some new-to-you music or children's books, please let them know. I hope you are able to find some gems at our sale!

Travel with WELS Groups ~ Interested in traveling with a group of like-minded believers? The OWLS (WELS Seniors) is partnering with Father's World Tours to offer a New Year's (Dec 31-Jan 13) trip to sunny Southern California (Rose Parade, Reagan Library, San Diego, Palm Springs, Joshua Tree NP) that also includes a 7-night Princess cruise to the Mexican Riviera. All tours involve daily devotions and WELS weekend worship. The tour is open to W/ELS members of all ages. Registration closes on October 1 (earlier if all spots are sold). Visit www.fathersworldtours.com or contact us (steve@fathersworldtours.com, 507-217-1731) to learn more.

You are invited to Auxiliary Day at Martin Luther College ~ The Ladies' Auxiliary promotes interest in Martin Luther College, provides Christian fellowship opportunities for our members, and supports students through scholarships, special non-budgeted projects, events, and your prayers. Our Annual Auxiliary Day is Saturday, October 4, on the beautiful MLC campus in New Ulm, Minnesota. Enjoy fellowship, hear student presentations—including a sneak peek at the fall presentation of *Little Women: The Broadway Musical*—and help us choose the 2025-26 classroom projects we will fund. Join us and get in on the fun! If you can't make it in person, check our website after the meeting to see what projects were selected. Visit mlc-wels.edu/ladies-auxiliary.

Autumn Colors: MLC Wind Symphony Concert - October 5 ~ As summer gives way to fall, a tangible excitement is often in the air. A new school year, new friends, new experiences, the opportunity to start off fresh. Music ensembles are no exception. Each year brings a brand-new ensemble together—a mix of new and returning faces and the challenge of digging into new music. Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony as they begin their new year of making music together with music inspired by the changing of the season. They'll present *Autumn Colors* at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 5, in the WCC Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public. Can't join us live? Check out the livestream of the concert on MLC's YouTube page.

"FREE Fun for ALL at MLC Homecoming ~ On Saturday, October 11, the MLC Alumni Association invites you to campus for Homecoming. The events begin with the celebratory 15th Sprinter Fun Run/Walk at 9 AM. This 1-mile course (all stroller-accessible) meanders throughout the main campus. Learn more about the Fun Run and sign up at bit.ly/MLCFunRun2025. Anyone registered ahead of time (walk-ins are welcome) is eligible to win some amazing door prizes! Homecoming is reimagined this year, with even more activities on campus! Check out www.mlc-wels.edu/events/homecoming for the full slate of events and to register. Come see what is new at your college of ministry!"

Save the Date ~ 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 Second Annual - and bigger and better - .5K event, where there is something for all ages...and definitely no running involved. Come to enjoy all the activities we've planned, or even just for the hot dog or pork chop lunch. The fun takes place on Sunday, October 12, from 11am-2pm, 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! See the list of activities and their times here: <https://buytickets.at/point5k2025>, and volunteer to help at the event here: <https://signup.com/go/hLerRuw>.

Grab Your Bean Bag Partner ~ The 2024 .5K Bean Bag champions - Principal Pete Markgraf and St. Paul's School staff member Terry Rich - have been enjoying bragging rights for the past year. Who will be our next dominant team? Is it you? Grab your partner and sign up to play bags in a tournament that benefits the School Building Campaign! The tournament will be held on Sunday, October 12, starting at 11:30am, in conjunction with the .5K event at Kegel Klub. Register your team in advance at <https://buytickets.at/point5k2025>. Cost is \$30 per team in advance or \$50 at the door, both of which will benefit the School Building Campaign.

About the Cover ~ Let it go. That's what "forgive" literally means: "Let it go." Easier said than done, right? But filled with gratitude for the forgiveness that we have in Jesus we can let go of the hurt that others have caused us. We can let it go and let God deal with the sins of others. We can even pray with all sincerity that they would genuinely repent and find the same full and free forgiveness with God that we have found with Christ.