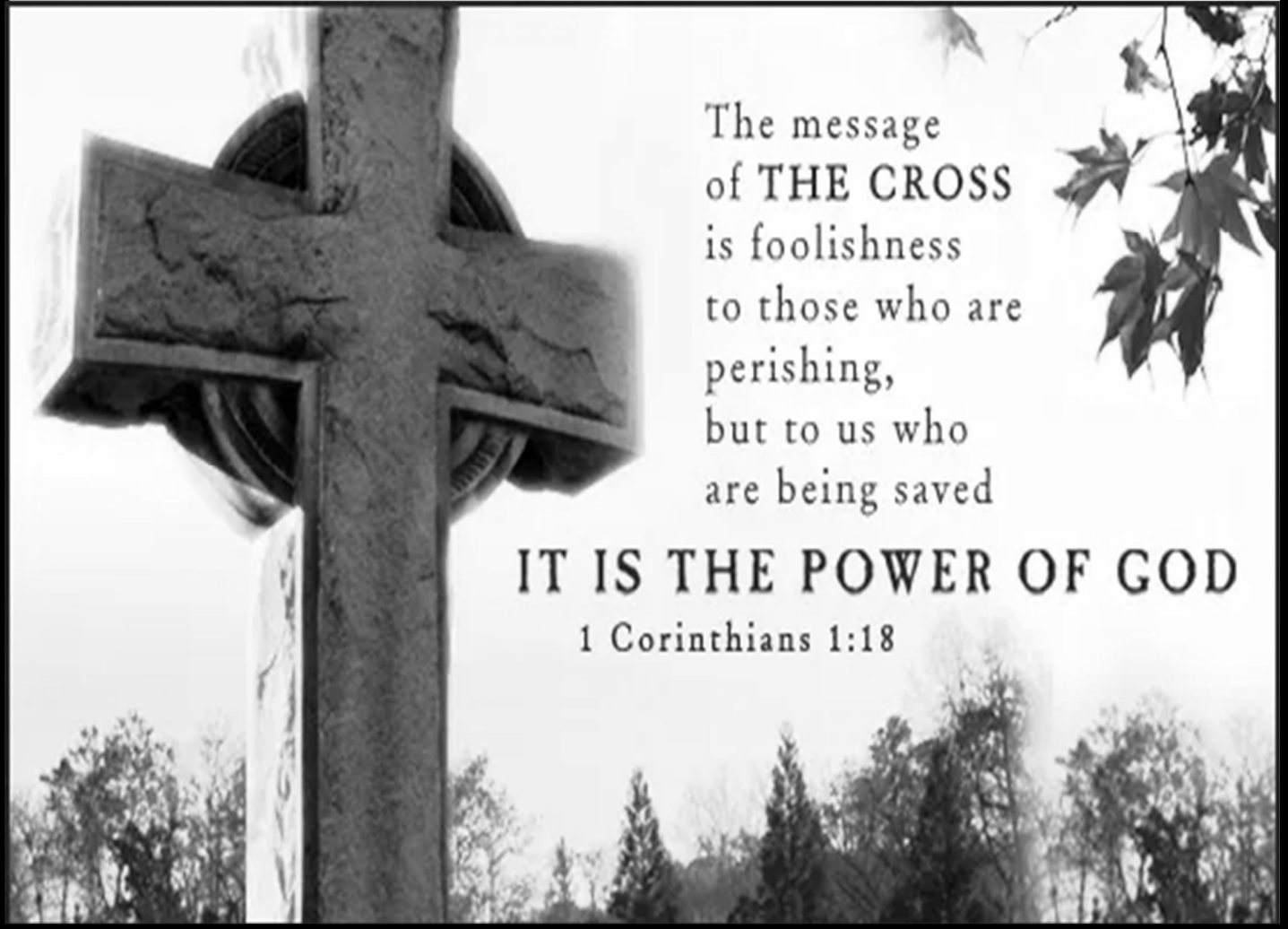


St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington,
New Ulm, Minnesota



The message
of **THE CROSS**
is foolishness
to those who are
perishing,
but to us who
are being saved

IT IS THE POWER OF GOD

1 Corinthians 1:18

Third Sunday in Lent
March 2/3, 2024

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
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Pastor Rob Guenther
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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: Heavenly Father, the wisdom of the world is nothing but foolishness to you. And your "foolishness" is true wisdom that lasts into eternity. Thank you for sending us your Holy Spirit who makes us, "wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15) Help us to grow in our "foolish" faith as we trust in your Word more than in our human reason or logic. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship The Service: Setting One* page 154

OPENING HYMN***Drawn to the Cross*****CW808****CONFESSION**

p. 154

FIRST LESSON**Exodus 20:1–17**

¹And God spoke all these words: ²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY***The Heavens Declare the Glory of God******Psalms 19***

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

²⁰Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²²Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

His disciples remembered that it is writ - ten:

Refrain
“Zeal for your house will con - sume me.”

GOSPEL

John 2:13–22

¹³When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

²⁰They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²²After he was raised

from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* **CW529**

SERMON **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

The Foolish Wisdom of the Cross
I. The Foolishness of Man's Wisdom
II. The Wisdom of God's Foolishness

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OFFERING / COMMUNION

If you are not a member of a WELS/ELS congregation, please see the explanation in the announcements.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Salvation unto Us Has Come* **CW558**

PRAYERS and BLESSING p. 170

† † †

PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGAN

Pastor Rob Guenther
Pastor Jeff Bovee
Pastor Jacob Behnken

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
	10:30 am	MVL Pork Chop Dinner
	1:30 pm	MVL Concert
Mon	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Campus Facilities Task Force Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Wed	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Services
	4:45 - 6:15 pm	Fellowship Supper
	5:30 pm	Handbells
	7:15 pm	Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: Hard Sayings of Jesus
Fri	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
Sat	6:30 pm	Worship: PreK-K sing

† Upcoming Services †

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

Saturday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 10	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Book of Job
Mar 11	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Mar 12	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Mar 13	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Services
	4:45 - 6:15 pm	Fellowship Supper
	5 pm	Handbells
	7:15 pm	Choir
Mar 14	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	11:45 am	Stewardship Meeting at MLC
Mar 15	7 pm	Bible Class: Hard Sayings of Jesus
	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
Mar 16	7 pm	St. Paul's School Musical
	8 am	Men of Truth at MLC
	6:30 pm	Worship
	7 pm	St. Paul's School Musical

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 603.

Fruits of faith given:

\$13,678	Home Operations ~	<i>Needed to Date: \$141,009 / Received to Date: \$153,314</i>	
\$1,632	MVL	\$130	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,227	Missions	\$50	LWMS
\$787	Building Fund	\$25	K-12 Education Assistance
\$515	Sanctuary Renovation	\$10	Endowment Fund
\$345	Food & Fellowship		

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.



Women of St. John's ~ Our March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5 at 7 pm in the church basement. We will have a Lent by Candlelight. Please join us as we gather to focus our eyes on Jesus.

Cards of Caring ~ will meet Saturday, March 9th from 9 am until noon to make Birthday and Eater cards. These cards are sent to our homebound and thinking-of-you members and to our three Befriend a Mission families. We welcome those from 7th grade and older including MLC students. We meet at 403 N. Minnesota St. This is an opportunity for fellowship and service to the Lord. Contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230.

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 from March 1-24. Thanks for sharing with our community. Contact Carla Melendy at melendce@mlc-wels.edu or Deb Beatty at 5beatty@newulmtel.net with questions.

2023 Annual Report ~ can be found in your mailbox.

Sanctuary Screens ~ Those advancing slides have been doing a great job with very rarely a glitch. We ask for your patience as we get the jitters out and make this transition to screens for worship. We still need volunteers to advance the slides during services. 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/.

MVL Pork Chop Meal and Concert ~ Join us for our annual Booster Club pork chop meal at MVL on March 3rd, from 10:30 am to 1 pm. Indulge in savory pork chops, baked potatoes, sweet corn, and delectable desserts. Afterwards, stick around for our Winter Concert at 1:30 pm, featuring our talented band and Chargaliers. Mark your calendars and join us for a day of great food and wonderful music!

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will meet on Monday, March 11, at Oak Hills Living Center, 1413 8th St N, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 am, with a lunch at noon. Part of the meal cost will be covered by Thrivent Action Team moneys. Each attendee is asked to bring \$5 for the meal. Any extra money will be given to the European Civilian Chaplaincy. If you have not signed up for the meal, contact Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or call 507-359-2424 by Wednesday noon, March 6. Following the meal, a presentation will be made on "What does Oak Hills provide and what do they need?" Hope you can attend.

St. Paul's Musical ~ will be Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16 at 7 pm.

Enjoy Dio, Cibo e Musica (God, Food, and Music) at this year's Italian Bistro, Saturday, March 16 at St Paul Lutheran School. Social hour begins at 4:30 with dinner at 5:00, serving Salad, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Breadstick and Cheesecake. Then, stay and enjoy the Raider Musical at 7:00! The cost for adults is \$12 and children (10 and under) are \$8 (Immediate Family Maximum \$50). ALL PROCEEDS go to supporting the Raider Musical!!

"Lead the Next Generation" - Men of Truth invites you to a one-day men's conference, *Lead the Next Generation*. Pastors Jeremy Mattek and Dan Schmidt will take us through three sessions focused on leading the next generation. Join us to explore a life in service to Christ, identifying youth service gifts and understanding and engaging our youth. Join us on Saturday, March 16 at Martin Luther College. Visit www.MenofTruth.org for more information.

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!

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!

Staff Minister Jim Dretske

Staff Minister Intern, Ben Haferman

Teacher Christine Baganz

Teacher Laura Balza

Teacher Phil Scriver

Teacher Emily Stoering

St. John's Church Office

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About the Cover ~ "Some guy died about two thousand years ago and you think it makes some difference about where you will spend eternity?!" What foolishness the gospel seems to the unbeliever. In their minds we might just as well believe in some gnome that lives in our backyard. But the "foolishness" of God is far wiser than the wisest of human wisdom. By God's grace he has made us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Let's live for him in thanks.