

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



The righteous  
will Live  
by Faith  
HABAKKUK

***Last Sunday of the Church Year***  
**November 19/20, 2022**

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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:** Father in heaven, we see the corruption in the world around us and are tempted to ask, "Where are you, God? Do you not see the evil that is taking place all around us? Do you not care? Do you not have the power to stop it?" But of course, we know that if you were to put an end to all evil, you would have to put an end to us. Thank you for your grace that waits patiently to put an end to all evil once and for all. Thank you for your grace that sent your Son to pay for our sin. Help us as we wait patiently for that day that you deliver us from evil. Help us to live by faith as we put our trust in you. In Jesus' name, amen.

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

**OPENING HYMN**

*In You Is Gladness*

**CW513**

- 1 In you is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.  
By you are given the gifts of heaven, you the true Redeemer are.  
Our souls are waking, our bonds are breaking;  
who trusts you surely has built securely and stands forever. Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining to see your shining,  
dying or living to you are clinging now and forever. Alleluia!
- 2 If he is ours, we fear no powers, not of earth or sin or death.  
He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story tell of his glory  
with hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices in him forever. Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness, win over sadness,  
love him and praise him and still shall raise him glad hymns forever. Alleluia!

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.**

**You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For you only are holy; you only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**ANTHEM - 8 am                      *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

**CW621**

1 *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.*

*Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing;*

*Alleluia, alleluia! praise the everlasting King!*

2 *Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress.*

*Praise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless,*

*Alleluia, alleluia! glorious in his faithfulness!*

4 *Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.*

*Sun and moon, bow down before him; all who dwell in time and space,*

*Alleluia, alleluia! praise with us the God of grace!*

**FIRST LESSON**

**Habakkuk 1:1–3; 2:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>The prophecy that Habakkuk the prophet received. <sup>2</sup>How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, “Violence!” but you do not save? <sup>3</sup>Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds.

<sup>1</sup>I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint. <sup>2</sup>Then the LORD replied:

“Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

<sup>3</sup>For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false.

Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

<sup>4</sup>“See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright— but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness—”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM of the DAY** - Saturday & 8 am: ***Psalm 130B***

*see page 9*

- 9:30 & 11 am: ***Psalm 130G***

*see page 10*

## SECOND LESSON

**Revelation 22:6–13**

<sup>6</sup>The angel said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.”

<sup>7</sup>“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”

<sup>8</sup>I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!”

<sup>10</sup>Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. <sup>11</sup>Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”

<sup>12</sup>“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Your words are my joy and my heart’s delight.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

**Luke 12:35–40**

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup>like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. <sup>37</sup>It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. <sup>38</sup>It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. <sup>39</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

- 1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending, once for ev'ry sinner slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ reveals his endless reign.
- 2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold him robed in glorious majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall their true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers.  
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,  
gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore thee high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, claim the kingdom as thine own.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!

**SERMON**

**Habakkuk 1:1-3; 2:1**

**We Live by Faith in the Gospel**

**I. In Spite of Appearances**

**II. With God's Assurances**

*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.**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially ... ]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially ... ]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

## OFFERING / COMMUNION

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

*Stand -* **SACRAMENT** *p. 165*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.**

**Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**



## WORDS of INSTITUTION

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.  
Amen.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN      *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*      CW 667

- 1    Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared this feast for our salvation;  
     it is your body and your blood, and at your invitation  
     as weary souls, with sin oppressed, we come to you for needed rest,  
     for comfort, and for pardon.
- 2    Although you did to heav'n ascend, where angel hosts are dwelling,  
     and in your presence they behold your glory, all excelling,  
     and though your people shall not see your glory and your majesty  
     till dawns the judgment morning,
- 3    Yet, Savior, you are not confined to any habitation,  
     but you are present ev'rywhere and with your congregation.  
     Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, unmoved by any daring hand  
     or subtle craft and cunning.
- 4    We eat this bread and drink this cup, your precious Word believing  
     that your true body and your blood our lips are here receiving.  
     This Word remains forever true, and there is naught you cannot do,  
     for you, Lord, are almighty.
- 5    Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces:  
     your body, Lord, is even now at once in many places.  
     I leave to you how this can be; your Word alone suffices me;  
     I trust its truth unfailing.
- 6    Lord, I believe what you have said; help me when doubts assail me.  
     Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.  
     Your supper in this vale of tears refreshes me and stills my fears  
     and is my priceless treasure.

- 7 Grant that we worthily receive your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
and, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior  
that we are thankful for your grace and day by day may run our race,  
in holiness increasing.
- 8 For your consoling supper, Lord, be praised through out all ages!  
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place the world against it rages.  
Grant that this sacrament may be a blessed comfort unto me  
when living and when dying.

*Stand* - **PRAYER** *p. 170*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that  
through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask  
this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

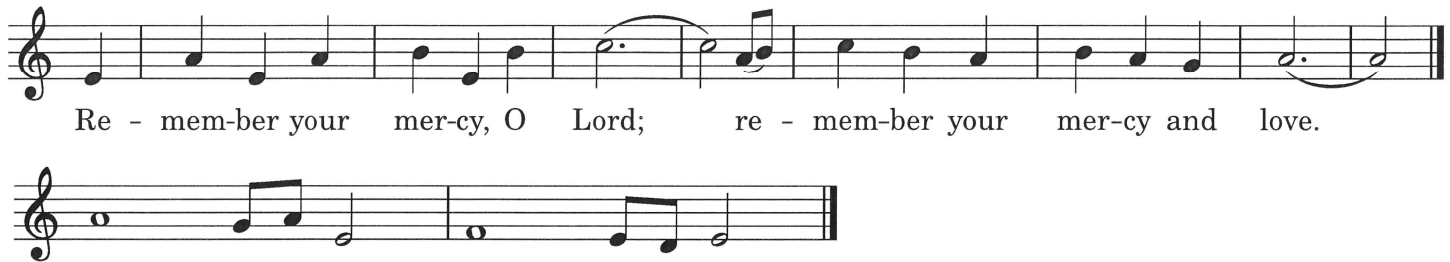
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.  
**Amen.**

† † †

**PREACHER**  
**PRESIDING MINISTER**  
**ORGAN**  
**CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Gr. 1-4)**  
**SENIOR CHOIR**  
**TRUMPET**  
  
**TROMBONE**  
  
**TIMPANI**

Pastor Rob Guenther  
Pastor Jeff Bovee  
Craig Hirschmann  
Kirstie Klug  
Bethel Boeder  
Dan Borgwardt  
Josiah Smith  
Micah Schibbelhut  
Noah Cook  
Emma Niebuhr

## PSALM of the DAY - *Saturday & 8 am: Psalm 130B*



Out of the depths I cry to / you, LORD;

Lord, / hear my voice.

Let your ears be at- / tentive  
to my cry for / mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, / who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, / serve you. **Refrain**

I wait for the LORD, my whole / being waits,  
and in his word I / put my hope.

I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the / morning,  
more than watchmen wait for the / morning.

Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,  
for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full re- / demption.

He himself will redeem / Israel  
from / all their sins.

***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***

### **Saints Triumphant**

Among the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, we give thanks to God for those who have gone from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant during the past church year:

#### **Saints in Glory**

Carter Brandes

Roger Besemer

Cathy Vogel

Richard Hoffmann

Claus Sieh

Elmer Rolloff

Erna Zahn

Tim Koestler

Sharon Leppla

Ellie Stevensen

#### **They Entered Glory on:**

11/28/2021

11/28/2021

1/19/2022

2/27/2022

3/29/2022

6/18/2022

8/9/2022

10/30/2022

11/2/2022

11/4/2022

## PSALM of the DAY - 9:30 & 11 am: *Psalm 130G*

*Congregation joins the choir with the Chorus*

*Choir:*

*Lord, from the depths I call to you; Lord, hear me from on high  
and give attention to my voice when I for mercy cry.*

- 1. Out of the depths I cry to you, in darkest places I will call;  
incline your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.*
- 2. Were you to count my sinful ways, how could I come before your throne?  
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze; I stand redeemed by grace alone.*

### **Chorus**



I will wait for you, I will wait for you; on your word, I will re - ly. I will  
wait for you, sure-ly wait for you, till my soul is sat-is - fied.

*Choir:*

- 3. So put your hope in God alone; take courage in his pow'r to save—  
completely and forever won by Christ emerging from the grave. **Chorus***
- 4. Now he has come to make a way, and God himself has paid the price,  
that all who trust in him today find healing in his sacrifice. **Chorus***

*O Israel, put your hope in the Lord!*

*For with Him there is steadfast love, and with Him is full redemption.*

*For He will redeem His people from all their iniquities.*

## **THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S**

Sun	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	8 am	Grades 1-4 sing
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Approaching Gender Identity and Sexuality With a Listening Heart
	10 am	St. Paul's School Pancake Breakfast at St. Paul's Church
	3 pm	MLC Concert
Wed	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
	6:30 pm	Thanksgiving Service
Thu	9 am	Thanksgiving Service
Fri	5:30 pm	Walk in Parade of Lights Parade
Sat	6:30 pm	Worship

### **† Upcoming Services †**

Thanksgiving:  
Wednesday: 6:30 pm  
Thursday: 9 am

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov 27	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
Nov 28	6 pm	Endowment Meeting
Nov 29	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Nov 30	11 am, 4 & 6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Services
	4 pm	Jr. Choir sings
	4:45 - 6:15 pm	Fellowship Supper
	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7:30 pm	Choir
Dec 1	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Prayers of the Bible
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: Minor Prophets
Dec 2	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>
Dec 3	8 am	Trustees Meeting
	9 am	Christmas for Kids
	6:30 pm	Worship
	7:30 pm	MLC Concert
Dec 4	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Approaching Gender Identity and Sexuality With a Listening Heart
	4 pm	MLC Concert

*Go to [www.stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar](http://www.stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar) for more events*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Attendance** for the past weekend was 565.

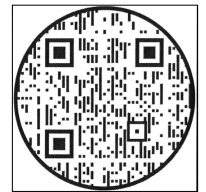
Fruits of faith given:

\$9,219	Home Operations ~ \$17,191 is our weekly need		
\$662	MVL ~ \$1,154 is our weekly need	\$210	Memorials
\$1,517	Missions ~ \$1,731 is our weekly need	\$150	Youth Group
\$352	Building Fund	\$145	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,440	Kitchen Fund	\$10	Endowment Fund

**Kitchen Project** ~ During the October meeting, the St. John's voters approved up to \$100,000 for updating the current kitchen. The kitchen fund currently has \$38,000, allowing our congregation to see what type of appeal St. John's can handle. A foundational principle of this project is that updates, like appliances, can also be used in future expansion efforts. Work has begun with the contractor and tradespeople on the timetable for the project. Concept drawings and pictures can be viewed electronically at [bit.ly/SJkitchen2023](https://bit.ly/SJkitchen2023). Gifts for this project are currently being received by writing "Kitchen Project" on offering envelopes or check memo lines.

**Sunday Bible Class** ~ *Approaching Gender Identity and Sexuality with a Listening Heart* - Issues surrounding gender identity and sexuality have dominated news cycles in 2022. Who has the responsibility to teach children about sexuality and answer their questions about how they view themselves? Join us for this Sunday morning Bible class series as we explore Christian sexuality and the two kingdoms of gender identity.

**Youth in Grades 9-12!** ~ *WELS Youth Night* at The Beacon on the campus of Minnesota State University Mankato on Sunday, November 20 from 6 - 8 pm. There will be food, fun, fellowship and faith! For planning purposes, please pre-register by following the QR code.



**Women of St. John's** ~ The December Meeting of the WSJ will be held on Tuesday, December 6th at 7 pm in the church basement. We welcome all ladies to our Christmas party! Please join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship!

**Burp Cloths Needed for ECLC** ~ The MLC Early Childhood Learning Center needs new burp cloths for the infant rooms. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are interested in sewing some for the classes. Please indicate if you need fabric or if you have spare fabric.

**Walk in the Parade of Lights Parade** ~ on Friday, November 25! Come and join members of St John's and St Paul's Lutheran church in this joyful community celebration! Meet by the float at 5:30 pm on the south side of Minnesota St.. Invitations to worship services and the St. Paul's School Winter Carnival will be handed out to parade spectators.

**Youth Group** ~ The Youth Group will be hosting Christmas for Kids on Saturday, December 3rd from 9-11:30 am. Volunteers are needed in a variety of areas including teaching, crafts, games, snacks, shepherds, registration etc. Please sign up for a spot on the St. John's website or scan the QR code. All volunteers will need to be at church by 8 am and a meal will be provided after the event. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Ulicky at [kru8880@gmail.com](mailto:kru8880@gmail.com) Thank you!



**Christmas for Kids** ~ Oh Come Little Children Oh Come One and All...Christmas for Kids will be December 3rd from 9 - 11:30 am for Grades PreK4 - 5th grade. This is a fun-filled event that tells the story of our Savior's birth. Your child will enjoy crafts, snacks, games, music and more. Doors will open at 8:30am. Please sign up on the website or at [bit.ly/SJC4K2022](https://bit.ly/SJC4K2022)! There are registration cards in the narthex if you have limited internet access. If you have any questions contact Kristin Ulicky at [kru8880@gmail.com](mailto:kru8880@gmail.com)

**Volunteer Opportunity** ~ Thank you to all the St. John's member volunteers who offered their time and talent this past year to help out at the NU Emergency Food Shelf for 2022. We have another opportunity to volunteer at the Food Shelf, 1305 S. Valley St., on the 3rd Monday of each month from 11:45 am - 3 pm. Two to three volunteers are needed for the dates referenced below. High school and college students are welcome to volunteer.

January 16	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 20	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 19	September 18	December 18

**Les Miserables in Minneapolis** ~ St John's members are invited to join members of the MLC family and the New Ulm Castle group for a Thielen motor coach bus trip to Minneapolis to see Les Miserables at the Orpheum Theatre on Saturday, December 10. The cost is \$75 and includes the bus ride and an upper balcony show ticket. The bus will leave MLC at 11:15 and drop off at the theatre at 1:30 for the 2:00 matinee. A return dinner stop will be made at the Eden Prairie Mall (meal on your own). ETA back at MLC is 8:30. Limited seats are available. Learn more and purchase tickets at [www.bit.ly/MLCLesMis](https://www.bit.ly/MLCLesMis) or call Steve Balza at 507-217-1731 with any questions.



**Church Directory** ~ Many of the pictures that were in the 2022 Edition are fine to use in the 2023 Directory. However, there are some families whose children have grown or even increased in number. Members who are not yet pictured received an email and a note in their church mailboxes requesting pictures. I hope you will consider adding your picture to the directory. Members can submit an updated picture via email to [sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com](mailto:sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com) or look for me before or after services to take your picture. If anyone has a changed address, phone number, or have children now in college or military, please fill out and update information on sheets available in the new narthex and drop it off in the office. Thank you! Jim Dretske, Staff Minister

**Offering Announcement** ~ Visitors, there is no obligation or expectation that you should give to support our ministry at St. John's. This is our members' way of expressing their thanks to God and supporting the work that we do to share the Gospel in New Ulm and around the world. Members, you are invited to give your gifts of gratitude and thanks to God for all he's done for you in Christ by leaving your offerings in the drop box in the narthex. Or you can bring your offerings to the church during regular office hours: Mondays through Fridays, 8 am - 1 pm. You might also consider taking advantage of your bank's online bill pay service and have your offering automatically sent to the church on a one time or recurring basis.

**Welcome, Visitors!**

Please scan the code to  
sign our Guest Register.



**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**

**Ammo Can Drive** ~ Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is a non-profit organization that provides Christ-centered support to WELS/ELS military service members, veterans, and their families. Through donor support, we offer retreats for WELS/ELS veterans who struggle with posttraumatic stress and provide financial support for second career military personnel training for positions as called workers in our synodical training schools. Gifts to LMSG can be placed in the green Ammo Can in the new Narthex or online at [www.lutheranmilitary.org](http://www.lutheranmilitary.org). Thank you for supporting our Christian Warriors!

**Save the Dates** ~ The St. Paul's School Campaign Committee is looking forward to our fun upcoming events! Please save the dates and plan to join us:

**November 20: Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale at St. Paul's Church**

Bring your appetite for a pancake breakfast, which will be served Sunday from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm in the St. Paul's Church Fellowship Hall. A freewill donation will be taken for the breakfast to benefit the St. Paul's School Building Project. We look forward to seeing you!

**February 5: Amazing Race**

**May 5: Fourth Annual Dig In Gala**

**MLC Concert** ~ Martin Luther College invites you to the annual Christmas concert, *Dawn of Redeeming Grace*, presented Saturday, December 3, at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 4, at 4 pm in the MLC Chapel of the Christ. All are welcome as we open the Advent season with this joyous campus tradition!

**St. Paul's School Band Concert** ~ All are invited to the St. Paul School Band Concert on Thursday, December 15, at 7 pm in the gymnasium. The Raider Band and the Junior Band will perform along with some smaller ensembles. Come and join us!

**Coaches Needed** ~ MVL is currently looking for three head coaches: dance team, baseball, and softball. If you are interested please send a resume to Craig Morgan at [cmorgan@mvlhs.org](mailto:cmorgan@mvlhs.org) or call 507-276-7576 with any questions.

**About the Cover** ~ "The righteous person will live by his faithfulness," (Habakkuk 2:4) might be better translated as, "The righteous person will live by his faith." For the New Testament authors use this verse from Habakkuk 2 to point out that it is not by our works or how faithful we are toward God that gives us life. It's faith in God and his gracious promises that gives us life. May God help us to live by faith in his promises, even in the face of wickedness and evil. And may he also help us to live faithful lives of service to him in gratitude.