# St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota

# NEVER WILL I LEAVE YOU; NEVER WILL I FORSAKE YOU.



# Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 27/28, 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

#### Pastor Rob Guenther

pastorguenther@gmail.com 507-240-2433 St. John's Bible Class bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline

# SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 27/28, 2025

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Heavenly Father, too often we're tempted to put our trust in our wealth, in our friends, in politicians, in our own intellect and problem solving skills when we run into trouble. But we know that those things that may help us in our earthly lives, can't really help us with our biggest problems. But you have already done that for us in your Son, Jesus. Our sins are forgiven. We will be with you in heaven someday soon. And you promise that you never leave us or forsake us now. Help us put our trust in you and to live for you in thanks. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE	<b>Service Setting 2</b>	pg. 172
OPENING HYMN Lor	d, Open Now My Heart to Hear	CW 632
Stand		
CONFESSION OF SINS		pg. 173
LORD HAVE MERCY		pg. 174
GLORY TO GOD		pg. 176
PRAYER OF THE DAY		pg. 178
Be seated		

FIRST LESSON Amos 6:1–7

<sup>1</sup> Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come!

- <sup>2</sup> Go to Kalneh and look at it; go from there to great Hamath, and then go down to Gath in Philistia. Are they better off than your two kingdoms? Is their land larger than yours?
- <sup>3</sup> You put off the day of disaster and bring near a reign of terror.
- <sup>4</sup> You lie on beds adorned with ivory and lounge on your couches. You dine on choice lambs and fattened calves.
- <sup>5</sup> You strum away on your harps like David and improvise on musical instruments.
- <sup>6</sup> You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions, but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.
- <sup>7</sup> Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile; your feasting and lounging will end.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM OF THE DAY** *I Will Praise the Lord All My Life* Psalm 146

#### SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. <sup>2</sup> Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup> Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

<sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

<sup>6</sup> So we say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Stand

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Luke 16:31

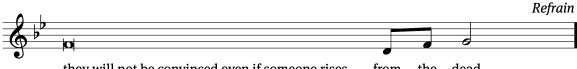












they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

**GOSPEL** Luke 16:19-31

<sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

<sup>25</sup> "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

<sup>27</sup> "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

<sup>29</sup> "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

<sup>30</sup> "No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

<sup>31</sup> "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart CW 817

**SERMON** Never Will I Leave You Hebrews 13:1-6

Stand

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

pg. 182

**OFFERING** 

HYMN My Worth Is Not in What I Own

CW 753

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING

pg. 171

CLOSING HYMN Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CW 927

PREACHER ORGANIST

Pastor Rob Guenther Susan Decker MLC LECTORS ~ Throughout the year, St. John's asks men who are studying for the pastoral ministry to read for a service. We are in a privileged position to see our Lord's answer to our prayers for future called workers.

6:30 pm	Greg Foote	Zion Lutheran, Brighton Township, MN
8 am	William Shanks	St. Peter, Schofield, WI
9:30 am	Chandler Ross	Refuge, Raleigh, NC
11 am	Matthew Colson	New Life/Peace, Rockford/ Loves Park, IL

#### Acknowledgments

Setting Two 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 and Sunday School		
Wednesday	6 pm	Handbells		
	6:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism		
	7 pm	Choir		
Thursday	10 am	Adult Bible Class		
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class		
Saturday, Oct 4	6:30 pm	Worship		
Sunday, Oct 5	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship		
	9:30 am	Bible Class and Sunday School		
Monday, Oct 6	6:30 pmElde	rs' Meeting		
Tuesday, Oct 7	7 pm	Women of St. John's		
Wednesday, Oct 8	6 pm	Handbells		
	6:30 pmPublic and Homeschool Catechism			
	7 pm	Choir		
Thursday, Oct 9	10 am	Adult Bible Class		
	11:30 am	Stewardship Meeting @ MLC		
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class		

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Attendance for this past weekend was 709 with 561 receiving the Lord's Supper.

# **Fruits of Faith:**

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\$13,018 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$658,522/ YTD: \$621,495	
\$2,130 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$73,846 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)	
\$535 MVL ~ YTD: \$45,946 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)	
\$5 Building Fund	
\$20 St. Paul's School Building Fund	
\$725 Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	
\$60 K-12 Education Assistance	
\$1,000 Organ Fund	
\$21 Food and Fellowship	
\$500 LWMS	
\$.25 Christian Family Solutions	

**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.

## **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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.

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

Travel with WELS Groups ~ Interested in traveling with a group of likeminded 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 <a href="www.fathersworldtours.com">www.fathersworldtours.com</a> 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 <a href="https://bit.ly/MLCFunRun2025">bit.ly/MLCFunRun2025</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.mlcwels.edu/events/homecoming">www.mlcwels.edu/events/homecoming</a> 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. Want to participate in the "race?" Great! Do you eat? Super! We'll have food! Do you bowl, even if just for fun? There will be that, too! Do you burp? NICE! We've got a contest! And the most serious of all (for real): a bean bag tournament! Join us for all the fun on Sunday, October 12, 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! More details coming soon.

**About the Cover** ~ What a comforting promise: We are never alone. God is with us. Always. "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." That's his unshakable promise. So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" We need not put our trust in wealth or mortal men who cannot always save. We can put our trust in the Lord and his promises.