

**Jonah 2:2 "In my distress I called to the LORD,
and he answered me."**



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 19 / 20, 2026

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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 **YouTube**
bit.ly/SJyoutube

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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our guest register.
Visitors and members alike, use the same QR code for prayer requests.*



ORDER OF SERVICE *Service Setting 3* pg. 188

OPENING HYMN *By Grace I'm Saved* CW 575
8 & 9:30am *arr. William Braun*
Congregation will sing st. 1,3,5 ; Choir will sing st. 2,4

HOLY BAPTISM 9:30am pg. 151
9:30 am will continue with baptismal hymn and prayer of the day

BAPTISMAL HYMN *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It* CW 679
9:30am

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 8 & 9:30am ***His Mercy Is More*** arr. Molly Ijames

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.*

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
what Father so tender is calling us home!
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more. (Refrain)*

*Refrain Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more!*

*What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
his blood was the payment, his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more. (Refrain)*

ANTHEM 11am *Sing of the Lord's Goodness* arr. Ernest Sands

Sing of the Lord's goodness, Father of all wisdom, come to him and bless his name. Mercy he has shown us, his love is forever, faithful to the end of days.

Refrain: Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness, melodies of praise and thanks to God. Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music, worship him and bless his name.

Power he has wielded, honor is his garment, risen from the snares of death. His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken, new life he now gives to all. Refrain

Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow, Spirit of our God most high; solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner, splendor of the living God. Refrain

Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet. Praise God with the lute and harp; praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing, praise God till the end of days. Refrain

FIRST LESSON

Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

¹ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD, "Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and

abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

⁴ But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵ Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

¹⁰ But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY***Not Unto Us***

arr. Kevin Hildebrand

8 & 9:30am

*Choir: Non nobis, Domine, non nobis, sed nomini tuo da gloriam.
Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us,
but unto Thy name give glory, for Thy mercy,
and for Thy truth's sake.*

Not un - to us, O Lord, not un - to us,
but un - to Thy name give __ glo - ry, __ for Thy
mer - cy, and for Thy truth's __ sake.

*Choir: O Israel, trust thou in the Lord: He is their help and their shield.
O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord:
He is their help and their shield.
Ye that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord:
He is their help and their shield.*

All: REFRAIN

*Choir: The Lord hath been mindful of us: He will bless us;
He will bless the house of Israel. He will bless the house of Aaron.
He will bless them that fear the Lord, both small and great.*

All: REFRAIN

*Choir: The Lord shall increase you more and more,
you and your children.
Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

All: REFRAIN

PSALM OF THE DAY

Not to Us, O LORD

Psalm 115

6:30pm & 11am

SECOND LESSON

Romans 9:6-16

⁶It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." ⁸In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring. ⁹For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁰Not only that, but Rebekah's children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac. ¹¹Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand: ¹²not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger." ¹³Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

¹⁴ What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

¹⁶ It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God’s mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ephesians 2:8



Refrain

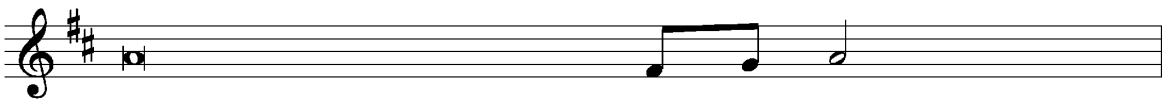


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

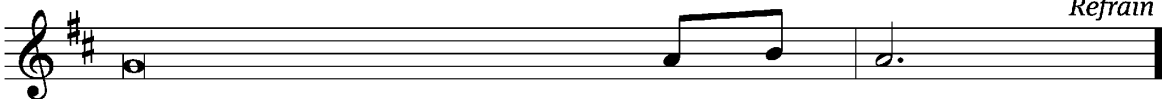


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tone



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—



and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Refrain

¹ “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

⁷ “ ‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’ ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.

¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

¹⁶ "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

CW 650

From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry

8 & 9:30 am *Choir will sing st. 3*

SERMON Have Great Expectations in the LORD Jonah 3:10-4:11

Stand

NICENE CREED

pg. 196

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

pg. 198

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pg. 199

Guests, please see announcements for our policy on communion.

Stand

LORD’S PRAYER	pg. 201
LAMB OF GOD	pg. 202
<i>Be seated</i>	
DISTRIBUTION HYMN	CW 663
<i>Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness</i>	
<i>Stand</i>	
PRAYER AND BLESSING	pg. 203
PREACHER	Pastor Jeff Bovee
PRESIDING MINISTER	Pastor Rob Guenther
ORGANIST	Becky Berg
SR. CHOIR 8 & 9:30am	Adrian Smith
TRUMPET	Dan Borgwardt and Nathanael Smith
TROMBONE	John Stoering and Jennifer Uher
VIOLIN	Sebastian Smith and Ella Wurster
CELLO	Isaiah Smith
TIMPANI	Caleb Krahn
CYMBALS	Sebastian Smith
PIANO	Becky Berg
JR. CHOIR 11am	Emily Stoering
PIANO 11am	Laura Balza

Acknowledgments

Setting Three 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: Ruth
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Wednesday	6 pm	Handbells
	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	7 pm	Bible Class: Bible Information Class
Friday	10 am	Sunset Apt. Worship Service
	11 am	Highland Worship Service
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Sep. 27	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Ruth
	9:30 am	Sunday School
Monday, Sep 28	6:30 pm	Worship Committee
Wednesday, Sep. 30	6 pm	Handbells
	6:15 pm	Public School Catechism
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Oct. 1	10 am	Bible Class: Isms
	7 pm	Bible Class: Bible Information Class
Saturday, Oct. 3	6:30 pm	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 615.

Fruits of Faith:

\$12,539 Home Operations ~ YTD: \$638,458 / Needed: \$637,487

\$1,800 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$62,872 (2026 Goal: \$100,701)

\$805 MVL ~ YTD: \$40,829 (2026 Goal: \$62,278)

\$300 Building Fund

\$25 St. Paul's School Building Fund

\$85 K-12 Tuition Assistance Fund

\$29 Food and Fellowship

\$25 Iris Box

\$20 MLC/WLS Ministerial Student Assistance



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

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.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MLC Wind Symphony Concert ~ This is a special year for the United States of America. With joy, we're commemorating our 250th birthday, and with sorrow we're remembering the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Two very different events. Two very different kinds of reflection. Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony for "Reflections," a concert program commemorating our country's history through patriotic selections and both solemn and joyful remembrances. The free concert will be held in the MLC Auditorium on Sunday, October 4, at 1:00 pm. (Note the earlier start time!) Can't make it in person? Stream the live performance on MLC's YouTube channel.

Job Openings at MLC ~ Director of Finance: Plays a vital role in advancing MLC's mission of preparing future leaders for public ministry by providing strategic financial leadership, strengthening longterm sustainability, and partnering with college and synod leaders. Female Dormitory Custodian: Helps care for the place that our female students call home during their time at MLC. Assistant Baseball Coach: Promotes excellence in competition while supporting the formation of student-athletes for lives of Christian service. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

FREE Fun for ALL at MLC Homecoming ~ On Saturday, October 3, the MLC Alumni Association invites you to campus for Homecoming. The events begin with the 16th annual Sprinter Fun Run/Walk at 9 AM. This 1-mile course (stroller-accessible) meanders through the MLC campus. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4dxcKts>. Walk-ins are welcome, too!

MLC Alumni - This year's Homecoming theme is The Late Knight Show, and we want you to be part of the cast! Check out www.mlc-wels.edu/events/homecoming for the full slate of events and to register.

Join us for the Point 5k Family Fun-raiser ~ on Sunday, September 27, at Kegel Klub, open-house style, from 12-2pm. There will be a .5k "race" with an emphasis on fun and farce, rather than fitness. This is a family-friendly event, and all proceeds will go to the School Building Project. Beanbag tournament with cash prize for the winners, taco in a bag meal, and an opportunity to give while you bowl will be part of the fun. Kegel Klub will make a donation back to our school campaign of \$2 for each game of bowling played and will donate \$1 for each drink sold, too! Point 5K Race: any time from 12-2 - \$5 per person for unlimited "racing" Bean bag tourney: starts at 12:30 - \$30 per team in advance, \$50 at the door. WINNERS receives their registration fee back! Bowling: any time from 12-2 - Kegel Klub pricing Meal: Taco in a Bag Meal - FREEWILL donation Register your team for the bean bag tournament at <https://buytickets.at/point5k2026/2421971>, and pay for other activities at the door. Would you like to volunteer to help at the event? Please contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com.

About the Cover ~ The familiar account of Jonah the Prophet being swallowed by the great fish is one that most Sunday School students know. But this spectacular account which almost reads like a bedtime story is an important event in history which reminds us of the importance of listening to God's Word and following what he tells us to do. In the end, following God's will leads to blessings, even if it takes us through trials to get there.