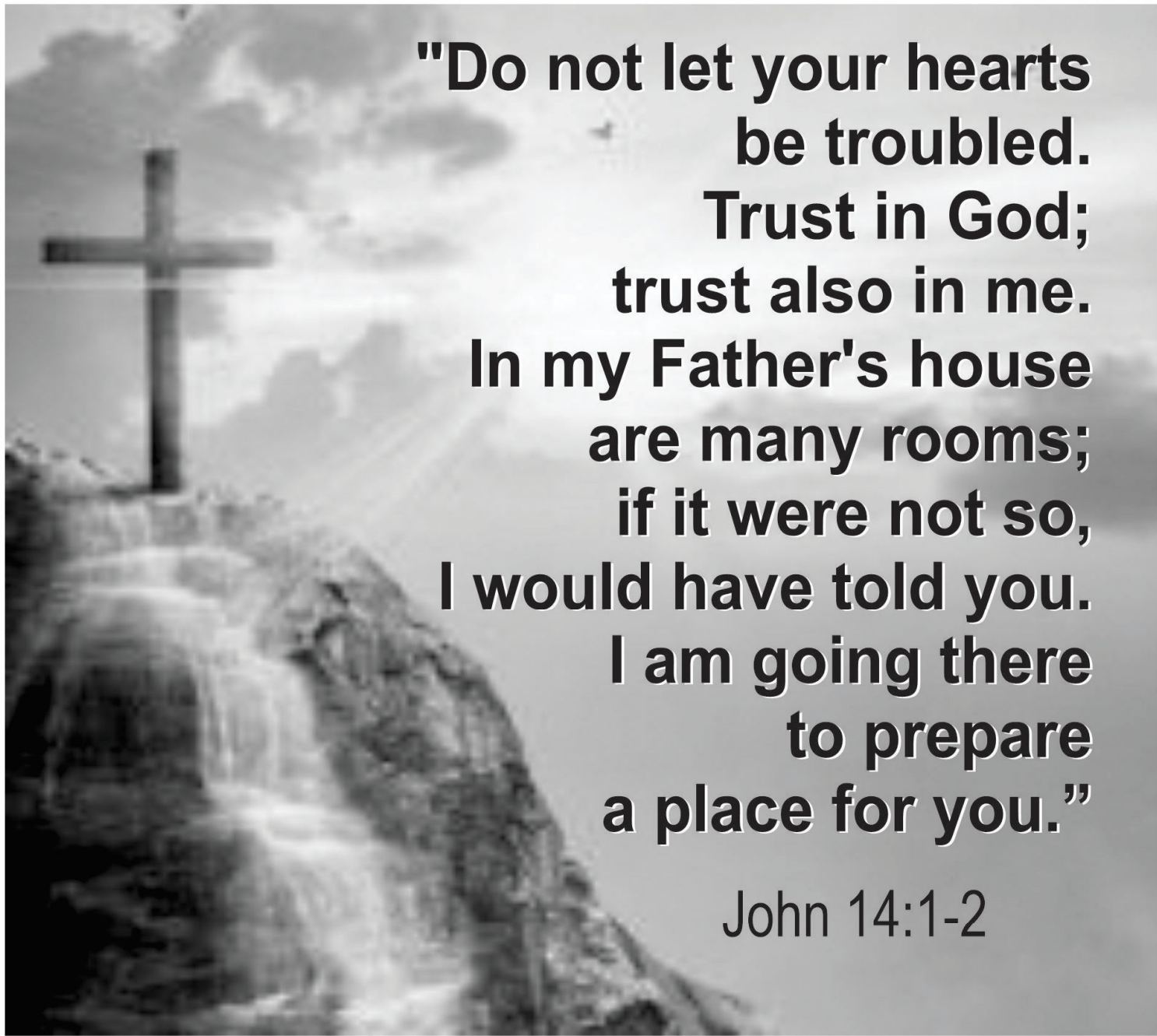




**"Do not let your hearts
be troubled.
Trust in God;
trust also in me.
In my Father's house
are many rooms;
if it were not so,
I would have told you.
I am going there
to prepare
a place for you."**

John 14:1-2

Fifth Sunday of Easter • May 6 / 7, 2023



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 6/7, 2023

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, you alone are able to save us from sin, death, and the devil. We praise you for your promise of our deliverance from these enemies of our souls. Thank you for sending Jesus to live a perfect life in our stead, and to die on the cross to pay the debt for our sin. Comfort us with the absolute assurance that heaven is ours through faith in him. Cause us to look forward with joy as we await the day when we will be with you there forever. Until that time, fill us with hope and strengthen our faith so that we embrace with delight the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you." We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship The Service: Setting Two* page 172

OPENING HYMN *Alleluia! Let Praises Ring* CW481

CONFESSION p. 172

FIRST LESSON **Acts 4:8–12**

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM of the DAY *Psalms 118B* see page 5

SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 2:4–10

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father ex - cept through me. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

John 14:1–11

¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹Jesus answered: “Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN of the DAY *Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled* **CW809**

SERMON **John 14:1-11**

- GPS – GOD PROVIDES SALVATION**
1. THERE IS A HEAVEN
2. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR YOU
3. YOU KNOW THE WAY THERE

NICENE CREED p. 180

OFFERING/ COMMUNION

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands* **CW440**

PRAYERS (*Contemporary*) **and BLESSING** p. 187

CLOSING HYMN *Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See* **CW884**

+ + +

PREACHER	Pastor Jeff Bovee
PRESIDING MINISTER	Pastor Rob Guenther
ORGAN	Pastor Jacob Behnken

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 118B



The Lord is my strength and / my defense;
he has become my sal- / vation.

The Lord's right hand is / lifted high;
the Lord's right hand has done / mighty things!

I will not / die but live,
and will proclaim what the / Lord has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you / answered me;
you have become my sal- / vation.

The stone the builders re- / jected
has become the / cornerstone;
the Lord has / done this,
and it is marvelous / in our eyes.

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chorus Concert
	2 pm	MVL Musical: <i>The Music Man</i>
	4:30 pm	Church Reserved for Piano Recital
Mon	10:30 am	Stewardship Meeting
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
Thu	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Minor Prophets
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: Galatians
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>
Sat	4 & 7:30 pm	MLC Concerts
	8 am	Trustees Meeting
	10 am	MLC Commencement Service
	5 & 8 pm	MVL Prism Concerts
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
May 15	6:30 pm	Constitution Meeting
May 16	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Joint Council Meeting
	7 pm	Council Meeting
May 18	4 & 6:30 pm	Ascension Services
	4 pm	Gr. 1-4 & Jr. Choir sing
	5 pm	Fellowship Meal
May 19	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>
May 20	6:30 pm	Worship
May 21	8 & 8:30 am	Worship ~ Summer Schedule Begins (NO 11 am service)
	11 am	Bible Class: Pastoral Epistles
	3 pm	MVL Groundbreaking Service
May 22	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
May 24	6:30 pm	St. Paul's School Closing Service at MLC
May 25	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Minor Prophets
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: Galatians
May 26	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
May 27	6:30 pm	Worship
May 28	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	2 pm	MVL Graduation

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 724.

Fruits of faith given:

\$16,013	Home Operations ~ <i>\$19,371 is our weekly need</i>	\$100	Benevolence Fund
\$1,266	MVL ~ <i>\$1,278 is our weekly need</i>	\$60	MLC
\$785	Missions ~ <i>\$1,818 is our weekly need</i>	\$60	St. Paul's School
\$987	Building Fund	\$50	Facilities Usage
\$100	K-12 Education Assistance	\$25	Iris Boxes
\$100	Technology Equipment	\$7	Food & Fellowship

WLS Concert ~ This Sunday we thank the Seminary Chorus from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary who will be performing their concert at 10:30 am.

Ascension Fellowship Meal ~ On Thursday, May 18 we have the opportunity to worship together Jesus' Ascension at 4:00 or 6:30 pm. Between services we will once again have a potluck dinner in the fellowship hall. Families are asked to bring a main dish and either a salad or dessert. Beverages and rolls will be provided.

Member Care - Spring Raking ~ if there are members willing to help some of our older members with some spring raking, please call me at 507-217-7604 or email at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com and I can help connect you with someone who needs help. Thanks for your consideration to help others. If there are others that need help with something, don't hesitate to contact me or fill out a card for Member Care on the New Narthex table and place in "J/C Dretske" church mailbox.

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.

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

Preschool Registration at St. Paul's School ~ St. Paul's Preschool, New Ulm, now taking applications for the 2023-2024 school year! Visit <https://splnewulm.org/school/preschool/> for more information or to apply. We are excited to share the love of Jesus and the love of learning with your 3,4 or 5 year old!

MVL Musical ~ All aboard!! Next stop, River City, where MVL's Drama Department gives you a look into old time, small town Iowa in *The Music Man*! Meet those stubborn Iowans who are content to go along with life as always, until Harold Hill comes to town. Charming, but swindling Harold is "selling" a boys' band to the citizens of River City- to keep their children out of the pool hall and off the streets. However, some people, (the mayor, the school board, and Marian the librarian) are not so easily mesmerized. Or are they? Will Harold get caught, tarred and feathered?! Or will River City become a better place because of him? We invite you to come to State Street Theater and enjoy this well known, well loved musical! The final performance is this Sunday, May 7th at 2 pm. Tickets available for purchase at the door.

OWLS Meeting ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will meet at St. Paul's Lutheran School, New Ulm on Monday, May 8, at 11:30 am. We will eat lunch at the same time as the students. Bring along \$5 for the meal. A lunch count is needed. Contact Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or call 507-359-2424 by May 2. After lunch we will have a presentation by Principal Peter Markgraf on how St. Paul's is using the new classrooms. Amber Brown will also share information on her work as Student Learning Coordinator. Plan to attend.

MVL Building Update ~ On April 16, our MVL Delegates unanimously voted to move ahead with the Building on the Rock campaign! Dr. Plath and the MVL Finance Committee have been working diligently on securing the loan for the project. The MVL Capital Campaign Committee looks to continue their work in raising funds to support and complete the campaign. Your gifts of support for this project are so appreciated and very much still needed for these legacy additions to our MVL campus. Please consider a gift to the Building on the Rock campaign online or by mailing in a pledge form. Please join us for the Groundbreaking Ceremony scheduled for May 21 at 3 pm at MVL. Construction for the project will start early to mid-June with a completion time frame of a year expected. Further information on giving a gift, attending the ceremony, or livestreaming the progress of the building can be found on the school website, mvl.org or by calling Mission Advancement Director, Mr. Jim Buboltz, at (507)-354-6851.

St. Paul's School Closing Service and Graduation ~ We will be celebrating our school closing and graduation with a service on Wednesday, May 24, at 6:30 pm. The service will be held at MLC's Chapel of the Christ. We are blessed to be able to utilize this space for this service. The students in grades K-8 will participate by singing during the service, and our thirty-five graduates will receive their diplomas. We welcome everyone to this special event. It is wonderful to worship together and celebrate another school year.

About the Cover ~ Have you ever doubted whether there is really a heaven and if you are really going there? Doubt it no more. Jesus himself promised that he has gone to heaven to prepare a place for us, and that he will return to take us there. He is God. He cannot lie. Trust his unfailing promise. Heaven is ours through faith in him.