

THIRD ARTICLE: PART 2

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.



SANCTIFICATION

ST. PAUL'S & ST. JOHN'S, NEW ULM
SUMMER PREACHING SERIES: THE CREED

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 8 / 9, 2026

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.

August 8/9, 2026



2

²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 119G

Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.



Oh, how I / love your law!

I meditate on it / all day long.

Your commands are always / with me

and make me wiser than my / enemies.

I have more insight than all my / teachers,

for I meditate on your / statutes. *Refrain*

I have kept my feet from every / evil path

so that I might o- / bey your word.

How sweet are your words / to my taste,

sweeter than honey / to my mouth!

I gain understanding from your / precepts;

therefore I hate every / wrong path.

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*

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 5:16-26

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

GOSPEL

John 3:1-8

¹ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.
⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY CW 595
Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing

SERMON What Changed? Galatians 5:16-26

APOSTLES’ CREED pg. 197

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH pg. 198

OFFERING

HYMN *Renew Me, O Eternal Light* CW 689

PRAYER AND BLESSING pg. 171

CLOSING HYMN *Abide, O Dearest Jesus* CW 924

PREACHER Pastor Malachi Mortensen

PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor Jeff Bovee

ORGANIST Adrian Smith

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class
Monday	4:30 pm	OWLS Picnic
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Youth and Ed. Meeting
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Aug. 16	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	Bible Class
	2 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
	3:30 pm	Youth group
	4 pm	Church Picnic
Monday, Aug. 18	7 pm	Council Meeting
Saturday, Aug. 22	8 am	Properties Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last weekend was 351 with 286 receiving the Lord's Supper.

Fruits of Faith:

\$19,479 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$534,112 / YTD: \$525,989

\$1,680 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$51,854 (2026 Goal: \$100,701)

\$924 MVL ~ YTD: \$33,463 (2026 Goal: \$62,278)

\$471 Building Fund

\$25 St. Paul's School Building Fund

\$100 Technology Fund

\$10 Miscellaneous Receipts

\$1,060 K-12 Tuition Assistance Fund

\$20 MLC Auxiliary

\$290 LWMS

\$100 Benevolence Fund

\$25 Iris Box Project



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

2026 Church Picnic ~ Join us on Sunday, August 16th at 5:00 PM for our annual church picnic at Hermann Heights, where we have both shelters reserved. The church will provide the hot dogs, buns, condiments, paperware, and water. Because this is a potluck-style meal, please bring a side dish or dessert to share, as well as any alternative beverages you might prefer. Most importantly, we encourage you to bring a friend! This is a relaxed, welcoming opportunity to introduce your neighbors and loved ones to our church family.

Sunday School Teachers Needed ~ Sunday School is scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m. St. John's is looking for Sunday School teachers. It has always been our practice to have more than one teacher per class so that teachers do not have to teach every week. We also can always use substitutes if that is something you might be interested in doing from time to time. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Bovee by email, text, or phone: revbovee@gmail.com or 507-217-6364. You may also call the church office, but Pastor Bovee's personal cell number is preferable. Thanks!

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Job Openings at MLC ~ Part-time Dormitory Custodians: Enjoy flexible scheduling while caring for the place that our students call home during their time at MLC. Part-time Receptionist: Be the welcoming first point of contact for students, visitors, and the MLC community while providing excellent service, assisting with daily office operations, and extending Christian hospitality.

Sound of Music at the Orpheum ~ WELS and ELS members are invited to join MLC students on Wed, Oct 21 (7:30) for Rodgers & Hammerstein's beloved musical, The Sound of Music, at Minneapolis' historic Orpheum Theatre. Tickets are \$55 for Mid-balcony or \$60 for lower orchestra (\$5 off all tickets purchased by Aug 28). Deluxe motorcoach transportation is available for \$30, with boarding in New Ulm, St. Peter, or Shakopee. Learn more or reserve your seats at bit.ly/FWT_SOM or visit fathersworldtours.com.

Travel with WELS Groups ~ Father's World Tours is partnering with WELS Home Missions to offer two upcoming trips, and we'd love to have you along. Cool Canyons (Nov 7-19) takes us to see some of the Southwest U.S.'s most stunning scenery, including the Mighty Five national parks in Utah, the Grand Canyon, and much more. We'll also worship with and tour our Apache missions in Peridot and East Fork, along with a home mission in St George, UT. Flora and Fauna of Florida (Jan 23-Feb 7, 2027) offers a two-week midwinter warmup to the Sunshine State as well as an Eastern Caribbean Cruise aboard the Sky Princess. We will again connect with our missions and missionaries in the area while enjoying encounters with wildlife (gators, manatee, and maybe monkeys), gorgeous gardens, and fabulous fellowship. Learn more at www.fathersworldtours.com or call Steve at 507-217-1731.

About the Cover ~ In his explanation of the Third Article of the Creed, Luther wrote: "I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true."

The work of the Holy Spirit to call, enlighten, convert, and sustain our faith is called "sanctification." In the broad sense, sanctification is the entire work of the Holy Spirit, and is perfect. But in the narrow sense, it denotes the life of good deeds which are produced in us by the Holy Spirit working through the gospel. In the narrow sense, sanctification is never perfect in us, this side of heaven, because we are sinners. But prompted by the gospel, the fruits of faith are still produced in our lives until the day we reach perfection in heaven.