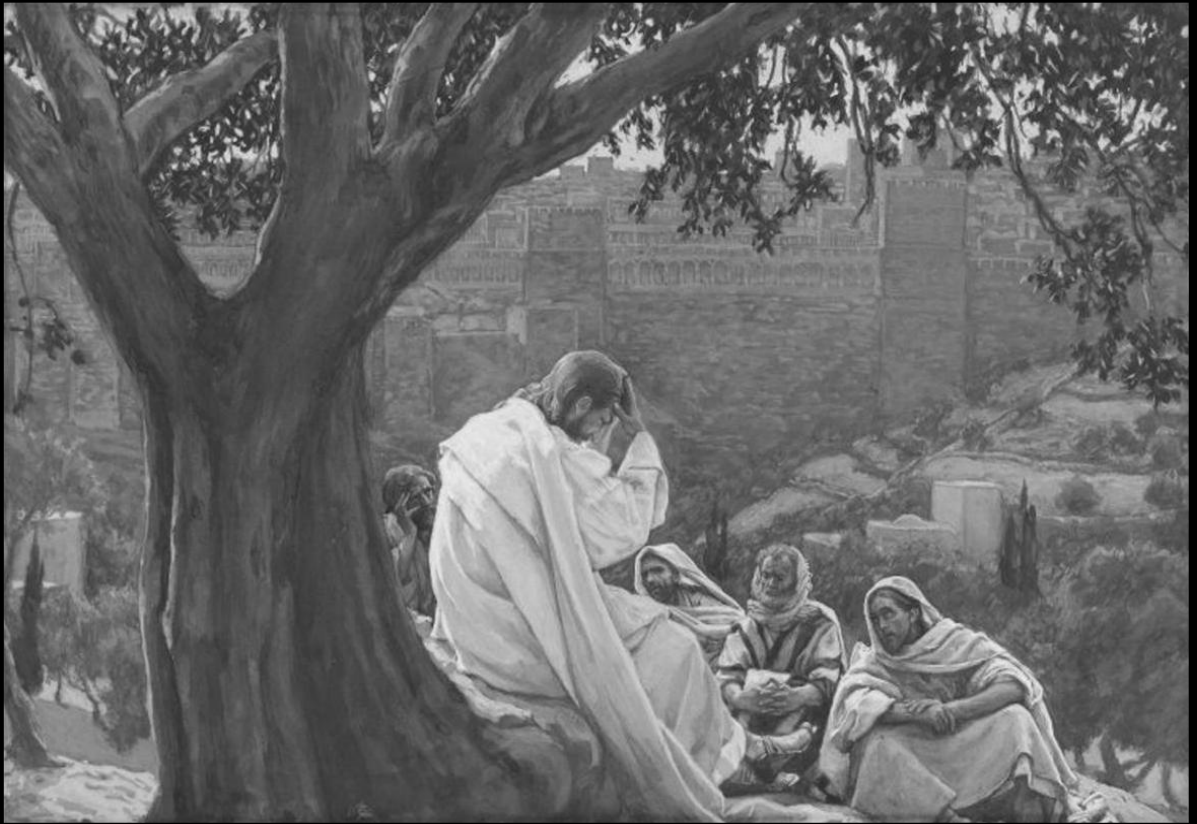


# St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



## *Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost*

### November 15/16, 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

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15/16, 2025

*Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our guest register.*



**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Dear Jesus, you told us the signs to look for before the great and glorious day of your judgment. Those signs have all been fulfilled, so we know we should be ready for the Last Day every day. Forgive us for the times that we've been unprepared. By your Word, by your Sacrament, by your faithful messengers, and by the encouragement we receive from each other, keep us ready for that Day. Amen.

**HANDBELLS**      *The Church's One Foundation*      arr. Ron Mallory  
6:30pm & 9:30am

**ORDER OF SERVICE**      *Service Setting 2*      pg. 172

**OPENING HYMN**      *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*      CW 493

*Stand*

**CONFESSION OF SINS**      pg. 172

**LORD HAVE MERCY**      pg. 174

**GLORY TO GOD**      pg. 176

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**      pg. 178

*Be seated*

**ANTHEM** 8am      *There Is a Higher Throne*      CW 885

## FIRST LESSON

Malachi 4:1-6

<sup>1</sup> “Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. <sup>2</sup> But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. <sup>3</sup> Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,” says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>4</sup> “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*All the Ends of the Earth*

Psalms 98

## SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

<sup>5</sup> All this is evidence that God’s judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. <sup>6</sup> God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you <sup>7</sup> and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. <sup>8</sup> He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might <sup>10</sup> on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## *Stand*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2:10



#### *Refrain*



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

#### *Tone*



Be faithful, even to the point of death,

#### *Refrain*



and I will give you life as your vic - tor's crown.

### GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

<sup>5</sup> Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, <sup>6</sup>“As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup> “Teacher,” they asked, “when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?”

<sup>8</sup> He replied: “Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them. <sup>9</sup> When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away.”

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them: “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom

against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup> And so you will bear testimony to me. <sup>14</sup> But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. <sup>15</sup> For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> Everyone will hate you because of me. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> Stand firm, and you will win life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**     *The Day Is Surely Drawing Near*     CW 488

**SERMON**                      Read the Signs                      Luke 21:5-19

*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.**

*Be seated*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** pg. 182

**OFFERING**

**THE SACRAMENT** pg. 183

*Stand*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* CW 672

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** *In This Holy, Blest Communion* CW 669

*Stand*

**PRAYER AND BLESSING** pg. 187

PREACHER  
PRESIDING MINISTER  
ORGANIST  
K-4 DIRECTOR  
HANDBELLS

Pastor Rob Guenther  
Pastor Jeff Bovee  
Craig Hirschmann  
Christine Baganz  
Becky Berg

#### 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 <a href="https://bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline">https://bit.ly/SJBibleClassonline</a>
Tuesday	5:30 pm	Joint Council Meeting @ St. Paul's
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
Friday	6 pm	St. Paul's Forensics Night
Saturday, Nov 22	10 am	Properties Board Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship
Sunday, Nov 23	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class and Sunday School
Wednesday, Nov 26	6:30 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service
	7:30 pm	Thanksgiving Pie Fellowship
Thursday, Nov 27	9 am	Thanksgiving Day Service
Friday, Nov 28		Office Closed

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Attendance for this past weekend was 632.

### **Fruits of Faith:**

\$12,170 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$800,906 / YTD: \$769,952  
\$1,609 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$89,446 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)  
\$1,197 MVL ~ YTD: \$55,934 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)  
\$80 Building Fund  
\$1,060 K-12 Education Assistance  
\$25 Iris Boxes  
\$300 Wish List  
\$100 St. Paul's School  
\$70 St. Paul's School Building Fund  
\$156 Women of St. John's

**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.

**Thanksgiving Pie** ~ Please join us for pre-Thanksgiving pie fellowship! Wednesday, November 26 after the 6:30 worship service. Sign up sheet in the narthex.



**Gift Cards for Nontraditional MLC students** ~ Women of St John's will be collecting gift cards (or funds to purchase them) through Sunday, December 7th to give our 19 nontraditional MLC students for Christmas. There is a collection box on the table in the new narthex if you would like to contribute. Please contact Sarah Logston (507-766-6455) with any questions.

**Women of St John's Ladies' Night Out Christmas Party** ~ We will be gathering at Carl's Corner in Essig on Tuesday, December 2nd at 6 p.m. for a meal and some fellowship activities. Please note that payment is by cash only and we will be ordering off the menu that evening. Parking is very limited, so carpooling is strongly encouraged. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the new narthex to indicate if you plan to attend and if you need a ride (or can provide one). Please sign up by November 24th so a final headcount can be given to the restaurant a week in advance. Contact Sarah Logston (507-766-6455) with any questions.

**Grand Piano on the Wish List** ~ St. John's Worship Committee would like to replace the piano in the front of the church. The existing piano was not designed for a large space seating 350 people, but for a house or small music studio. The council has approved that a new 5-foot Yamaha grand piano (to be placed in the front of the sanctuary near the lectern) be added to the wish list. This piano would enrich our worship as it fills the church with sound. It's known for its stability of tuning and action and delivers a clear sound that would accompany the congregation and choirs well. The cost is approximately \$21,400 for the piano, delivery and installation, and all needed accessories. If you are interested in contributing to this worship enhancement, please note "Piano" on your offering envelope or electronic gift. To God be the glory!

## **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New Ulm Food Shelf Volunteers** ~ St. John's supports the New Ulm Emergency Food Shelf by providing volunteers to assist clients on the third Monday of each month from 11:45-3 pm. Duties include accompanying clients as they select their food options based on distribution guidelines, weighing and loading carts, and pushing them to the garage, where clients load their items into their cars. Four volunteers are needed on the third Monday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering for 2026, please indicate your availability on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. For more information, or if you have questions, call Carla Melendy (507-217-9750) or Deb Beatty (507-276-2722). You will receive a volunteer schedule in December, along with guidelines for volunteers.

**Wreath Sales: Last Chance** ~ Tis the season!... MVL will again be selling wreaths, swags, crosses, and live garland to help bring the sights and scents of Christmas to your home or business! Look for friendly MVL students at your church to help you place your order starting October 26th. Or if you prefer, go to the MVL website and place your order online. Order deadline is **Sunday, November 16th**, and we hope to deliver most products to your church by Thanksgiving weekend. This year's proceeds are designated to help outfit a workshop space for our fine arts backstage area. Thank you for your support!

**Bake Sale and Pancake Breakfast** ~ The ever popular November Bake Sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 22 and 23, and the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 23. This event will benefit the St. Paul's School Building Campaign and will be held in the St. Paul's Church narthex and Fellowship Hall. It will be perfect timing for your Thanksgiving needs - pies, cakes, cookies, and more will be included in the bake sale. If you'd like to donate items for the bake sale, please drop those items in the church kitchen on Saturday, November 22. Please have them priced and ready to sell. If you'd like to volunteer to help the weekend of the event, you can find sign-up information at <https://signup.com/go/yEsFkSY>. Contact Amy Rich at [stampinnut@me.com](mailto:stampinnut@me.com) with your questions and suggested bake sale pricing information.

**MLC Wind Symphony Concert** ~ November 23, 3:00 pm Everything in creation has elemental qualities that make it what it is. Steel is metallic and strong. Wind is invisible yet felt. How about music? Melody is a thread of pitches woven logically into something memorable. Join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony for "Elements," a musical exploration of the defining characteristics of creation—expressed through sound. The concert will feature three student conductors, Caleb Krahn, Josiah Smith, and Micaiah Wagner, who are studying to be future music educators. The concert is in the MLC Auditorium on Sunday, November 23, at 3 pm. Can't make it in person? The concert will be livestreamed on MLC's YouTube page.

**Parade of Lights** ~ Walk, ride, or sing with John & Paul Ministries in the Parade of Lights, on Friday, November 28th at 6:00 pm! We need many volunteers so please scan the QR code to sign up and receive more detailed info. Help us invite our community to hear about Jesus this Christmas!



**About the Cover** ~ James J. Tissot created "The Prophecy of the Destruction of the Temple" (sometime between 1886 and 1894) with gouache (a type of water-based paint) on gray wove paper. It resides in the Brooklyn Museum in New York today. In it, Tissot depicts Jesus sitting with a small group of his disciples: Peter, James, Andrew, and John, against the backdrop of the Temple complex and the thick, fortified walls of Jerusalem. They all look distraught as Jesus prophesies the destruction of the temple and its splendor; an event which Jesus described as a sign of the end of times and his final judgment.