

*"A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
By this all men will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another."*

John 13

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 17 / 18, 2025

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 17/18, 2025

PRAYER BEFORE CHURCH: O loving and almighty Father in heaven: How great is the love you have lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God. And that is what we are through the perfect life and innocent death of your Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Lord, by your grace enable us to love as you have loved us. Cause us to forgive as you have forgiven us. Lead us even to love our enemies as you did. Compel us by your love for us to manifest this greatest of all virtues in our lives, so that all people may know we are your disciples, if we have such love for one another. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE	Service Setting 1	pg. 154
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OPENING HYMN	<i>Welcome, Happy Morning</i>	CW 469
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Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS		pg. 154
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LORD HAVE MERCY		pg. 156
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GLORY BE TO GOD		pg. 157
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PRAYER OF THE DAY		pg. 160
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Be seated

FIRST LESSON

Acts 11:1–18

¹ The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him ³ and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”

⁴ Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. ⁶ I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. ⁷ Then I heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’

⁸ “I replied, ‘Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’

⁹ “The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.

¹¹ “Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. ¹² The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. ¹⁴ He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’

¹⁵ “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?”

¹⁸ When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *I Will Praise Your Name Forever* Psalm 145B

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev - er, my King and my God.

Tone



Great is the LORD and most wor- / thy of praise;

his greatness no one can / fathom.

One generation commends your works to an- / other;

they tell of your / mighty acts.

The LORD upholds / all who fall

and lifts up all who are / bowed down. *Refrain*

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the / proper time.

You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every / living thing.

The LORD is near to all who / call on him,

to all who call on / him in truth.

He fulfills the desires of those who / fear him;

he hears their cry and / saves them.

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

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4:16

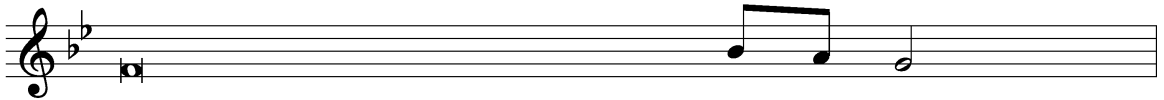


Refrain



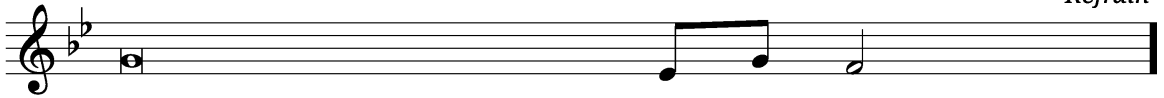
Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



We know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.

Refrain



Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

GOSPEL

John 13:31–35

³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

³³ “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

SERMON God's Love Is Made Known In Christ**John 13:31-35*****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

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OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pg. 165

Stand

LORD'S PRAYER

pg. 168

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Love in Christ Is Strong and Living* CW 726

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *What Is This Bread* CW 665

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING

pg. 171

PREACHER

Pastor Jeff Bovee

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pastor Rob Gunther

ORGANIST

Becky Berg

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
Tuesday	5:30 pm	Council Meal @ St. John's
	6 pm	Council
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Proverbs
	7 pm	Bible Class: Ruth
Friday	10 am	Sunset Apt. Worship
	11 am	Highland Regency Worship
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship
Sunday, May 25	8 & 9:30 am	Worship
	11 am	NO 11am, Summer Schedule
Wednesday, May 28	6:30 pm	Bible Information Class
Thursday, May 29	4 & 6:30 pm	Ascension Services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for this past weekend was 660

Fruits of Faith:

\$16,682 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$338,160 / YTD: \$349,500
\$2,264 WELS Missions ~ YTD: \$36,773 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)
\$902 MVL ~ YTD: \$22,354 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)
\$50 K-12 Education Assistance
\$285 Building Fund
\$60 St. Paul's School
\$45 St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$.50 Christian Family Solutions
\$7 Food and Fellowship
\$60 Martin Luther College

St. John's Cancer Group ~ will meet on Sunday, June 1, at 3:00pm in the fellowship area. Anyone living with a history of cancer (whether the diagnosis was recent or longer ago) as well as adult family members and friends who support someone with cancer are encouraged to attend. We will be previewing *When Cancer Comes*, a series of three books published recently by Northwestern Publishing House. This series uses the Biblical accounts of Job, Jeremiah, and Paul along with personal cancer stories to encourage and provide Gospel comfort to persons with cancer and to those who care about them. We will also discuss a possible project to extend spiritual comfort and support to others who are diagnosed with cancer.

Pictorial Directories 2025 ~ The directories are complete and ready to print. In fact, the Pew Copies have been printed and you will find them in the pews this weekend. Thanks to everyone who updated or sent in pictures for their families! There are two sizes again: 5.5x8.5 which is the same as the Pew Copies but includes member information. The larger size is 8.5x11. There are small Directory Order slips on each of the Narthex tables. Add your name, check the booklet size, and place into J/C Dretske Mailbox or take to the office. I will print and put your copy into your mailbox by the following week. Please keep the Pew Copies in the Pews so members can get to know each other-especially new members. The online app can still be updated and used on your phones. It works really swift. Just check out Instant Church Directory in the App stores on your phone. *Enjoy!*

Volunteer Opportunity ~ Women's Group 3 is looking for two new leaders to co-lead the women's group. Group one is also looking for 1 leader as well. The leaders help coordinate volunteers and donations for funeral receptions and also plan the meal and coordinate volunteers for one meal during Advent and Lent. If you are interested please contact the church office at office@stjohnsnewulm.com.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

LWMS Voting ~ The annual ballot for LWMS board positions and Home/World mission projects can be found in the new narthex. Any confirmed women of St. John's are welcome to cast their vote. Information about the individuals/mission projects can be found with the ballot. Please complete the ballot by Sunday, 5/18/25 and leave it in the basket on the table. Thank you.

Soccer Camp ~ Join John and Paul Ministries June 9-12, 2025, from 9-11:30 am at the MLC Soccer Fields as experienced leaders and coaches help children ages 4 - 4th grade improve their soccer skills through skill practice and scrimmages and learn the love of Jesus through daily devotions! \$30/child (\$20 additional children of the same family.) Register now at johnandpaulministries.com! *Registration deadline is May 18.* Questions? Reach out to camp coordinator Nick Schmoller at nick.schmoller@gmail.com.

Soccer Camp Help ~ Many hands help make an outreach event go smoothly, and with 100-150 kids participating in Summer Soccer Camp, please consider joining the Soccer Camp team! There are a variety of ways you can help, from first aid tent to snacks to coaching! Sign up now at johnandpaulministires.com! Questions? Reach out to Laura Martens (JPM event coordinator) at lmartens@splnewulm.org.

CLE ~ The Christian Leadership Experience (CLE), hosted by The Antioch Foundation since 2015, is about building the next generation of leaders for the Church. From training our children to living our faith at work, from volunteering for a committee to participating musically at church, God places opportunities in front of each of us to lead in unique ways. With a broad range of keynotes and breakouts, the CLE has something for everyone, including an in-depth leadership track available on Friday. Networking opportunities abound, with a relaxing social event on Friday evening. We hope you will join us for this two-day event and experience Christian fellowship and opportunities to follow, serve, and lead!

June 13-14, 2025 • La Crosse Center • La Crosse, WI

Visit www.christlead.com for more information and registration details.

Martin Luther College ~ is accepting applications for a part-time Men's Assistant Soccer Coach and a part-time Men's Assistant Basketball Coach. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/. Thank you.

Don't miss the Preschool Cleaning Party! ~ The Preschool Cleaning Party will be held at St. Paul's on Thursday May 29th from 1-4pm. There will be indoor and outdoor cleaning. After there will be root beer floats when finished! To RSVP or ask questions contact Heidi Meyer at hmeyer@splnewulm.com

About the Cover ~ The symbol of the heart denotes love. A heart painted with blood might seem a bit morbid, unless we understand that it portrays the love of Jesus who gave his own blood on the cross as the payment for our sin. In Jesus' forgiveness we have the greatest evidence of God's love for us.