



You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.
Hebrews 7:17

May 12 / 13, 2018
Seventh Sunday of Easter
St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 S. Washington Street
New Ulm, MN

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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 - NU Telecom: Mondays at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12/13, 2018

Prayer before worship: Almighty God who dwells in unapproachable light, we praise you for giving us the great mediator Jesus Christ as our High Priest and advocate before your throne. For his sake grant us pardon from our sins, and the assurance that we can come boldly to you, knowing that he has reconciled to you by imputing his righteousness to us. Having been justified by his grace, lead us to serve and worship you as your dear children. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: **Saturday:** *Evening Prayer* page 52
 Sunday: *Morning Praise* page 45

OPENING HYMN

Saturday
Sunday

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Morning Hymn

CW 234
p. 45

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 124

CW Supplement p. 59

LESSON

Acts 7:54-60

Acts 7:54-60 When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of	Man standing at the right hand of God." At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. While	they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.
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GOSPEL

John 17:11b-19

John 17:11-19 Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name-- the name you gave me-- so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture	would be fulfilled. "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not	that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.
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SEASONAL RESPONSE

HYMN of the DAY

Jesus, My Great High Priest

CW 359

SERMON

Hebrews 7:11-28

Hebrews 7:11 - 8:1 If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the law was given to the people), why was there still need for another priest to come-- one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must also be a change of the law. He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, one who has become a priest

not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God. And it was not without an oath! Others became priests without any oath, but he became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.'" Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented

them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest meets our need-- one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

A PRIEST OF A DIFFERENT KIND

1. HE IS DIVINE
2. HE IS THE GUARANTEE OF A BETTER CONVENANT
3. HE IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS FOREVER

MAGNIFICAT
TE DEUM

Saturday
Sunday

CW p. 57
CW p. 48

OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

***CW*411**

† † †

ORGANIST

Jeneane Thiesfeldt

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Mon	7 pm	Joint Council Meeting at St. Paul's Church
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Wed	6 pm	Vacation Bible School (VBS) Planning Meeting
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class
Sat	12:30 pm	Youth Group: Fishing and Frisbee at Lost Dog & Fox Hunters Park

† Weekend Services †

Saturday: 7 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

Text: Hebrews 7:11-28

Theme: A Priest of a Different Kind

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 20		Summer Schedule Begins (no 11 am service)
May 21	7 pm	Conference Room Reserved
May 24	6:30 pm	St. Paul's School Kindergarten Spring Show
	7:15 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
May 25	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
May 26	9 am	Basement Reserved
May 27		25th Anniversary Celebration of Laura Balza
	2 pm	MVL Graduation
May 28		Church office closed
May 29	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
May 30	2 pm	St. Paul's School Band Concert
	6:30 pm	St. Paul's School Closing Service at St. Paul's Church
Jun 4	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
Jun 5	6 pm	Women of St. John's
Jun 9	9 am	Basement Reserved
Jun 16		Diersen / Greife Wedding
	6:30 pm	Service in the Park at German Park, 200 N. German St.
Jun 17-23		Camp Shetek
Jun 19	7 pm	Council Meeting
Jun 24		Plocher / Doble Wedding
Jul 4		Church office closed
Jul 8	4 pm	Pastor Guenther Installation Service
Jul 17	7 pm	Council Meeting
Jul 21	9 am	Basement Reserved
Jul 24	7 pm	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
Jul 27	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 542 with 400 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$11,473	Home Operations ~ \$14,532 is our weekly need		
\$760	MVL ~ \$1,118 is our weekly need	\$20	Moving Expense Income
\$2,175	Missions ~ \$1,648 is our weekly need	\$9	Food & Fellowship
\$865	Building Fund ~ \$1,603 is our weekly need		

New Associate Pastor ~ Pastor Rob Guenther has accepted the call to be the pastor of St. John's as the associate of Pastor Bovee. Pastor Guenther, his wife Rebecca, and their four children will arrive in late June. The Guenthers plan to live in the recently-purchased home at 601 S. Washington. Therefore, we are thankful for the timing of the purchase of that property. Keep the Guenthers in your prayers as they prepare for the long move from Alaska to Minnesota. His installation will take place on July 8th. Please watch the bulletin and *Fortress* for further developments.

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting ~ On Wednesday, May 16 at 6 pm, there will be a Vacation Bible School (VBS) planning meeting for any and everyone who is interested in helping out with VBS. We will be considering a theme for this year, establishing dates and times, and gathering ideas. Teachers, helpers, and planners are always needed.

Youth Group Fishing and Frisbee ~ Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to meet in the church parking lot at 12:30 pm on Saturday, May 19 and drive to Lost Dog & Fox Hunters Park. Bring your fishing pole, bait, your favorite outdoor game and a snack to share. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are able to come. Parents, if you are able to drive please contact Lisa Goglein at ali3b2g@gmail.com or text/call 217-7117. We plan to be back at church by 3:30 pm.

Laura Balza 25 Years of Faithful Service ~ A service and program are scheduled to thank God for the faithful service of Laura Balza for 25 years in the Teaching Ministry. This celebration will be held at St. John's Church on Sunday, May 27th, beginning with the 9:30 am service. A short program with light refreshments will follow in the church basement. Volunteers are needed. Please sign up on the sheets in the narthex if you can help or bring food items.

Installation Service Choir ~ Pastor Guenther's installation is on July 8 at 4 pm. We would like to have a choir for this service. There will be rehearsals on June 25 at 7 pm and July 2 at 7 pm.. We will rehearse in the balcony. If you would like to sing for this service, please contact Laura Balza at lbalza@splnewulm.org.

St. Paul's School Spring Band Concert ~ has been rescheduled due to a track meet on May 17th. The band concert will be Wednesday, May 30 at 2 pm.

St. Paul's School Time to Build Campaign News ~ We celebrate our new school improvement campaign with the awesome news that total offerings for the project are \$2,230,000 and the fund balance after expenses is over \$1,717,000! Please keep the project in your prayers and offerings! Please make donations to St. Paul's Lutheran School

LWMS Ladies ~ It is time once again to cast your vote for the International LWMS officers and projects. The ballots are in the new narthex. Please fill out and return to the basket provided by May 13th. Select one from each category. Thank you for voting.

The *Continue in My Word* ~ books are now available for those that ordered them. Please see Kelly Emde for your order. Cost is \$3 per copy.

OWLS ~ Our historic April snowfall cancelled our Minnesota OWLS District Rally but, our speakers are very eager to come on May 14. Pastor Tim and Megan Redfield will tell us about their adopted and blind, but much cherished, daughter's care and special needs. She is a 6-year-old kindergartener. You may even be able to read about her in advance in the May Forward in Christ. You will also be pleased to find out that she is the great-granddaughter of Jerry and Caroline Birkholz! You will remember Jerry especially as the very first principal of MVL High School. Tim and Megan's presentation will help us learn about the challenges and joys of serving our Lord as the parents of a special needs child. Tim and Megan's presentation will begin at 1 pm but we invite you to join us already at 11:30 am for a bit of fellowship before our noon pot luck. Pastor Sutton will have a devotion at 12:45. As supporters of Lutherans for Life we cannot but honor these young parents for choosing to be the mother and father of a special needs child. Thank you for considering this opportunity for learning.

Staff Minister Kelly Emde

Administrative Teacher Jim Dretske

Teacher Laura Balza

Teacher Karen Grunwald

Teacher Jean Schroeder

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About the Cover ~ The drawing on the cover depicts Abraham returning victoriously from the Battle of the Kings, noted in Genesis 14. As he entered the Valley of Shaveh, he was met by an extraordinary individual named Melchizedek. This mysterious man's name means, "King of Righteousness." He was also called the King of Salem, which means, "King of Peace"; therefore he was a king. But he was also referred to as "priest of God Most High," even before the priesthood had been established under Moses. On top of everything else, he blessed Abraham, and Abraham gave Melchizedek one tenth of the plunder he had taken in the battle. Thus Abraham was honoring Melchizedek as someone greater than himself. Later, the psalmist would reveal that one would come who would be a high priest in the order of Melchizedek -- just as mysterious, and greater than Abraham and all the prophets. The writer of the book of Hebrews reveals this new high priest as Jesus Christ, the one prefigured by Melchizedek as a priest unlike those before him, but greater in power, righteousness, and longevity. This High Priest lives forever to intercede for us, and has saved us from our sin.