

*Let him who walks in the dark,
trust in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.*

Isaiah 50:10



Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 18 / 19, 2021



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.

Prayer before worship: Lord Jesus Christ, you set your face like a flint, determined to save us. With self-sacrificing resolve you pressed on to fulfill your mission and willingly died on the cross for our sins. For this we praise and thank you. Shine on us through the light of your Word and ever guide us by your Holy Spirit until at last we are with you in heaven. Now bless our worship of you and open our ears and hearts to hear and receive your precious Word. We pray this in your holy name, Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Order of Service: Christian Worship Supplement: Divine Service I p. 15

ANTHEM 11 am

God Has a Plan

Phil Biedenbender

"Be not afraid, for I am with you." That's what God says to me when I most need to hear it.

I cannot see what life will bring or what God dreams for me, but I live and trust and pray to God when I am lost.

Refrain:

God has a plan for me. God hears my call. Before time began, God knew it all.

God mapped a path for me and calls me back to be his own. God has a plan.

I have a hope. I have a future. I have a home above and a Savior who loves me.

He gave his life, and in his light, I'm perfect in God's sight. God loves all of me, and God knows all that we will be!

Refrain

When my soul cries out and my joy dies out, when my pain is strong and my days are long,

when my body's weak and my heart seeks God, when I make a sound, God is found. Refrain

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OPENING HYMN

We Are Singing

CWS732

Refrain

We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.

We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.

We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light,

We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.

1. **The Lord is the strength of our lives; Of whom shall we be afraid?
Though foes may be near to destroy; The Lord will be our light. Refrain**
2. **One thing have we asked of the Lord, Yes, this is the thing we seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord, To live with God forever. Refrain**
3. **When burdens are heavy to bear, Our shelter is God alone.
Our feet are lifted high, Yes high upon a rock. Refrain**
4. **We walk in the strength of the Lord; God's love is ever sure.
We shout that the world may hear; We sing a joyful song. Refrain**

Please stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

♪: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

♪: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory!**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer, receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,**

with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Glory to God, glory to God!

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-11

The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God. But now, all you who light fires and provide yourselves with flaming torches, go, walk in the light of your fires and of the torches you have set ablaze. This is what you shall receive from my hand: You will lie down in torment.

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 116

p. 10

SECOND LESSON

James 2:1-5, 8-10, 14-18

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God

chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

VERSE of the DAY

Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia.

- Romans 15:4

Please stand

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 8:27-35

♪: Glory be to you, O Lord! Glory be to you, O Lord!

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ." Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. He

then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he

said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it."

♪: Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

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 fully 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.

Please be seated

1. Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
Born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father: Glory to God on high!
2. Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
No one can serve him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one with God the Father? Glory to God on high!
3. Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
Sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother.
He who redeemed us reigns with God the Father: Glory to God on high!
4. Give God the glory, God and none other;
Give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;
Give God the glory, God with us, my brother: Glory to God on high!

SERMON

Isaiah 50:4-11

THE WORD OF THE LORD GIVES LIGHT

1. THE WORD MADE FLESH IS THE LIGHT OF LIFE
2. THE WORD OF TRUTH SEEKS THE LIGHT OF JUSTIFICATION
3. THE WORD OF PROMISE IS THE LIGHT OF OUR SALVATION

Please stand

♪: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold, uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING

see insert

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' INSTALLATION

8 am

PRAYER of the CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

♪: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

♪: **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen. Amen.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

see insert

1. Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared This feast for our salvation;
It is your body and your blood, And at your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed, We come to you for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.
2. Although you did to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in your presence they behold Your glory, all excelling,
And though your people shall not see Your glory and your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning,
3. Yet, Savior, you are not confined To any habitation,
But you are present ev'rywhere And with your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring hand
Or subtle craft and cunning.
4. We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your precious Word believing
That your true body and your blood Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true, And there is naught you cannot do,
For you, Lord, are almighty.
5. Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is ev'rywhere At once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.
6. Lord, I believe what you have said; Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.
7. Grant that we worthily receive Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for your grace And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.
8. For your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

Please stand

♪: In peace, Lord, you let your servant now depart according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for ev'ry people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory, the glory of your people Israel.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray
that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

† † †

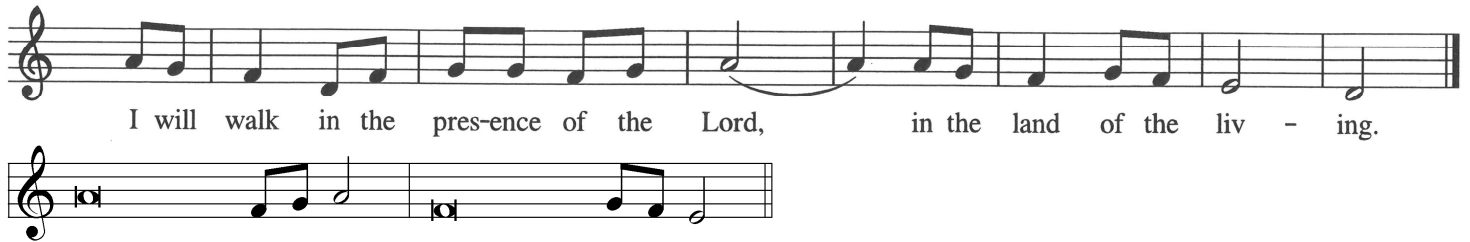
PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGANIST
CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Gr. K-8)

Pastor Rob Guenther
Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
Jeneane Thiesfeldt
Emily Stoering

Welcome, Visitors!

Please scan the code
to sign our
Guest Register.





I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;*
he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,*
I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;*
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Refrain

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD*
for all his goodness to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 394.

Fruits of faith given:

\$ Home Operations ~ \$17,191 <i>is our weekly need</i>	
\$ MVL ~ \$1,154 <i>is our weekly need</i>	\$ Wish List: Door Inscriptions
\$ Missions ~ \$1,731 <i>is our weekly need</i>	\$ K-12 Education Assistance
\$ Building Fund	\$ St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$ Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	

Sunday School Teachers' ~ We are blessed to have faithful Sunday School teachers instructing our children again this year. Please pray for and support them as they share God's Word with our children in the coming months.

Nursery	Natalie Borgwardt
PreK and Kindergarten	Kristin and Ruth Ulicky
Grades 1 - 2	Ruth Aufderheide
Grades 3 - 4	Kaitlin Emerson and Sarah Strackbein
Grades 5 - 6	Dawn Weisensel
Grades 7 - 8	Ben Foster and Luke Rogotzke

Youth Group ~ The new youth group leader is Kristin Ulicky. For the first event of the season, there will be a Game Day at Flandrau State Park in New Ulm on Sunday, September 26th from 4 - 6 pm. Feel free to bring your favorite outdoor games. I will be bringing a volleyball, football, soccer ball and a playground ball. Also, if everyone could bring a snack to share that would be great. Water and pop will be provided. We will be meeting in the picnic area near the pool. In case of bad weather, we will reschedule for the following weekend.

**YOUTH
GROUP**

Congregational Open Forum and Potluck ~ **On Sunday, October 17th a congregational open forum will take the place of the 11 am service.** We will have a short presentation by an architect that specializes in church renovations and remodels. Then, at the open forum we will discuss with him our sanctuary and possible renovations, what we need, what we'd like, and how we can best move forward with updates to our worship space. A potluck meal in the basement will follow the open forum. If you're able, please plan on attending, as your input is very valuable to our future plans!

There's An App for That! ~ St. John's now has her own app! Watch services streamed live on Sunday mornings at 8 am or watch previously recorded services. Get full access to the calendar, including registration for events. Listen to our choir's music. Even give securely online! You can do all this and more at the St. John's app! Search the iTunes or Google App app stores for "St Johns New Ulm" and download it today!



Bible Classes ~ will be in the basement and online at bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass.

Sundays at 9:30 am: Share Your Faith!

Thursdays at 10:30 am: Book of Galatians

Thursdays at 7 pm: Adult Instruction Class

Fridays at 9:30 am: Women's Class: Mama Bear Apologetics

New Email Addresses ~ All members with emails should be receiving emails from office@stjohnsnewulm.com and from Jim, Staff Minister, at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com. Please let the church office know if you are having trouble receiving emails. Please check your Junk Mail or SPAM folders for emails from the church or our church leaders. Add these new emails from our new domain to your contacts.

Add Pictures to Online Church Directory ~ Please Add or Update your Picture online. Sign into our new updated Online Church Directory for St. John's at instantchurchdirectory.com using your email. People can take pictures with their phones and update the Directory quite easily. 1) Use the Menu on the phone app. 2) Select Edit My Family; 3) Choose a Photo; and select the picture you want. 4) Hit Save and you're done. If you are having trouble taking a picture, just ask a fellow member or usher to take your picture around the church or in the Narthex after church. You can also email a picture to Jim at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com. Please feel free to reach out to Jim or Jesse Zahrt at evangelism@stjohnsnewulm.com with questions.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Concert ~ The ProMusica Minnesota Chamber Music Series presents its season opening concert called "Love Sweet", on Sunday, September 26, 3 pm, in the Chapel of the Christ at Martin Luther College. The concert features pianist Bethel Balge and Minnesota Orchestra principal musicians, cellist Tony Ross and violinist Susie Park. They will be joined by soprano Heather Hjelle. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit ProMusicaMN.com.

Job Openings ~ Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for Part-time Women's Tennis Head Coach and Full-time Director of Information Technology. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12 pm on Tuesday, October 5, 2021. The comprehensive position descriptions and application link can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr/. For additional information, contact the MLC Human Resources Office at (507) 354-8221.

MLC Ladies Auxiliary ~ will be holding their annual meeting on Saturday, October 9th with coffee hour at 8 am and business meeting from 9-12:30, followed by lunch in the MLC cafeteria. Come participate in the morning's activities and vote on projects to do for the coming year. We are so grateful to be able to have our meeting on the MLC Campus this year!

About the Cover ~ The Bible is God's revealed Word. It tells us who God is and what he has done. It is described by the prophets and apostles as a light that shines in the darkness. The Bible reminds us that even though we were lost in the darkness of sin, God sent us a great light which is the gospel. The gospel is the Good News that Jesus Christ came to this earth to live a perfect life in our place and to die on our behalf to pay the debt for our sin. This we could not know except by God's revelation to us in the Bible. Therefore read it, study it, memorize it, and meditate on it. It is the key to God's kingdom.