St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church 627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



Pastor Jeffrey Bovee revbovee@gmail.com 507-217-6364 www.stjohnsnewulm.com stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm 354-6744 Pastor Rob Guenther pastorguenther@gmail.com 507-240-2433

Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Third Sunday in Lent March 6/7, 2021

Prayer before worship: Dear God, we know that we often break your commandments, not just in the wrong things we do, but in the good things we leave undone. We haven't loved you above all else and have shown that in our words and actions. We haven't loved others as we love ourselves and rightly deserve your punishment. But in your grace, you sent Jesus as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. You have created faith in our hearts that trusts in your promises. And in his work for us we find rest for our souls. By your gospel, renew our zeal to live for you, to love your law, and to lead godly lives in thanks for all you've done for us. We ask it trusting in Jesus' work for us. Amen.

OPENING HYMN God Himself Is Present CW 224

- God himself is present—Let us now adore him And with awe appear before him.
 God is in his temple—All within keep silence, Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
 He alone On his throne
 Is our God and Savior; Praise his name forever!
- God himself is present—Hear the harps resounding; See the hosts the throne surrounding. "Holy, holy,"—Hear the hymn ascending, Songs of saints and angels blending. Bow your ear To us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises That your Church now raises.
- Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit,
 Trusting only in your merit.
 Like the holy angels, Worshiping before you,
 May I ceaselessly adore you.
 Let your will Ever still
 Rule your church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

Please stand

- P: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- 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.
- P: 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.

- P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- □: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
- ☐: Christ, have mercy.
- P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- □: Lord, have mercy.
- P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:
- ג: Amen.
- P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.
- **♪**: O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.

You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit; you make us pure and holy in your sight.

You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;

you made your Father known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood.

You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ג: Amen.

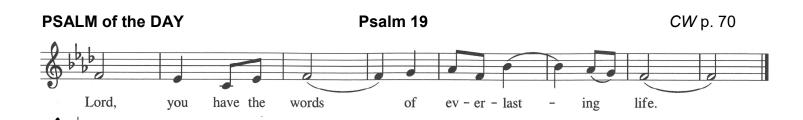
Please be seated

Exodus 20:1-17 FIRST LESSON

And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin your manservant or of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my

commandments. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but

he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant. his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."



The heavens declare the glo<u>ry</u> of God;* the skies proclaim the work <u>of</u> his hands.

Their voice goes out into <u>all</u> the earth,* their words to the ends <u>of</u> the world.

Refrain

The law of the LORD is <u>perfect</u>,* giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are <u>ra</u>diant,* giving light <u>to</u> the eyes.

They are more pre<u>cious</u> than gold;* they are sweeter than <u>hon</u>ey.

By them is your <u>ser</u>vant taught;*
in keeping them there is great reward.

Refrain

May the words of my mouth and the meditation <u>of</u> my heart* be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Re<u>deem</u>er.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>inning</u>,* is now, and will be forever. <u>Amen.</u>

Refrain

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but both Jews and Greeks, Christ we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to

those whom God has called. the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

VERSE of the DAY

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. - John 3:14-15

Please stand

GOSPEL LESSON John 2:13-22

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. To

those who sold doves he said. "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." Then the Jews demanded of him. "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will

raise it again in three days." The Jews replied, "It has taken fortysix years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord. ☐: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN of the DAY The Law of God Is Good and Wise

CW 287

- 1. The law of God is good and wise; It sets his will before our eyes, Shows us the way of righteousness, But dooms to death when we transgress.
- The law is good, but since the fall Its holiness condemns us all; It dooms us for our sins to die And has no pow'r to justify.
- 3. Its light of holiness imparts The knowledge of our sinful hearts That we may see our lost estate And seek relief before too late.
- 4. To Jesus we for refuge flee, Who from the curse has set us free, And humbly worship at his throne, Saved by his grace through faith alone.

Exodus 20:1-17 SERMON

We Love the Law of the Lord!

- 1. Look at the Law of the Lord!
- 2. Look at the Love of the Lord!
- 3. Love the Law of the Lord!

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.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

PRAYER of the CHURCH

- P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.
- C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.
- P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.
- C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

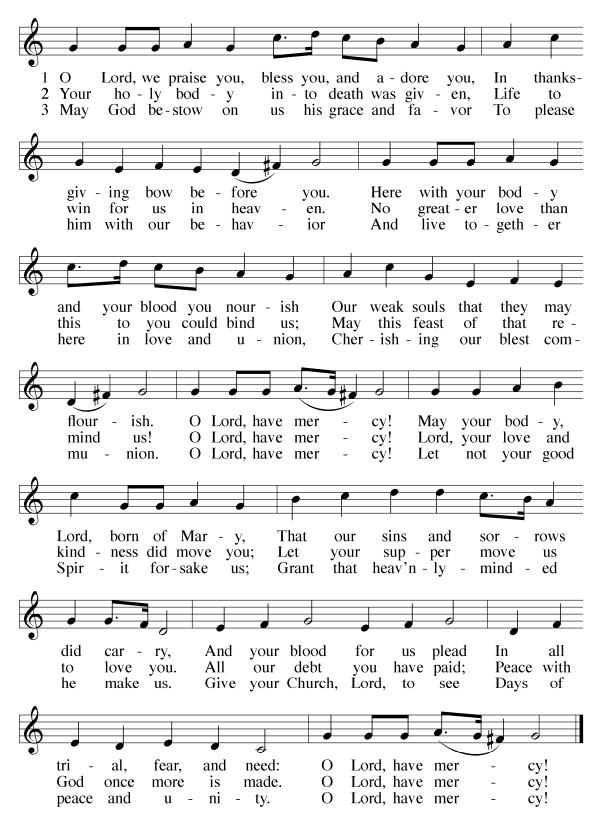
- P: The Lord be with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- **☐:** We lift them up to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **J**: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:
- ☐: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory. You are my God, and I will exalt you.
 I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.
- P: 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.

- .☐: 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.

Please be seated



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ

CW 401

1. Your works, not mine, O Christ, Speak gladness to this heart. They tell me all is done; They bid my fear depart.

Refrain:

To whom but you, who can alone For sin atone, Lord, shall I flee?

- 2. Your blood, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my sinful soul; Your wounds, not mine, contain The balm that makes me whole. *Refrain*
- 3. Your cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the dreadful load Of sins that none could bear But the incarnate God. *Refrain*
- 4. Your death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ransom due; Ten thousand deaths like mine Would have been all too few. *Refrain*
- 5. Your righteousness, O Christ, Alone can cover me; No other righteousness Can set a sinner free. *Refrain*

Please stand

- ☐: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'ryone what he has done.

 Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.

 He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.

 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **J**: Amen.
- P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

† † †

PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGANIST

Pastor Rob Guenther Pastor Jeffrey Bovee Steve Thiesfeldt



Daylight Savings Begins: Sunday, March 14th Set clocks ahead one hour

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 291.

Fruits of faith given:			
\$13,302	Home Operations ~ \$17,191 is our weekly	need	
\$1,103	MVL ~ \$1,154 is our weekly need	\$210	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,297	Missions ~ \$1,731 is our weekly need	\$135	Benevolence Fund
\$1,211	Building Fund	\$100	Audio/Video Equipment
\$20	LWMS	\$12	Food & Fellowship
			·

Join in the "Hallelujah Chorus" ~ Join us on Palm Sunday in the sanctuary at noon for a one rehearsal sing and record session of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus". Singers, brass, organ, and our new timpani will be safely distanced as we prepare this special piece to be played during our Easter services. Many voices will make this extra festive! If you have questions, contact Bethel Boeder at boederbj@mlc-wels.edu.

St. John's Church Campout ~ We are so excited to announce the first ever St. John's Church Campout at the Sleepy Eye Sportsmen's Park the nights of June 25-26. Both one or two night reservations are possible. The link to reserve your campsite is: bit.ly/SJcamping21. Once a reservation has been made, please make your payment within a week to hold your spot. There will be a church service at the campsite at some point during the weekend, and other fellowship activities will be included as well. We can't wait to see you there!

Volunteer Opportunity ~ During the month of April St. John members have an opportunity to help serve our New Ulm community by volunteering at the New Ulm Emergency Food Shelf. If you are able, please consider taking a few hours to lend a helping hand. Both college and high school students are encouraged to help out. Three volunteers per shift are requested.

Monday, April 5, 12, 19 and 26: 12 - 3 pm Monday, April 5: 6:30 - 8 pm

Tuesday, April 27: 8:30 - 11 am (unload truck)

Wednesday, April 28: 12 - 3 pm

Please contact Rita Walters via phone or text at 507-351-8603 or email rmwalters@hotmail.com.

Church Cleaning ~ There will be a church cleaning day scheduled for Saturday, March 20th from 9 - 11 am. Please note that it is a come and go event. Stay for as long or as little as you can. Men, women and children are needed to get our church cleaned and ready for Easter. All cleaning supplies will be provided. Many hands make light work! "Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ." Colossians 3:23-24

In-Person Bible Classes ~ Thursday Bible classes will be the topic of Civil Government at 10:30 am given by Pastor Bovee. Pastor Guenther will lead a study of the book of Revelation at 7 pm.

Sunday morning Bible class starts at 9:30 am. There are 25 tables available in the church basement with one family per table. Please sign up for a table at bit.ly/SundayBibleClass. Prof. Dave Scharf will begin a class entitled "Lies About God" this Sunday, March 7.

All of the in-person classes will be held in the church basement or join online at bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPLaT ~ will meet next on March 13th. Teens (Gr. 7-12) are encouraged to participate in the canvas and basket assembly from 9:00-noon. We will then meet from noon-1pm for some games and activities.

Mission Trips ~ Mission trips are tentatively being planned for summer of 2021. Applications are in the new narthex. Please fill out an application and return to Mr. Kuschel at St. Paul's Lutheran Church by April 16th.

St. Paul's School News ~ *Kindergarten Round-Up* You and your future kindergartener are invited to attend Kindergarten "Round-Up" on Monday, March 8, Tuesday, March 9 or Thursday, March 11 at 5:30 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran School. Please sign up and choose a session by going to https://signup.com/go/FYJmXhn. Contact the school office with any questions at 507-354-2329.

MVL News ~ Palmer Bus Service provides safe and reliable transportation for students. We are now hiring *school bus drivers* for MVL routes. Full-time and part-time positions available with paid training! Contact Site Manager Ray Vulcan at rayv@palmerbusservice.com to learn more. MVL is looking for an *assistant golf coach* for this spring. A person who wants to share their love and knowledge of the game with young people. Practices and meets take place after school. For more information contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org or 507-276-7576. The Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School seeks a WELS or ELS male to serve as *Director of Mission Advancement*. Interested individuals should contact MVL Principal, Dr. Tim Plath, for more information at 507-354-6851 or tplath@mvlhs.org.

MLC Wind Symphony Concert ~ Please join the Martin Luther College Wind Symphony for "Amazing Grace: A Sacred Concert for Wind Band" on Sunday, March 7, at 3 pm. The music for this concert reflects upon the Christian need and desire to turn toward our Lord in times of extreme distress, such as all that has happened in the last 12 months. The first half of the program is a musical presentation of the "ACTS" formula for prayer—Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication—by the composer J. Eric Schmidt. At times, when in prayer, one may not have the words to express all that is in the heart. In these moments, "the Spirit himself intercedes for us," guiding our hearts in praise and asking for what we need. The second half of the program is a reflection on Jesus' journey through Holy Week, Easter, and Ascension. Music includes settings of Were You There, O Sacred Head Now Wounded, and the namesake of the concert, Amazing Grace, a true celebration of the undeserved love we receive from our Lord. The concert will be livestreamed for all near and far, and open to the MLC campus family for in-person attendance. Livestream link: https://livestream.com/accounts/7855758/events/9255353

John and Paul Ministries Easter Event ~ Easter for Kids is taking on a new look this year! Easter Outreach Baskets will be available the weekend before Easter at your church with the invitation to take one (for you) and give one (as outreach)! To complete the baskets we are looking for:

Bags of Chocolate Easter Candy (jelly beans are included, so aren't needed as donations)
Plastic Easter Eggs

Donations can be placed in the marked bin in your church narthex. Thank you!

Join us for an Easter canvas! Join us for a Walking Easter Canvas and Easter Outreach Basket assembly! Choose to do one or both as it fits for you! The canvas is a silent, walking canvas with postcards detailing our Easter worship opportunities for both St John's and St Paul's. The Easter Outreach Baskets are being assembled on the same day and include Resurrection eggs, Easter postcards, devotions, jellybean prayers and more in a wrapped, Easter gift basket. Many hands are needed and we would love for you to join us! For questions or more information contact Beth Scharf (John and Paul Ministries coordinator) at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu.

Job Opening ~ Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for one full-time Early Childhood Learning Center Assistant Teacher. A comprehensive description for this position can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

About the Cover ~ Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the law of God. God impressed upon his people how serious he was about his law when he descended on the mountain in fire, sending thunder and lightning, a thick cloud and smoke, a very loud trumpet blast, and an earthquake. This impressive display had its desired effect when the people trembled with fear? The law itself is as terrifying as the manner in which God presented it when we consider how often we've broken God's commands and what we deserve for it. But in his love and grace, God has removed our fear by a mediator; not just a man like Moses, but his own Son who became our substitute. He kept the law perfectly in our place. He took the punishment we deserve. Now we are free from having to keep the law to earn heaven. Now we are eager to keep the law in thanks.

Our Apcoming Lenten Season



Midweek Lenten Services

March 10, 17. 24 11:00 am, 4:00 and 6:30 pm

Palm Sunday Services

Saturday, March 27 6:30 pm Sunday, March 28 8, 9:30 and 11 am



Maundy Thursday Services

Thursday, April 1 11:00 am, 4:00 and 6:30 pm



Friday, April 2 12:00 pm: Tre Ore Service at St. Paul's 6:30 and 8:00 pm: Tenebrae Service





Easter Sunday Services

NO Saturday Service Sunday, April 4 7:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am