

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."

Matthew 13



Tenth Sunday After Pentecost ~ August 8 / 9, 2020

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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507-354-6744

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.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Saturday, August 8, 2020

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, as your Word is sown into the world, we know the day is coming when the net judgment will be hauled in before your judgment seat. Cause us to be prepared by receiving your Word with believing hearts and by sharing it with others. Strengthen and edify us now as we hear your saving gospel message, and accept our prayers and praises which we render to you. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

The soloist will sing all hymns and musical notations (♪).

Please stand

M: Jesus Christ, is the light of the world.

♪: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening.

♪: **and the day is almost over.**

M: Be our light and scatter the darkness,

♪: **and hear our evening hymn of praise.**

EVENING HYMN

CW p. 54

1. O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, In you the Father's glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is he, And blest are you, his only Son.
2. Now sunset comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God Who dwells in the eternal light.
3. Worthy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, life-giving Lord;
Wherefore you are through all the earth And in the highest heav'n adored.

M: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

♪: **Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12

See page 8

PSALM

Psalm 119b

*CW p. 110
See page 9*

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:28-30

See page 8

M: Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

HYMN of the DAY

All Depends on Our Possessing

CW 421

See page 10

SERMON

Matthew 13:44-52

See page 8

WE ARE TREASURE HUNTERS AND FISHERMAN FOR THE FATHER

- 1. IN TREASURE FIELDS AND LAKES WHERE THERE IS AGGRESSIVE COMPETITION**
- 2. KNOWING THAT GOD PRACTICES SELECTIVE MINING AND HARVESTING**

Please stand

SONG of MARY

♪: **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**
From this day all generations will call me blessed. The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
He has mercy on those who fear him in ev'ry generation. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise made to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his children forever. Amen.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

♪: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

♪: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

♪: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

♪: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

♪: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

♪: **Thanks be to God.**

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

♪: **Amen.**

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: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SONG of SIMEON

♪: **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 of your people Israel.**

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

♪: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

How Blest Are They Who Hear

CW 325

See page 10

† † †

**PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGANIST
SOLOIST**

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
Pastor Rob Guenther
Jeneane Thiesfeldt
Steve Thiesfeldt

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, as your Word is sown into the world, we know the day is coming when the net judgment will be hauled in before your judgment seat. Cause us to be prepared by receiving your Word with believing hearts and by sharing it with others. Strengthen and edify us now as we hear your saving gospel message, and accept our prayers and praises which we render to you. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Please stand

OPENING HYMN

Morning Hymn

CW p. 45

- 1. Father, we praise you, now the night is over,
Active and watchful, standing now before you.
Singing, we offer prayer and meditation;
Thus we adore you.**
- 2. Monarch of all things, fit us for your mansions;
Banish our weakness, health and wholeness sending.
Bring us to heaven, where your saints united
Joy without ending.**
- 3. All-holy Father, Son, and equal Spirit,
Trinity blessed, send us your salvation.
Yours is the glory, gleaming and resounding
Through all creation.**

M: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: Praise be to God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: let us worship him.

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. The deep places of the earth are in his hand; the heights of the hills are also his. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12

See page 8

PSALM

Psalm 119b

CW p. 110
See page 9

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:28-30

See page 8

SEASONAL RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

SERMON**Matthew 13:44-52**

See page 8

- WE ARE TREASURE HUNTERS AND FISHERMAN FOR THE FATHER**
- 1. IN TREASURE FIELDS AND LAKES WHERE THERE IS AGGRESSIVE COMPETITION**
 - 2. KNOWING THAT GOD PRACTICES SELECTIVE MINING AND HARVESTING**

Please stand

C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you, Father everlasting. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heav'nly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us praise the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN*How Blest Are They Who Hear***CW 325**
See page 10

† † †

PREACHER
PRESIDING MINISTER
ORGANIST

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
Pastor Rob Guenther
Jeneane Thiesfeldt

FIRST LESSON

Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his

throne this very day. "Now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to

govern this great people of yours?" The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

1 Kings 3:5-12

SECOND LESSON

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also

predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called;

those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Romans 8:28-30

GOSPEL LESSON

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. Once again, the kingdom of heaven is

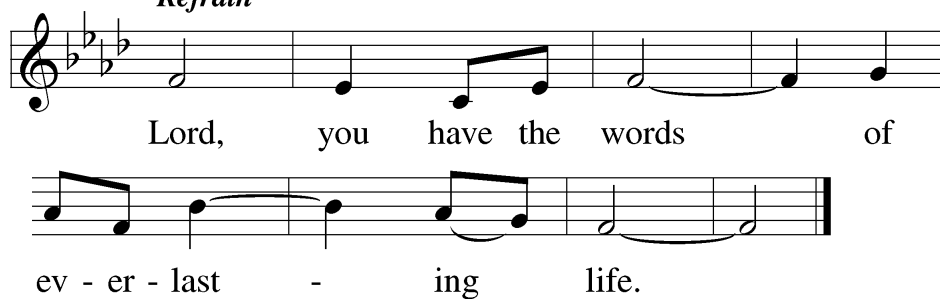
like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery

furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied. He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

Matthew 13:44-52

Saturday: soloist sings the refrain; congregation will speak the verses

Refrain



Psalm tone



Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees;*
then I will keep them to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will keep your law*
and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your commands,*
for there I find delight.

Refrain

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;*
preserve my life according to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your servant,*
so that you may be feared.

How I long for your precepts!*
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

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

HYMN of the DAY***All Depends on Our Possessing*****CW 421**

1. All depends on our possessing God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken In their God are not forsaken
And e'er keep a dauntless heart.
2. He who to this day has fed me And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me, He who daily guides and rules me,
Will remain my help divine.
3. Many spend their lives in fretting Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.
4. Well he knows what best to grant me; All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt his wisdom never—As God wills, so be it ever—
I to him commit my way.
5. If on earth my days he lengthen, He my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding, Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in his grace.

CLOSING HYMN***How Blest Are They Who Hear*****CW 325**

1. How blest are they who hear God's Word
And keep and heed what they have heard!
They daily grow in wisdom.
Their light shines brighter day by day,
And while they tread life's weary way,
They have the oil of gladness
To soothe their pain and sadness.
2. God's Word a treasure is to me,
Through sorrow's night my sun shall be,
The shield of faith in battle.
The Father's hand has written there
My title as his child and heir,
"The kingdom's yours forever."
That promise fails me never.
3. Today I was my Savior's guest;
My soul was here so richly blest,
The bread of life receiving.
Oh, may thereby my faith prevail
So that its fruits may never fail
Till my account is given
Before God's throne in heaven!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 250 with 195 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$15,112	Home Operations ~ \$15,346 is our weekly need		
\$1,338	MVL ~ \$1,163 is our weekly need	\$120	K-12 Education Assistance
\$2,059	Missions ~ \$1,714 is our weekly need	\$110	LWMS
\$1,904	Building Fund ~ \$1,397 is our weekly need	\$100	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$50	WELS Christian Aid & Relief	\$25	Audio/Video Equipment
\$1	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	\$5	MLC Ladies' Auxiliary

Altar Flowers ~ have been given in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Chuck and Mary Hussman and the 40th anniversary/retirement of Jean Schroeder.

Anniversary Slideshow ~ A slideshow of pictures taken during Jean Schroeder's ministry at St. Paul's School will be shown in the New Narthex before and after services. The slideshow will be made into a video and a link will be put on St. John's website and Facebook page. It will also be made available to current school families.

Bible Class ~ will continue online. Join us Sunday evenings at 7 pm for a study of *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. The class will be held at Meet.Google.com (or with the Google Meet app on your smartphone or tablet) with "meeting code" tjx-anhj-gvx. Or use this shortcut which automatically enters the code for you: <https://bit.ly/STJLCNUMeet> (Note: the link is case sensitive). You can also call in over the phone at (209) 457-0523 using PIN: 100 259 597# (Note: This will be a long distance call.) The meeting room can hold up to 250 participants, so feel free to tell your friends!

St. John's Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions ~ We are again contracting with Lifetouch studios to photograph our St John's family for our pictorial directory. These are the dates and times:

Thursday & Friday, September 10 & 11 2 - 9 pm

Saturday, September 12 10 am - 5 pm

You can schedule your appointments using an online scheduling link that you can find on our website, but we also will have paper forms available on weekends at church for those who would rather sign up in person. You will find them in our gathering space. The dates are coming up quickly, so schedule soon! If you have any questions, contact our church office at 354-6744.

Sending Offerings through Bill Pay ~ Several members of St. John's have asked if there is a way for them to make their weekly offerings automatically either online or by an automatic bank transaction. St. John's is investigating our online giving options, but are not yet ready to receive online gifts. For the time being, we suggest that our members consider using your bank's online Bill Pay service to make weekly or monthly gifts to St. John's. If you have questions about using Bill Pay to make donations, please contact Financial Secretary Mike Thom at 507-217-7671.

Church Calendar ~ the up-to-date church calendar can be found on our website: stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar.

OWLS ~ The Owls are cancelling for this year our August Outdoor Picnic. See everybody for the picnic next year! We will be conferring on the next months schedule of indoor meetings and will announce them through the church bulletin.

MVL Anniversary and Installation ~ The Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School Board, together with the faculty and staff, invites you to attend a celebration of thanksgiving and joy to recognize the anniversary in the teaching ministry of Dr. Tim Plath: 40 years and Mrs. Jennifer Uher: 25 years. Please join us in thanking God for their faithful service on Sunday, August 30 at 1:30 pm at our Opening Service on campus. The installations of Mrs. Karyn Clemons and Rev. Tom Westendorf will also take place. Congratulatory cards and letters may be sent to the attention of Mr. Jim Buboltz, MVL, 45638 561st Avenue, New Ulm, MN 56073.

MVL Announcements ~ Open Positions 1. A part-time custodian(s) to work 25 hours per week. For more information contact Ken Opitz at MVL at 507-354-6851 or kopitz@mvlhs.org. 2. A part-time food service worker for approximately three hours each school day. Tasks include food preparation and service, washing dishes and clean up. Individuals interested in this position should contact Elizabeth Fluegge at MVL at 507-354-6851, 507-993-5195, or foodservice@mvlhs.org. 3. 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. **MVL Auction** The MVL Booster Club Auction, postponed from March, will now be happening this month! A special online auction will run from August 13-22, culminating in a Facebook live event on Saturday, August 22 from 6:30-8 pm. You won't want to miss this! More details will be coming - stay tuned to MVL's Facebook page (facebook.com/mvlhs).

Volunteers Needed ~ Treasure Haus is looking for a few new volunteers. If you have any spare time please consider helping us out. If interested, please call the store and speak with a manager.

WELS & ELS Singles Facebook Group ~ If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 260 members with ages ranging from 18-65+. We're an active group who loves sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and tacos. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles>

Food Kit Available ~ The New Ulm Area Food Shelf and the Lions Club of New Ulm are offering a 14-day food kit for seniors 65+ who are homebound because of COVID-19. Homebound is defined as those who only leave home for medical reasons. If you are in need of food and would like this delivered to you, please call the food shelf at 354-7668. If no one answers, please leave a message with your name, address and phone number. Speak slowly and clearly. Someone will contact you to ask about any special diet needs and let you know when the delivery will be made.

Family Bible Nights at St. Paul's Church ~ *Update: Please join us for Family Bible Nights on August 12, and August 19 at St. Paul's Church from 6 - 7:45 pm. Our theme for this year is "Nothing to Fear." Each evening will include devotions, age specific Bible study, and activities for families of all types. Please sign up at the St. Paul's website: splnewulm.org/church/, or call the St. Paul's church office at 507-354-3641.

Job Openings ~ Treasure Haus is looking for a manager. A floor manager position is open for 2 days per week. If interested please stop by and pick up an application or speak to one of the current managers.

Jesus Loves Me Learning Center in North Mankato is looking for classroom assistant teachers and aides who have enthusiasm and passion for children, patience and a sense of humor, good communication skills, and are flexible. Please pick up an application from the church office or the Jesus Loves Me office. You may also call 507-345-7707 or email directorjlm@stpaulsnorthmankato.com for an application.

The Lutheran Home Association is seeking applicants for a part-time maintenance position at Highland Regency House, our independent living facility in New Ulm near MLC. Here is the link to the position description and then a link to apply <https://www.tlha.org/job/maintenance-new-ulm-mn/>

About the Cover ~ Jesus tells three parables. The first two are about the importance of God's Word -- a treasure whose value is next to none, and one we want to possess and hold on to at all cost. The second parable is about the judgment on the last day. Only through the proclamation of God's Word can hearts be changed and souls be saved when God draws in the great drag net of judgment on that glorious and dreadful day. May we be prepared and prepare others by teaching and preaching that saving Word to others.