



Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost ~ August 22 / 23, 2020

## St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 S. Washington Street New Ulm, MN

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee  
revbovee@gmail.com  
507-217-6364 Cell

[www.stjohnsnewulm.com](http://www.stjohnsnewulm.com)  
Email: [stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com)

Pastor Rob Guenther  
[pastorguenther@gmail.com](mailto:pastorguenther@gmail.com)  
507-240-2433 Cell



Type in Search: St Johns  
Lutheran Church New Ulm MN

 [facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm](https://facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm)

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.

**Prayer before worship:** Almighty God, there has never been such a time in history when the gospel of Jesus Christ is so accessible. And yet, many starve spiritually because they refuse the nourishing blessings of your love and mercy which you give us in your Word. Give us, your people, hearts that are compelled to reach out to those who do not know the Savior, and also to those who know him, but who still need the comfort of his saving love. Deliver us from hardness of heart and sinful rebellion which deafen our ears and dull our understanding of your gospel. Instead, strengthen us through your Word and Sacraments that we may have courage and zeal to live according to your Word and to share it with others. Please bless our time of worship. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Saturday: The soloist will sing all hymns and musical notations (♩).*

## OPENING HYMN

*The God of Abraham Praise*

**TLH 40**

See page 8

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: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

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

♩: **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

**1 Kings 19:9-18**

There he went into a cave and spent the night. The Lord appears to Elijah And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord

God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The Lord said, "Go out

and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the

wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord

God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The Lord said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint

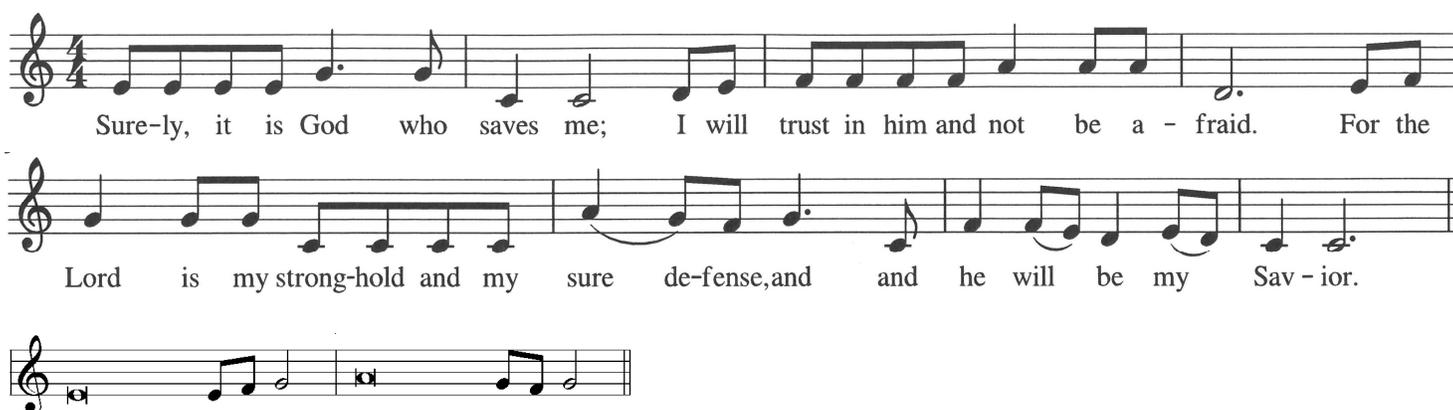
Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him."

## PSALM of the DAY

## Psalm 73

CW p. 94

*Saturday: soloist will sing the refrain; congregation will speak the verses*



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the  
Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and and he will be my Sav - ior.

I am always with you, O LORD;\*  
you hold me by my right hand.

You guide me with your counsel,\*  
and afterward you will take me into glory.

Whom have I in heaven but you?\*  
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

My flesh and my heart may fail,\*  
but God is the strength of my heart  
and my portion forever.

**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**

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 9:1-5

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself

were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the

receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

## VERSE of the DAY

♪: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34-42

“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’ Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not

worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet

because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

♪: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## HYMN of the DAY

*By Grace I’m Saved*

CW 384

1. By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why waver at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
So then this word must true remain: By grace you, too, shall heav’n obtain.
2. By grace God’s Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought him from his heav’nly throne.
3. By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise When you are by your sins oppressed,  
When Satan plagues your troubled conscience, And when your heart is seeking rest.  
What reason cannot comprehend God by his grace to you did send.
4. By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation’s furnace tried—  
By grace, despite all fear and trouble, The Father’s heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?
5. By grace! On this I’ll rest when dying; In Jesus’ promise I rejoice.  
For though I know my heart’s condition, I also know my Savior’s voice.  
My heart is glad; all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

## OH ISRAEL, RETURN TO THE LORD

1. TO THE BLESSINGS WHICH GOD GAVE TO THE WORLD THROUGH YOU

2. TO THE SAVIOR WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR ALL THE WORLD

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

## PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

**C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

P: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

**C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

P: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

P: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

P: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 forever. Amen.**

#### **HYMN**

#### ***Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me***

**CW 439**

1. Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way; Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.  
Without your grace and favor I go astray; So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.
2. Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear; For you, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.  
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe, For when your hand is guiding, In peace I go.
3. Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,  
I know that you will strengthen My steps toward home,  
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend! So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: 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.

♪: **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

***In You Is Gladness***

**CW 346**

1. In you is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus, Sunshine of my heart.  
By you are given The gifts of heaven; You the true Redeemer are.  
Our souls are waking; Our bonds are breaking. Who trusts you surely Has built securely  
And stands forever. Alleluia! Our hearts are pining To see your shining,  
Dying or living To you are clinging Now and forever. Alleluia!
  
2. If he is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth or sin or death.  
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story Tell of his glory With hearts and voices; All heav'n rejoices  
In him forever. Alleluia! We shout for gladness, Win over sadness,  
Love him and praise him And still shall raise him Glad hymns forever. Alleluia!

† † †

**PREACHER**  
**PRESIDING MINISTER**  
**ORGANIST**  
**SOLOIST**

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee  
Pastor Rob Guenther  
Jon Roux  
Jon Hermanson



1 The God of A - br'ham praise; All prais - ed be His name  
 2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand  
 3 He by Him - self hath sworn, - I on His oath de - end, -  
 4 The whole tri - um - phant host Give thanks to God on high;



Who was and is and is to be And still the same!  
 From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
 - I shall, on ea - gles' wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend;  
 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" They ev - er cry.



The one e - ter - nal God, Ere aught that now ap - pears;  
 I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r.  
 I shall be - hold His face, I shall His pow'r a - dore  
 Hail, A - br'ham's God and mine! - I join the heav'n - ly lays -



The First, the Last: be - yond all tho't His time - less years!  
 And Him my on - ly Por - tion make, My Shield and Tow'r.  
 And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.  
 - All might and maj - es - ty are Thine And end - less praise. A - men.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Attendance** for the past weekend was 285 with 202 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$13,046	Home Operations ~ \$15,346 is our weekly need		
\$1,431	MVL ~ \$1,163 is our weekly need	\$85	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,820	Missions ~ \$1,714 is our weekly need	\$80	LWMS
\$448	Building Fund ~ \$1,397 is our weekly need	\$60	WELS Christian Aid & Relief
\$80	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	\$25	Church Library

**Women of St. John's** ~ We will tentatively be holding the September WSJ meeting on Tuesday, September 1. The meeting would be held in the basement of the church with mask wearing and practicing physical distancing. If there is enough interest, we will move forward with the meeting. Please reach out to Denise Karstens at 507-766-5899 or email [denisekarstens@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekarstens@hotmail.com) by August 26th if you are interested in attending the September meeting.

**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](http://stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org). MVL is seeking housing for one of our international students. This young man will be a sophomore and has remained in the area for the summer. Host families are compensated for housing international students. If you are interested in serving as a host family for the school year, please contact the school office at 507-354-6851 or email Dr. Plath at [tplath@mvlhs.org](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org).

**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.

**Responding in Faith to Abuse** ~ Approximately one out of three women, AND one out of three men, experience severe intimate relationship physical violence (IRV) sometime throughout their lives. Unfortunately, domestic abuse is as common as these statistics suggest ... and if verbal and emotional abuse were added to the data, the numbers would be even higher. Join St. Paul's and Michelle Markgraf for a free seminar on September 19th from 8 am to 3 pm (one-hour lunch break, no food provided), and learn how to extend God's grace to survivors of abuse, while assisting them on their journey to safety and healing. Visit [splnewulm.org/church/event/responding-in-faith-to-abuse-seminar/](https://splnewulm.org/church/event/responding-in-faith-to-abuse-seminar/) for more information and to pre-register for the event. Email: [survivors@splnewulm.org](mailto:survivors@splnewulm.org) with any questions.

**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.

**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](mailto: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** ~ It appeared that the Israelites had every advantage spiritually. They saw God's miracles first hand. His presence was visibly among them in a cloud of glory and pillar of fire which continuously led them. God had given them the Ten Commandments engraved in stone with his own finger. Most of all, he gave them the promise that the Savior would come from their lineage. Sadly, despite all the blessings and advantages God gave them, many of the Jews did not believe in the Messiah when he came into this world and lived among them. St. Paul, who was one of them and at first did not believe either, had a heart full of compassion toward his fellow Jews. He prayed and hoped their hearts would be turned back to God. It is, of course, a warning for all of us, lest we who now have every advantage to hear and believe the gospel of Jesus Christ should ever harden our hearts toward it and lose the salvation that has been freely given to all of us through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.