

Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

Deuteronomy 2:4



Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 1 / 2, 2018


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.

Worship Notes
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
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Prayer before worship:

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word,
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from your Son
And bring to naught all he has done. Amen.
(*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal* #203:1)

Order of Service: *Service of Word and Sacrament* page 26

OPENING HYMN

Speak, O Lord

CW Supplement 735

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.	Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous	decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.
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PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 119c

***CW* p. 111**

SECOND LESSON

James 1:17-27

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that	we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the	righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so
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deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect

law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it-- he will be blessed in what he does. If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is

worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

GENERAL VERSE

p. 30

GOSPEL

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't

your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men."

Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'"

For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"

HYMN of the DAY

One Thing's Needful

CW290

SERMON

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Keep the Word of the Lord

1. Do not add to it
2. Do not subtract from it

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OFFERING

PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER

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THE SACRAMENT

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To our worship guests seeking an altar at which to commune: Since the Lord's Supper is an expression of outward unity in the faith as well as inner union with Christ, we ask that those who are not communicant members of our fellowship please schedule a meeting with the pastor before coming to the Lord's Table. We ask this in loving obedience to the Scriptures and not in judgment of anyone's faith, sincerity, or standing before God.

**DISTRIBUTION
HYMN**

The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

CW288

† † †

ORGANIST

Jeneane Thiesfeldt

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Mon		Labor Day: church office closed
Tue	8:20 am	St. Paul's School Opening Service
	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
	6:30 pm	Education Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting: church basement
Wed	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Thu	7 pm	Nominating Committee Meeting
Fri	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class
Sat	3 pm	A Time to Celebrate at St. Paul's School

† Upcoming Weekend Services †

Saturday: 7 pm

Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 9	9:30 am	Sunday School and Adult Bible Class begin: 1 & 2 Thessalonians
Sep 10	11 am	OWLS Meeting
	7 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Trustees Meeting
Sep 11	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Sep 12	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Sep 13	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class
Sep 14	6:30 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class
Sep 15	9 am	Cards of Caring, 403 N. Minnesota St.
Sep 16	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: 1 & 2 Thessalonians
Sep 18	7 pm	Council Meeting
Sep 19	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Sep 20	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class
Sep 21	6:30 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class
	4 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sep 22	4 pm	Wood/Hillmann Wedding
Sep 23	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: 1 & 2 Thessalonians
	2 pm	Youth Group at MLC Chapel basement
Sep 25	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service

ST. JOHN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 645.

Fruits of faith given:

\$15,831	Home Operations ~ \$14,532 is our weekly need		
\$1,541	MVL ~ \$1,118 is our weekly need	\$100	Audio/Video Equipment
\$3,210	Missions ~ \$1,648 is our weekly need	\$25	Church Library Fund
\$1,535	Building Fund ~ \$1,603 is our weekly need	\$25	LWMS
\$8	Food & Fellowship	\$5	Prison Ministry

Sunday School Teachers and Helpers Needed ~ Brothers and sisters, Sunday School will begin on September 9. Our goal is to have two teachers for each grade level if possible, therefore we need several more teachers to fill this need. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Bovee by email, text or phone -- 507-225-0158 (cell number) or call the church office.

Sunday School Teachers' Meeting ~ Sunday School teachers, our first Sunday School teachers meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4 at 6 pm. We will pass out teaching materials and other information. If you are unable to make it, we will have the materials available in the Conference Room near the church offices.

Custodian Job Opening ~ St. John's is looking for an individual who could help on the custodial staff. Approximately 10 hours per week, starting pay \$11.00 per hour. Job description and applications are in the Narthex. If interested, please have your application into the church office by October 1st.

Visitation and Encouragement ~ Anyone who might want to give special care to our homebound members and those in group facilities through things like prayers, greetings, phone calls, and if possible visits, just so they are not forgotten or neglected by their church family, can contact Mary Thom at 217-6884 or maryjt.5511@yahoo.com. Thanks.

Women of St. John's Meeting ~ Our next gathering will take place **Tuesday, September 4, at 7 pm** in the church basement. Our program theme for the night will be: **"Let's Get to Know Each Other."** This would be a great opportunity to get to know some of your fellow sisters in Christ whether you are new to St. John's or not. Please bring a friend. After all, the more ladies that attend, the more ladies there will be with whom to become acquainted or reacquainted. We hope you are able to join us for our first night of fellowship after the summer break! Childcare will be provided.

Mixed Choir ~ Here is a great way to serve God's kingdom: The St. John's Mixed Choir is always looking for new members. Singers, 8th grade and older, are welcome. The choir meets on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the balcony beginning September 5. The choir not only renders an important service in our worship setting, but it is an enjoyable experience and provides good camaraderie.

Sunday Morning Bible Class ~ at St. John's will have a new look! Our pastors will be in the front leading them on a regular basis. Beginning September 9th, Pastor Bovee and then Pastor Guenther will each conduct a six-week Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. This plan will start a pattern of St. John's pastors leading Bible Study for a combined twelve weeks in the spring and fall. You are invited to attend!

Offering Envelope for September ~ There is an envelope in the envelope boxes during the month of September labeled 'Ministerial Scholarship Fund.' Offerings placed in these envelopes are used to help support St. John's members that are studying for the public ministry at both Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. The funds raised are sent to the institutions on behalf of the students at MLC and the Seminary.

Youth Group: Celebrate Missions - A Teen Retreat ~ Your MN Regional Mission team of Kingdom Workers and Martin Luther College invite 7th-12th graders to attend "Celebrate Missions". On Sunday, Sep. 23rd from 2 - 5:30 pm, area teens will meet in the Chapel of the Christ basement to share mission stories from their summer, compile "Healthy Living Kits" for infants to teens that are in need, learn about MLC, be entertained, and eat in the MLC cafeteria. Teens or youth groups can register at <https://goo.gl/forms/CIXuPzbFeDzCW5RW2>. You may follow the link sent in the previous email. Contact Lisa at ali3b2g@gmail.com to receive emails. Teens are encouraged to bring 5 to 8 items to add to the "Healthy Living Kits." Possible items include: infant or child shampoo, bars of soap, small packages of Wet Ones, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, First Aid to Go packs, lip balm, washcloths, small packages of tissues, hand lotion, dental floss, combs, or deodorant. Consider unscented items if possible. Questions can be directed to Melanie Mohror at mmohror@comcast.net, or Karen Grunwald at kmgrunwald@comcast.net.

Cards of Caring ~ The "Cards of Caring" volunteers continue to make cards to send to members who are on our church's homebound or "thinking of you" list. We send cards for birthdays, anniversaries, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Winter/Valentine's and Easter. We also make cards for our confirmands and for our LWMS Befriend a Mission families. We plan to meet Saturdays, September 15, October 20 and November 17, 2018. We will continue to meet at 403 N. Minnesota St. between the hours of 9 am and noon. Come as your schedule allows. Assistance is needed with creating cards from recycled cards or using decorative stamps, writing greetings in the cards, applying Scripture verse stamps, seals, and prepping envelopes. Everyone is welcome from age 12 and older to come for fun and fellowship. We also welcome all MLC students. For information contact Lois Willems at 676-1230.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Time to Celebrate ~ You won't want to miss our fall festival, *Time to Celebrate!* The event will take place on the school grounds on Saturday, September 8, from 3 - 6 pm. We invite you to *Come Walk With Us* on a 1 mile walk to celebrate both the blessings St. Paul's has seen in the past, and will continue to see in the future. **The walk begins at 3:15 pm.** There will also be a celebratory meal (\$3 per person, \$12 max per family), a Craft Fair and Vendor Show, and several fall festival activities for all ages. Follow our Facebook event page *Time to Celebrate* where more details will be shared.

Bars \$1 each (1 lg., wrapped)
Plate of bars \$3-4
Dozen cookies \$2
Large bread \$5-7
Small bread \$3-4
Pie \$10 minimum
Muffins \$1 each

Craft and Bake Sale Donations ~ The Time to Celebrate Craft Show and Vendor Fair will include a bake sale, and we need your help! If you would like to donate (cut and labeled) baked goods for the sale, please drop them off in the school gym on Saturday, September 8, between noon and 3:00. Please no cakes or cupcakes. One of our vendors will be selling those. If you craft or have a business and would still like to reserve a table for the Vendor Fair and Craft Show, please contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com. Please have your registration and donation into the St. Paul's church office by Tuesday, September 4, so we know to reserve a table for you.

MVL 40th Anniversary T-shirts ~ MVL has created special t-shirts based on the school year theme from Psalm 126:3. \$10 for adult (sizes S-4x), and \$7 for youth (sizes S-XL). Color options are heather red and heather gray. More information can be found at mvl.org/anniversary.

OWLS Meeting ~ OWLS meetings are open to all seniors (55+) in our congregation and do not require or assume membership in the organization. Meetings seek to minister to the social and spiritual needs of the fast growing senior population among our members. We eagerly welcome all. The OWS will be meeting on Monday, September 10, at St. John's. The Social Hour starts at 11 am and is followed by a potluck meal at noon. The program begins with a devotion at 12:45 pm. Jack Minch will then offer a presentation on Evolution. Our Treasurer will accept free will offerings for the European Civilian Chaplaincy program that ministers to military families and others who have temporary and sometimes lonely positions far from the communities they call home.

WELS Campus Ministry ~ helps WELS college students grow in their faith so they can reach out to other college students with the gospel. WELS conducts more than 550 campus ministries across the United States and Canada! Pastors in these ministries serve students in a variety of ways including Bible studies, activities and mailing materials (students who register will receive FREE copies of Forward in Christ magazine and Meditations booklets). Students entering college or in college are invited and encouraged to send their current contact information to Lisa Goeglein at stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com so she can register them with WELS Campus Ministry. Let WELS Campus Ministry help you stay connected to God's Word!

Host Families Needed ~ MVL will host the WELS West Regional Choral Festival on Nov. 9-11. Almost 250 students are expected to join together for two festival concerts on Nov. 9th and 11th. If you are able to help, please contact Jeneane Thiesfeldt by September 30th at thiesfjm@gmail.com or 507-240-4523 and indicate how many and what gender of students or the director(s) you are able to accommodate. On Sunday, St. John's will provide a lunch for this choir. More information will come at a later date for the hosts and also regarding this lunch. Thank you for assisting St. John's in welcoming Great Plains Lutheran High School choir.

Men of His Word Conference ~ Men, with all of the pressures of this world in your family life/work life/social life, and with all of the temptations of Satan around every corner. A one-day event is being planned in Rochester, MN to help men **Get Out of the Boat** and walk with Jesus. Set aside Saturday, October 27th, on your calendar. Pastor Jared Oldenburg from Eternal Rock Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO will be our keynote speaker. Koine, a well-known WELS worship band, will lead us in worship. There are 12 fantastic breakout sessions to choose from! For more details, go to www.menofhisword.org for information and registration.

Job Opportunity ~ Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for a regular part-time Education Office Administrative Assistant. A comprehensive description of this position can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12 pm on Tuesday, September 11, 2018. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

About the Cover ~ The Bible is the true and inerrant Word of God. It does not contain errors or contradictions. It is always reliable. It reveals to us who God is and what he has done to save us from our sin. For this reason, God commands very sternly that no one either adds nor subtracts from what he says. The Bible alone is our only source and standard for life and salvation. May we therefore always take seriously its warnings, and embrace wholeheartedly, with joy and confidence, its promises of the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting.