



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT: MARCH 15 / 16, 2025

# 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.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15/16, 2025

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Almighty God, as your Word is proclaimed may we hear it and take it to heart. Give strength to all who teach and preach your Word, that they never compromise the truth but boldly proclaim it and live according to it. Teach them by word and example to be your true and faithful servants. May your Word work in the hearts of all people who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and as a result bear the name "Christian." May they never fail to uphold it, even in the face of persecution. Cause them always to find comfort in the well of your grace. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

**ORDER OF SERVICE**                      **Service Setting 2**                      pg.172

**OPENING HYMN**                      *Not unto Us*                      CW 582

*Stand*

**CONFESSION OF SINS**                      pg.172

**LORD HAVE MERCY**                      pg.174

**GLORY TO GOD**                      pg.176

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**                      pg.178

*Be seated*

**FIRST LESSON**                      Jeremiah 26:8–15

<sup>8</sup> But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the LORD had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people

seized him and said, “You must die! <sup>9</sup> Why do you prophesy in the LORD’s name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?” And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> When the officials of Judah heard about these things, they went up from the royal palace to the house of the LORD and took their places at the entrance of the New Gate of the LORD’s house. <sup>11</sup> Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and all the people, “This man should be sentenced to death because he has prophesied against this city. You have heard it with your own ears!”

<sup>12</sup> Then Jeremiah said to all the officials and all the people: “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the things you have heard. <sup>13</sup> Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the LORD your God. Then the LORD will relent and not bring the disaster he has pronounced against you. <sup>14</sup> As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. <sup>15</sup> Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and on those who live in it, for in truth the LORD has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

*As the Deer*

Psalm 42

**SECOND LESSON**

Philippians 3:17-4:1

<sup>17</sup> Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. <sup>18</sup> For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a

Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>21</sup> who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Philippians 2:8

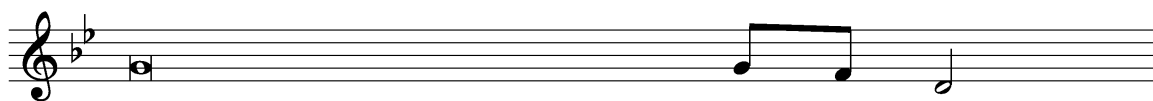


*Refrain*

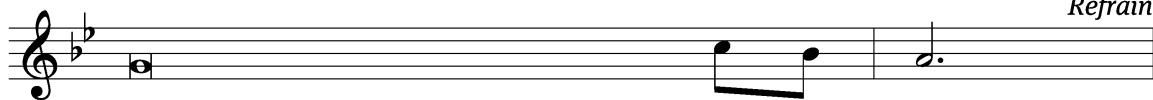


Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

*Tone*



Being found in appearance as a man, he hum - bled him - self



by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

*Refrain*

## GOSPEL

Luke 13:31–35

<sup>31</sup> At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”

<sup>32</sup> He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’ <sup>33</sup> In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

<sup>34</sup> “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. <sup>35</sup> Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*    CW 817

**SERMON**            God’s Word: Tell It Like It Is            Jeremiah 26:8-15

*Stand*

**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 truly 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.**

*Be seated*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** pg.182

**OFFERING**

**THE SACRAMENT** pg.183

**LORD'S PRAYER** pg.185

*Be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** *Cling Tightly to the Word of God* CW 707

*Stand*

**PREACHER**  
**PRESIDING MINSITER**  
**ORGAN**

**Pastor Jeff Bovee**  
**Pastor Rob Guenther**  
**Becky Berg**

**Acknowledgments**

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S**

Sunday	8, 9:30, 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Stewardship of Treasure w/ Mike Hatzung
Tuesday	7 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	11 am	Midweek Lenten Service
	3:30 pm	Public & Homeschool Catechism
	4, 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Service
	6 pm	Bible Information Class
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Proverbs
	7 pm	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship
Sunday, Mar. 23	8, 9:30, 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Stewardship of Teammates
Wednesday, Mar. 26	11 am	Lenten Service
	3:30 pm	Homeschool & Public School Catechism
	4, 6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Service
	5:30 pm	Handbells
	6 pm	Bible Information Class
	7:15 pm	Choir
Thursday, Mar. 27	10 am	Bible Class: Proverbs

Friday, Mar. 28                      7 pm Bible Class: Vices and Virtues  
   9:30 am Women’s Bible Class  
   10 am Sunset Apt. Service  
   11 am Highland Regency Service

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for this past weekend was 693

### **Fruits of Faith:**

\$11,912 Home Operations ~ Needed: \$177,979 / YTD: \$191,352
\$1,973 WELS Missions ~ RTD: \$20,324 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)
\$794 MVL ~ RTD: \$11,722 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)
\$105 Building Fund
\$150 K-12 Education Assistance
\$40 LWMS
\$212 Food and Fellowship
\$275 St. Paul’s School Building Fund
\$600 Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund
\$15 Women of St. John’s
\$60 St. Paul’s School
\$60 Martin Luther College
\$75 Altar and Flowers
\$50 Christian Aid and Relief

**Food Shelf** ~ Save the date St. John’s will again sponsor a food drive for the New Ulm Area Food Shelf March 15-31. Watch your future bulletins for more details.

**Ask the Pastor Evening** ~ on April 10, 7–8 pm Come to the next “Ask the Pastor” evening and bring a friend! This our third “Ask the Pastor” event which has turned out to be a fun and learning-filled evening. Bring your questions that evening or place your questions in the box on the table in the narthex area.



**Givelify...Giving Simplified** ~ Do you have an account with retailers like Amazon or Walmart and appreciate the convenience it offers? Are you the kind of person who prefers to pay your purchases and bills digitally? Considering moving from weekly offering envelopes to an electronic option? Good news! St John's now has a very simple and safe way for you to make one-time or ongoing gifts via a website or app. A short video explaining the service was shown after the March 8/9 services. If you want more information about how to use Givelify, check out the March edition of St John's newsletter (p. 8) or go to the St. John's website, click on support, and then click the "Information" button. This will take you to a more detailed description with links to answer questions like:

- How can I use Givelify to donate from a computer or tablet?
- How can I download and use the Givelify app?
- How can I add/edit my assigned envelope number to my



Givelify account? The QR code can be scanned with your smartphone's camera and it will take you to a place where you can download the Givelify app. Oh, and no. St John's does not discourage or plan to eliminate the opportunity to use envelopes or cash/check offerings. This is simply another option for those who no longer write checks or carry cash and prefer digital transactions.

**New Ulm Food Shelf** ~ St. John's will again sponsor a food drive for the New Ulm Area Food Shelf in March. The New Ulm Food Shelf serves people in New Ulm, Lafayette, Hanska, Searles, Essig, and Courtland. In 2023, the NU Food Shelf served 1439 families; in 2024, the number of families served grew to 1778. We will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items such as: Healthy cereals, Proteins such as meat and peanut butter, Canned goods (soups, vegetables, etc.), Low-sodium canned goods (soups, vegetables, etc.) Crackers (Regular/low-sodium), Flour, sugar, vegetable oil. Place food items in the boxes in the narthex or monetary donations in a clearly marked envelope in the offering plate on Sundays before March 31st.

## AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Open Positions at LMSG** ~ Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is seeking a part-time paid bookkeeper to manage financial transactions, contributions, and reports for the organization. Additionally, there is a volunteer opening for an LMSG Their Stories Told interviewer/writer to share the stories of WELS/ELS Military Service Members. LMSG provides Christ-centered support to WELS and ELS Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. Learn more at [www.lutheranmilitary.org](http://www.lutheranmilitary.org).

**MVL's After Prom** ~ is on April 26, 2025, at the New Ulm Rec Center! This event is all about giving our students a safe space to celebrate after their big night. MVL Junior parents are reaching out for donations! Your contributions will help cover costs like venue rentals, food, and entertainment, making this night one that students will cherish for years to come. Would you be willing to support our efforts to ensure our kids have a memorable and secure experience? You can donate by scanning this QR code or going to this link online <https://gofund.me/05027fd3>. Donation checks can also be made out to the MVL After Prom Committee and mailed to MVL! Thank you for considering our request and for your ongoing support of our students!



**Help Needed** ~ St. Paul's School is looking for people who are willing to assist with the school's Wellness Committee. You would support the school by working with a team to study the current Wellness Policy, compare it to the Minnesota requirements, and make any changes to the policy that would be necessary. It would be 4 meetings per year and possibly a small amount of time on individual work. We are also going to be working on resources to share with parents and caregivers for healthy living. If you are interested in making a positive and healthy impact on the school, please email Mrs. Klug at [kklug@splnewulm.org](mailto:kklug@splnewulm.org). Thank you for your time and support!

**Choral Concert ~ *Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See*** Join the Southwest Area Lutheran Chorale for an inspiring choral concert featuring a mix of new music and beloved classics. Under the theme *Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See*, the choir will perform works by renowned composers including Pepper Choplin, Keith and Kristyn Getty, and Rosenphanye Powell. Don't miss this uplifting experience! Concerts will take place April 6th at 2:00 PM – Trinity Lutheran Church, Nicollet, MN and April 6th at 7:00 PM – Zion Lutheran Church, Sanborn, MN. We look forward to sharing this beautiful music with you!

**LWMS Rally** ~ All are invited to attend the LWMS rally on April 5 at Friedens Lutheran Church in New Prague, MN. The rally begins with a coffee fellowship at 8:00AM, and the speaker of the day is Pastor Larry Schlomer- World Mission board Chairman. Please RSVP to Carrie Schaefer [carriehieb@yahoo.com](mailto:carriehieb@yahoo.com).

**Travel with WELS Groups** ~ Interested in traveling with other members of our WELS faith family where daily devotion and Christian fellowship are integral parts of the itinerary? The OWLS (WELS Seniors group) is partnering with *Father's World Tours* to offer two upcoming trips, and WELS members of all ages are eligible to come along. Nature enthusiasts, spend some time with MLC Professor Emeritus Jim Pope in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. The May 10-16 trip offers convenient starting points (MSP, New Ulm, or Sioux Falls) and affordable pre/post-tour (May 9 or 16) hotel opportunities. History lovers, join MLC professors Pete Baganz, Paul Koelpin, and Keith Wessel for a bucket list June 8-25 trip to London, Normandy, and Paris. Group flights are available from Chicago or Minneapolis. Registration closes March 14. Visit [www.fathersworldtours.com](http://www.fathersworldtours.com) or contact Steve Balza ([steve@fathersworldtours.com](mailto:steve@fathersworldtours.com) or 507-217-1731) for full details.

**MVL Auction** ~ Y-O-U are invited to this year's Jeans and Dreams Booster Club Auction! Funds raised benefit fine arts, athletics, and academic teams at MVL! The need is great again this year so put on your jeans and join us April 5th at the Historic Turner Hall in New Ulm! Doors open at 5:30pm! FREE EVENT! Anyone who wants to donate an item (new & unopened), themed-basket, experience, baked goods, weekend vacation, fishing trip, etc. for our live auction, silent auction, or buy-it-now-table? Contact one of the following! Michelle Grubbs: [momwde@gmail.com](mailto:momwde@gmail.com) Karly Kock: [karlybo6@gmail.com](mailto:karlybo6@gmail.com) Jess Ziemer: 507-779-4090  
Hard deadline for donations: 3pm on Friday, March 28th! Thank you for your continued support of MVL! Hope to see you all on April 5th with your jeans on!"

**About the Cover** ~ The prophet Jeremiah was commissioned by God to preach his Word. God made it clear to Jeremiah that he was not called to win a popularity contest. He would have to preach the Word of God in all its severity, but also in all its comfort, glory, and sweetness. In the background, to the left of the prophet, there is a small aqueduct pouring out water into a cistern. It is a reference to Jeremiah 2:13 where God reports sadly that though he has offered a spring of living water to his people, they have forsaken it and instead dug their own cisterns. That is to say, they didn't listen to God's Word, but instead went their own way and followed their own ideas. The people of Judea on the opposite side of the drawing, do not even heed the spring. Instead they are weeping because of the warning that their city would be destroyed by the Babylonians. But it would be Jeremiah who would also bring them comfort, and remind them that God would forgive their wickedness and remember their sins no more. That promise is ours also.