

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.



scripturaigrace.com

***Easter 4/Good Shepherd Sunday
April 30, 2023***

399

To God Be the Glory



1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
 2 Oh, per - fect re - demp-tion, the pur - chase of blood,
 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,



He so loved the world that he gave us his Son,
 To ev - 'ry be - liev - er the prom - ise of God;
 And great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son,



Who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin
 The vil - est of - fend - er who tru - ly be - lieves,
 But pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in,
 That mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 Our joy and our won - der when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!



Oh, come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son



And give him the glo - ry—great things he has done!

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915, alt.

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY (11 11 11 11 with Refrain) William H. Doane, 1832–1915.

The Common Service CW93

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

CONFESSON OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M: 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: A - men.

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

GLORY BE TO GOD



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



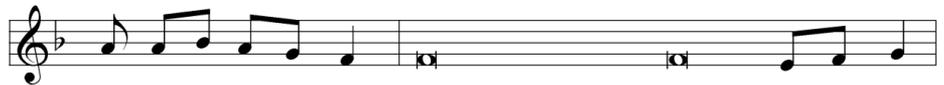
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

First Lesson: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a,51-60

In those days, as the number of disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

²So the Twelve called together the whole group of disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables.

³Brothers, carefully select from among you seven men with good reputations, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this service. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵This proposal pleased the entire group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte from Antioch.

⁶They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. Also a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹Some men who were from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia) rose up and disputed with Stephen.

²Stephen said, "Gentlemen, brothers and fathers, listen!

⁵¹"You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit! You are doing just what your fathers did.

⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who prophesied the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers— ⁵³you who received the law as transmitted by angels, but did not keep it."

⁵⁴When they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed up into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶He said, "Look, I see heaven opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷But they screamed at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and rushed at him with one purpose in mind. ⁵⁸They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" ⁶⁰Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." After he said this, he fell asleep.

Psalm 23 CW 93

Refrain



The Lord is my shep - herd; there is noth - ing I shall want.

Psalm tone



The LORD is my shepherd,*
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;*
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;*
he guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,*
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **Refrain**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.*
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD 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: Hebrews 13:20-21

²⁰Now may the God of peace—who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, in connection with his blood, which established the eternal testament — ²¹may he equip you with every good thing to do his will, as he works in us what is pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Verse of the Day: John 10:14

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Lesson: John 10:1-10



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰“A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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.**

552 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* CW 21



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with



good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me, and where the ver - dant
yet in love he sought me and on his shoul - der
you, dear Lord, be - side me, your rod and staff my

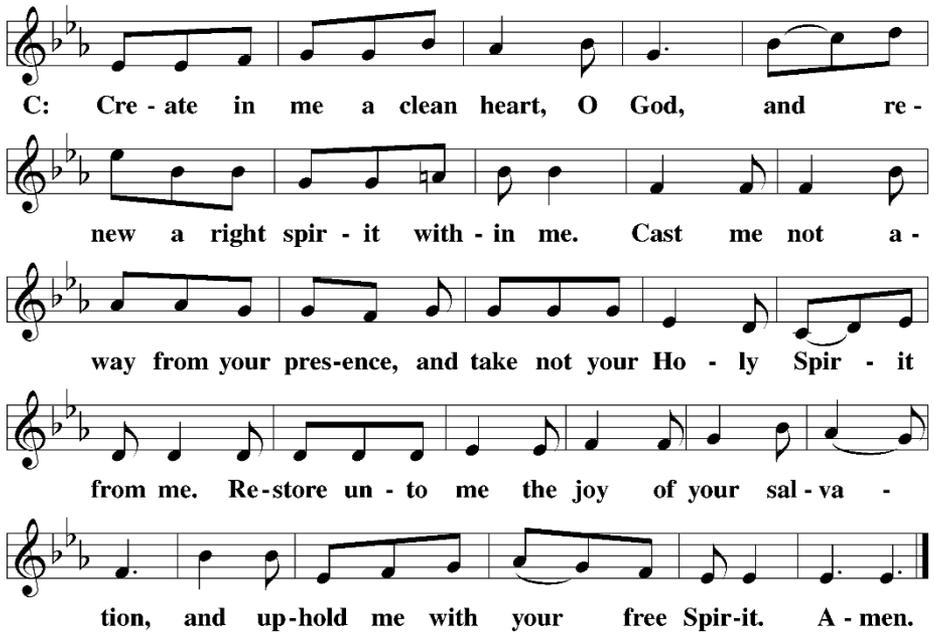


I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feeds me.
gent - ly laid and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still, your cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 You spread a table in my sight,
a banquet here bestowing;
your oil of welcome, my delight;
my cup is overflowing!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt.
Tune: Irish, 18th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON TEXT: Psalm 23
The LORD is MY Shepherd



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING



The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry, but please use this QR code to fill out a short form giving us a digital record of your attendance.

Visitors can also sign our guest register in the entryway by the drinking fountain.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

M: 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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

551 Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep CW 21



1 Je - sus, shep - herd of the sheep, who your
2 In your prom - ise firm we stand, none can
3 By your blood our souls were bought, by your
4 Fa - ther, draw us to your Son; we with
5 We, in robes of glo - ry dressed, join th'as -



Fa - ther's flock does keep, safe we wake and
take us from your hand; speak— we hear— at
life sal - va - tion wrought; by your light our
joy will fol - low on till the work of
sem - bly of the blest, gath - ered to e -



safe we sleep, guard - ed still by you.
your com - mand, we will fol - low you.
feet are taught, Lord, to fol - low you.
grace is done, there to live with you.
ter - nal rest in the fold with you.

Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt.

Tune: Friedrich Fillitz, 1804–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

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This Week at St. John's: April 30, 2023

SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Betty Nemitz & Virginia Marg

Ushers: Team 4-Rex Roehl's team

Altar Guild: Dianne Buettner & Judy Trunkel

Donating Bulletins: the Schmid family

May Website: Bob & Bernice Cords in thankfulness

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Donna Zank & Pat Strangfeld

Ushers: Team 1-Joel Zschernitz' team

Altar Guild: Lynda Urban

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

TODAY	9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class
MONDAY	5:15 School Board Meeting
TUESDAY	6:00 Worship Service
WEDNESDAY	8:20 Chapel 4:00 Bible Study
THURSDAY	7:00 Choir
SATURDAY	4:00 Seis de Mayo Bags Tournament 5:30 Seis de Mayo Meal
NEXT SUNDAY	9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

CHURCH NEWS

Guest Preacher: We thank Pastor Jon Guenther for preaching today, and look forward to hearing his message.

Sunday School & Bible Class: Sunday School and Bible Class will both be held today after the worship service. For Bible Class we will be continuing our study on "10 Lies About God."

Wednesday Bible Study: We will be continuing our Wednesday Bible Study on the book of Romans this week. Please join us at 4:00 p.m. in the school conference room.

Communion Next Sunday: We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper next Sunday using the regular style of distribution (at the rail).

Ascension Worship: We will be having a joint Ascension Day worship service with our fellow Christians from Globe and Christie on Thursday, May 18th. The service will be held here at 7:00 p.m. A joint choir will be singing for the service.

The celebration of Ascension has everything in it – Christmas, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, the Ascension itself, and the anticipation of Pentecost. Jesus has triumphed and entered into his glory by keeping all of his Word! His triumphant ascension assures us that he will always keep his Word.

Jesus' ascension also guarantees that he will be with us always. Jesus did it all for us. His triumph therefore is our triumph. How can we help but rejoice and be glad! Join us for this special service!

The Altar Guild will be serving supper in the school gym, beginning at 6:00 p.m. All are invited.

(Offerings given in your special Ascension Day envelopes will be split evenly between home and missions.)

Altar Guild Meeting: We will be having a short Altar Guild meeting right after church next Sunday, May 7th, to discuss the Ascension supper.

Seis de Mayo Celebration: You are invited to join us at Neillsville's American Legion next Saturday, May 6 for a fundraiser to help send some of the 7th and 8th grade students at St. John's to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. Money raised will be used for travel and lodging expenses, entrance fees and miscellaneous costs.

We will be offering a taco bar with two different types of meat, margaritas, festive music, bean bag tournament for those interested, raffles and other ways that you can win some prizes or money, all by helping the students go on the trip.

The cost is \$25 if you just want to come for the meal and \$35 if you want to play in the random draw bean bag tournament.

Tickets are now available for purchase from Citizens State Bank, Julia Backaus, or Caitlin Hannasch.

Bags will start @ 4:00 and food will be served from 5:30-7:30. Raffles will be drawn throughout the night and the students will also give a brief presentation.

Music, Lit, and Skit Night: Our annual Music, Lit, and Skit Night will be held on Friday, May 12th, at 6:00 p.m. in the main part of the church.

What kind of show will it be? We would like to have singers, piano players, and other instrumentalists, but we'd also like to broaden the show to involve people who may not be musically inclined. We are also looking for people who may want to read an excerpt from a favorite book, or read a poem they've written, or act out a skit...The list is endless. There are no "prizes" involved; we just want to share our God-given talents with each other and have a fun evening.

Adults and children are both welcome to participate. Contact the school office if you are interested.

8th Grade Graduation: 8th Grade Graduation will take place during our worship service on May 21st.

Preschool Graduation: Grades 3K and 4K will be having a special graduation ceremony on Wednesday, May 24th, at 6:00 p.m.

Last Day of School: Our last day of school will be Thursday, May 25. That is a half-day only. We will have a closing chapel service that morning at 8:20, to which all are invited. We will have a picnic lunch at 11:00, to which all parents are invited, and school will dismiss after lunch.



Student of the Week: The Student of the Week is Alaina Mathis. Alaina is in 8th Grade. All year she has been a hard worker, gets her work done well and on time, and is polite and respectful to teachers, coaches, and fellow classmates. **Congratulations Alaina!**

Calls Received: "Dear Brothers and Sisters at St. John's Lutheran Church,

On April 11, I received a Divine Call to serve at St. John's Lutheran in Bay City, Michigan as 5th and 6th grade teacher. My wife, Ashley, also received a Divine Call to serve as 3rd and 4th grade teacher. We are humbled to receive these Calls and are grateful for the opportunity to consider how our gifts may best serve the kingdom of God.

We ask that you keep us in your prayers as we deliberate both our calls to serve here at St. John's in Neillsville and at St. John's in Bay City. As we prayerfully consider these calls, the following passage provides us with the confidence that God always provides for his flock: "We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Serving you in Christ,"

Brandon and Ashley Leiterman

Website Devotion: *A new devotion is available on our website, "I'm under a lot of stress. Can God help me with some relief?" To access this devotion, as well as an archive of past devotions, go to our website at www.stjohnsneillsville.com/devotions.*

Hospitalized: *Linda Biebert has returned home. Effie Sytsma was hospitalized this past week but has returned home. Let's keep them in our prayers.*

Calendar: *May church calendars are available in the entryway.*

FIG: *The May edition of "Forward In Christ" is available in the entryway.*

WELS Weekly Prayer: *Lutheran Schools – Lord of the Church, we praise you for the opportunities you have provided to preach and teach the gospel through our Lutheran schools. You have blessed enrollment with a 20-year high so that more students can sit at Jesus' feet and learn from him. Keep these ministries focused on the mission you have given to preach the good news to all creation. As parents carry out their calling to train their children in your saving way, may our schools assist in this important task. Relieve stresses, remove divisions, and renew the zeal of your servants to care for your precious lambs. Also, bless the work of our synod's Commission on Lutheran Schools, which supports and equips our Lutheran schools. Amen.*

WELS Night at the Brewers: Mark your calendars and plan to join thousands of WELS members for an evening at the ballpark on Friday, July 7 to watch the Brewers take on the Reds. Tickets for WELS members and guests are discounted up to 50% and are reserved all together in a block. Seating will be along the field outfield box, and cost is \$21/ticket.

A sign-up sheet is available in the entryway. **Deadline to order tickets at the reduced rate is June 9.** If we have a group of more than 20 people, we will order the tickets as a group to be seated together and save on service fees. If there are less than 20 people interested in going, individuals can order on their own. If you would like to go, please sign up by **Sunday, June 4th** so we know how many are interested.

MLC News: As we celebrate **MLC Day 2023 (May 3)**, all of us—classmates, friends, family, congregational members, teachers, pastors, staff ministers, MLC alumni—can participate in the most important part of MLC Day: **PRAY!**

Join us in supporting and encouraging Martin Luther College 2023 graduates and current students through prayer as they complete their preparations to serve as gospel ministers for our congregations and schools.

Also offer prayers of thanks for MLC alumni who are currently serving in your churches, schools, and community.

And pray for those who are considering gospel ministry as their future calling.

Pray for all of these students and ministers of the gospel in your personal prayers, Bible studies, family devotions, and worship services.

Worship the Lord with Gladness:

Sunday: 210; Tuesday: 4

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:

Thankoffering Given last week:

\$6,825.15 (Home); \$320.00 (Missions)

Owed on Line of Credit: -0-

To assist you in worship:

- ✚ Personal listening devices are available for anyone to use. Please talk to the ushers for assistance.
- ✚ Large-print bulletins available upon request.
- ✚ Personal Prayers: Red Hymnal (pp. 10-11); Blue Hymnal (inside front cover)
- ✚ Preparation for Lord's Supper: Red Hymnal (p. 156); Blue Hymnal (pp. 295-296)
- ✚ Luther's Small Catechism: Blue Hymnal (pp. 286-293)

We love seeing young children in church as we want families to worship together. We also love to hear children making a "joyful noise to the Lord." If you need some privacy for feeding an infant or changing a diaper, please make use of our parents' room off the north side of the entryway where you can still listen to the service.

Visitors, if you would like to know more about our church or school, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can.

St. John's Lutheran Church & School 711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456

Contact Info

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715-937-7534 (cell)
- John Hagedorn, Chairman: hagedornjohnw2@gmail.com
715-743-4653 (home)
- Website: www.stjohnsneillsville.com
Facebook (church): www.facebook.com/stjohnsneillsville/
Facebook (school): www.facebook.com/stjohnshornets/

Worship Schedule

- Sunday-9:00 a.m. (Year-Round)
Tuesday-6:00 p.m. (After Easter through November)