St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456 Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.





Alleluia!

Easter Sunday March 31, 2024

"Welcome Visitors & Members!"

To those who are visiting us for the first time, we extend our sincere welcome; to our friends who know us we renew our welcome; to those who seek a church home we invite you to be part of our family and enjoy fellowship with our Savior.

For further assistance in worship and information on our church, please see the back cover.

Easter: After forty days of repentance and prayer, the Church bursts forth in jubilant praise at the Resurrection of our Lord. The alleluias which were muted for Lent ring out again as the Bride of Christ welcomes her Bridegroom back from the dead. For 49 days the Church celebrates the resurrection of Christ on the Sundays of Easter which culminate on the 50th day, Pentecost.

Today is Easter Sunday. Our focus today: God on Trial-Vindication

Communion: We will celebrate the Lord's Supper today using the regular style of distribution at the rail.

St. John's practices "member communion." We ask, therefore, that only those who are members of St. John's or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament.

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Order of Worship Preservice Music & Ringing of Bell

Choir Sings: "Easter Carol"

Opening Responses

- P: Christ has indeed been raised from the dead!
- C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P: We worship God the Father
- C: Whose love sent him for us and for our salvation;
- P: We worship God the Son
- C: Who first lived in our place and died as our Substitute;
- P We worship the Holy Spirit
- C: Who sustained Him and worked in us the faith to believe in Him. Amen!

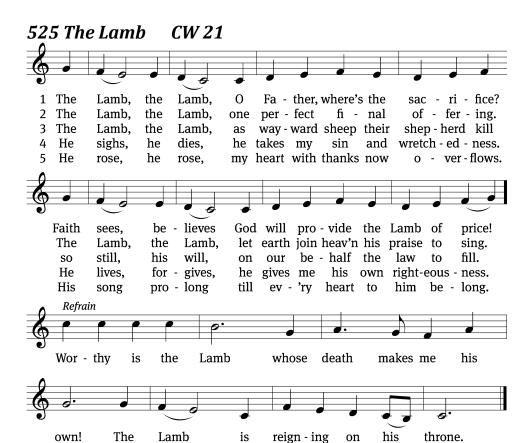


Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Our Confession of Sin and Assurance of Forgiveness

- P: It is especially good and right on this holiest of days to join with believers of the past and all the host of heaven to praise the living Lord.
- P: "I will praise you, O LORD.
 Although you were angry with me,
- C: your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.
- P: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.
- C: The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation." (Isaiah 12:1,2)
- P: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
- **C:** who was, and is, and is to come." (Revelation 4:8)
- P: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"
- C: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.
- P: You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
- **C:** and they will reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:12,9-10)
- P: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,
- **C:** and he will reign forever and ever." (Revelation 11:15)
- P: "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit,
- C: Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues." (Revelation 18:2,4)
- P: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
- C: Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!" (Revelation 19:6,7)



Text: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953 Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953

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Prayer

P: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.



Old Testament Lesson: Job 19:23-27

²³Oh how I wish that my words were written down.

Oh how I wish that they were inscribed in bronze, ²⁴that they would be engraved in rock forever with an iron tool and letters filled with lead.

²⁵As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the end of time he will stand over the dust.

²⁶Then, even after my skin has been destroyed, nevertheless, in my own flesh I will see God.

²⁷I myself will see him.

My own eyes will see him, and not as a stranger.

My emotions are in turmoil within me.

Psalm 118 (CW Supplement)





The LORD is my strength <u>and</u> my song; he has become my salvation.

"The LORD's right hand is <u>lifted</u> high; the LORD's right hand has done <u>mighty</u> things!"

I will not <u>die</u> but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

Refrain

I will give you thanks, for you <u>an</u>swered me; you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the <u>cap</u>stone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous <u>in</u> our eyes.

This is the day the <u>LORD</u> has made; let us rejoice and be <u>glad</u> in it.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,

as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

¹⁹If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. ²²For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." ²⁶Death is the last enemy to be done away with. ²⁷Certainly, "he has put all things in subjection under his feet." Now when it says that all things have been put in subjection, obviously that does not include the one who subjected all things to him. ²⁸But when all things have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected all things to him, in order that God may be all in all.



Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010; Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938

Tune: Tanzanian

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Gospel Lesson: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. ²Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. ³They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶He said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.""

⁸They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed-2nd Article & Explanation

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.

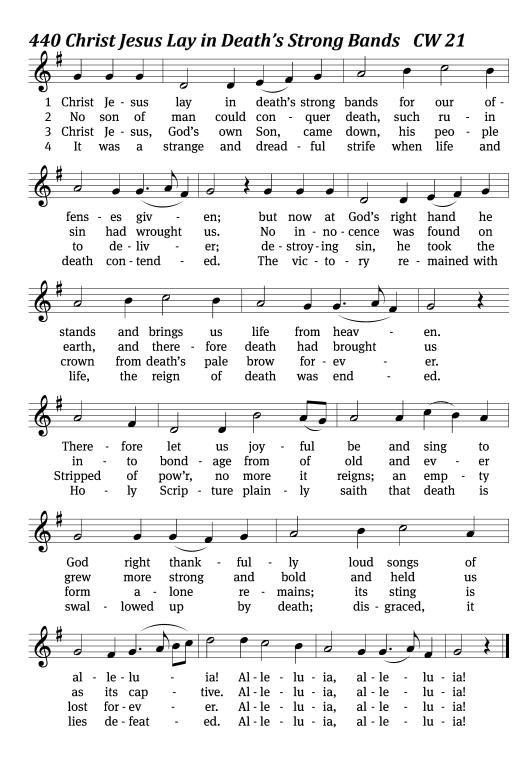
What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature,

purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.



- Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, whom God so freely gave us; he died on the accursed tree—so strong his love—to save us.

 See, his blood now marks our door; faith points to it; death passes o'er, and Satan cannot harm us.

 Alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 So let us keep the festival to which the Lord invites us; Christ is himself the joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us. Now his grace to us imparts eternal sunshine to our hearts; the night of sin is ended. Alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 Then let us feast this Easter Day on Christ, the bread of heaven; the Word of grace has purged away the old and evil leaven. Christ alone our souls will feed; he is our meat and drink indeed; faith lives upon no other! Alleluia, alleluia!

Text: tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949 Text: Public domain

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Sermon Text: Mark 16:1-8

Sermon Theme: God on Trial-Vindication

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He Is Arisen! Glorious Word



Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt. Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

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.

Responsive Prayer

- P: O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.
- C: Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- P: In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.
- C: Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.
- P: Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:
- C: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.
- P: Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.
- C: Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.
- P: Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

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

Silent prayer.

- P: Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:
- C: Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Lord's Prayer

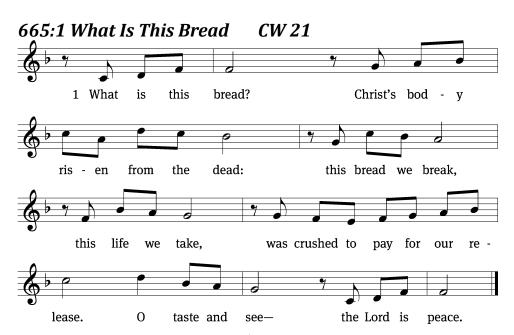
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

but deliver us from evil.

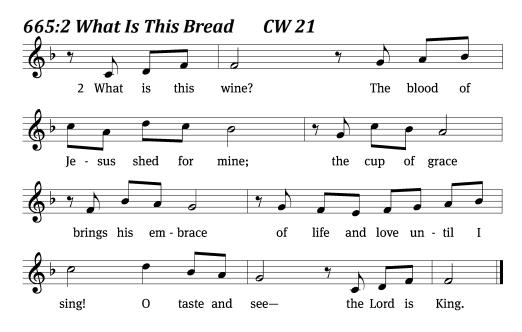
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Preparation for Communion

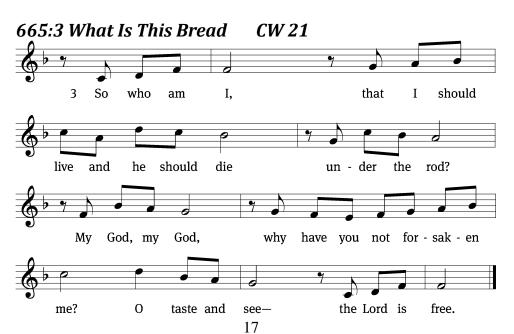
P: What do we believe Jesus gives us in the Lord's Supper?
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread;
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his
disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for
you. Do this in remembrance of me."



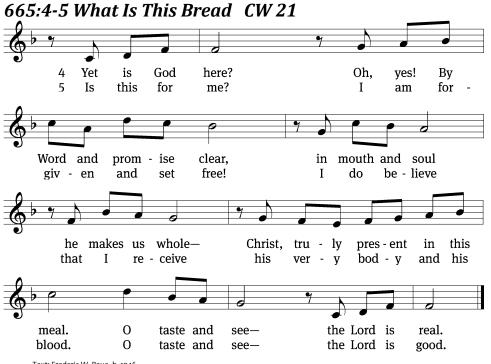
P: Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



P: What do we believe we give God in the Lord's Supper? Nothing.



P: Before we come in humble awe and receive this gift of grace, this very personal and real assurance of God's love and forgiveness, we sing:

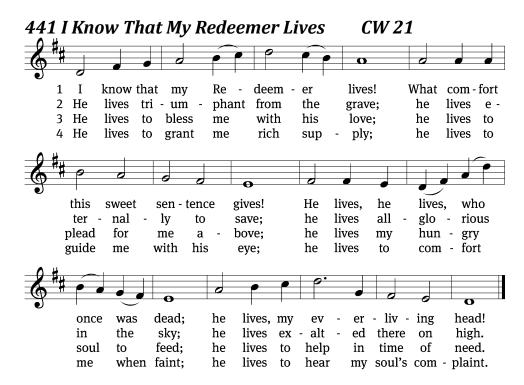


Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946 Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn: 441 (next page)



- He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears; he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739–1799, abr. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793 Text and tune: Public domain

- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same.

Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:

I know that my Redeemer lives!

Hymn of Thanks Following Distribution: 154:1,3,5 CW 93



P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.

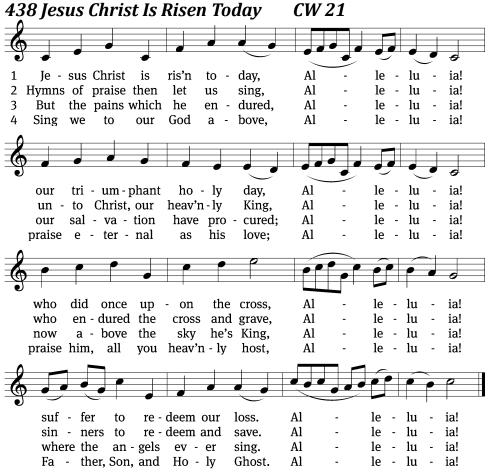
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.





Text (sts. 1–3): tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; (sts. 1–3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

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This Week at St. John's: Mar 31, 2024

SERVING US TODAY-6:30

Greeters: Ron & Linda Rogus

Ushers: Team 3-Dick Urban's team

Altar Guild: Lynda Urban & Charlene Siebert & Linda Biebert

Donating Bulletins: Ritajane Moeller

Donating April Website: Henry & Julie Berry

SERVING US TODAY-9:00

Greeters: Betty Nemitz & Dianne Buettner

Ushers: Team 4-Rex Roehl's team

Altar Guild: Lynda Urban & Charlene Siebert & Linda Biebert

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

<u>Greeters:</u> Dawn Arndt & Anita Berry <u>Ushers:</u> Team 1-Joel Zschernitz' team Altar Guild: Linda Biebert & Megan Allard

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

TODAY 6:30 AM Easter Communion Service

7:30 AM Easter Breakfast

9:00 AM Easter Communion Service

Choir sings-both services

No Sunday School or Bible Class.

MONDAY ELC Closed

MON-FRI No School-Easter Break
NEXT SUNDAY 9:00 AM Communion Service

10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30 Sunday School Teachers Meeting

Worship the Lord with Gladness:

Last Sunday: 76

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:

Thankoffering Given Last Sunday: \$4,566.00 (Home); \$642.00 (Missions) Needed per week for Home: \$8,400.00

CHURCH NEWS

No Bible Class or Sunday School: There is no Bible Class or Sunday School today. Classes will resume next Sunday.

Easter Breakfast: Our Youth Group is sponsoring an Easter Breakfast between services today in the school gym. All are invited!

Easter Flowers: We thank all those who helped to beautify our worship this morning by donating flowers (or money for flowers) for the altar. Plants you purchased can be taken home after the services today.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: St. John's Outreach Survey: Fellow members who we see regularly, fellow members who we sadly have not seen for some time, friends who are visiting our church, or families who are using our elementary school and early learning center, we want to hear from you and value your input in this short survey. Thanks for participating!

To access this short survey go to the link:

Several hard copies of the survey are on the table in the entryway for those who do not have computer or cell phone access.

https://shorturl.at/jlzH4 or scan the QR code.

Tuesday Worship: We will resume our Tuesday worship service starting on April 9^{th} . Tuesday worship will be held at 6:00 p.m. as normal.

FIC: The April edition of "Forward In Christ" is available in the entryway.

Calendar: April calendars are available in the entryway.

Spring Mission Fest: Mark your calendars for our spring Mission Festival, which will be Sunday, April 21. Pastor Jacob Behnken, Dean of Chapel and Professor of Music at Martin Luther College, will be our guest preacher and will be giving a presentation on MLC after the worship service in the gym.

Our Day Camp staff will be providing a picnic-type lunch after the presentation. We hope many of you can stay and enjoy learning more about MLC and also enjoy extra fellowship with each other.



Student of the Week: The student of the week is Caleb Kempf. Caleb is in 8th Grade. He is always very polite and respectful, both to his fellow classmates inside and outside the classroom and to adults, and is almost always a very hard worker. **Congratulations Caleb!**

Spring Break: There is no school for 3K-8th Grade Monday, April 1 through Friday, April 5, as we enjoy our spring break.

THE ELC WILL BE CLOSED on Monday, April 1st, but will be open the rest of this week for childcare.

Pine Car Derby: We will be having a Pine Car Derby on Saturday, April 13th, starting at 1:00 in the school gym. Pine car kits are \$3 each. You can purchase those from Mrs. Shadrick. All children (and adults) are invited to participate in the fun.

St. John's Pioneer Chili Cook-off: Calling all Chili Cooks! St. John's Pioneers will host a Chili Cook-off contest during the Pine Car Derby on April 13th! All members of St. John's - Neillsville, St. John's - Christe, and Immanuel - Globe are invited to compete for the Wooden Spoon!

Please bring your crock of Chili to St. John's - Neillsville by noon. Voting will take place during the pinecar derby. The Winner will be announced during the awards ceremony after the race. Judged by popular vote.

Not a cook? Come and vote for the best Chili. Then purchase a bowl of your favorite for a donation to the Pioneers. All proceeds will help pay for the many activities the pioneers enjoy throughout the year.

FUNDrive: Clear your clutter for a cause! Please bring your bags and covered boxes of unwanted household items to the collection trailer in the St. John's Lutheran School parking lot. Regular collection times are:

Sunday, April 21 from 10:00-12:00

Monday, April 22, through Friday, April 26, 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 26 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 27 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Proceeds help make our original school bathrooms handicap accessible!

We Are Collecting Clothes

men's, women's, & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Books & Media

paperback, magazines, hard cover - all genres; *media needs to be boxed separately *no encyclopedias or text books

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

Boxes: If anyone is in need of cardboard boxes to pack items for the FUNDrive, we have empty boxes both here at church and at school. If you are in need of boxes, please talk to our church custodians or Linda Biebert, or stop at school during the school day.

Coffee Order: Thank you to everyone who ordered coffee. After expenses, \$1,048.64 will go into our Camp Phillip scholarship fund! We will let you know when the coffee is here and ready to be picked up. It should be within the next couple of weeks. Thanks again for your participation!

Call Received: "Dear Members of St. John's,

On Sunday, March 24, I received a Divine Call to serve as principal at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Beverly Hills, FL. Megan also was called to serve as their first-grade teacher. It is always a humbling experience to receive a call to serve our Lord. It is also a wonderful blessing to serve the Lord in this manner and to have the opportunity to tell children, along with

their families, about the saving truths found in the message of our Savior. As we once again go through the deliberation process, please keep our family in your prayers and do not hesitate to reach out.

The following passage provides us confidence and serves as a good reminder for everyone to keep in mind as well during this deliberation process knowing that our good Lord will work all things out in the best interest for both schools.

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Call upon me and pray to me, and I will listen to you.'-Jeremiah 29:11-12

Serving In Christ," -- Mike & Megan Allard

LWMS Spring Rally: If you would like to attend the LWMS Spring Rally on Saturday, April 20^{th} , and are interested in carpooling, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the entryway.

WELS Weekly Prayer: Called worker shortage – Lord of the Church, you have entrusted us with the responsibility of making disciples of all nations. Open our eyes to see the need for workers. Inspire young people to consider a career as a pastor, teacher, or staff minister. Provide parents with words that encourage their children to consider full-time gospel ministry. Also, move adults to consider a second-career path to ministry according to your will. Help our synod and congregations best utilize the workers with which we are blessed and move us to value them and their ministries. Use us, Lord, to share the good news of salvation in Christ Jesus with our communities. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

REGISTRATION RUNS THROUGH MAY 31

\$150 EARLY-BIRD RATE UNTIL APRIL 30 \$175 MAY 1-31







WELS WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

JULY 28-30, 2024

THE INGLESIDE HOTEL . PEWAUKEE, WIS.

The foundation for the conference is Luke's account of the spread of the kingdom of God through God's chosen apostles and everyday believers. Learn from these early Christians how you too can be emboldened and empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Word!

WHO IS THIS CONFERENCE FOR?

Everyone! This conference is for any woman who is passionate about the spread of the Good News of Jesus in our world today, no matter her age and background. New to the faith or seasoned, married or single, this conference will encourage, equip, and empower you in your walk of faith.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Four inspiring keynotes and a wide variety of breakouts
- In-depth spiritual growth sessions
- Uplifting worship and devotions
- Delicious meals, snacks, and refreshments
- Ample opportunities to connect and network
- Ministry displays with helpful resources
- Curated marketplace of WELS women-owned shops
- Northwestern Publishing House bookstore

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Subscribe to the WELS Women's Ministry newsletter at wels.net/subscribe.





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 in the entryway.
- 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)

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

Church & School Office: <u>stjohns1886@gmail.com</u>

715-743-2501

Tim Biebert, Pastor: 1fisheromen@gmail.com

715-819-0456 (cell) 715-743-3015 (home)

Mike Allard, Principal: <u>allardmj1@gmail.com</u>

715-937-7534 (cell)

John Hagedorn, Chairman: hagedornjohnw2@gmail.com

715-743-4653 (home)

Website: <u>www.stjohnsneillsville.com</u>
Facebook (church): <u>www.facebook.com/stjohnsneillsville/</u>

Facebook (school): <u>www.facebook.com/stjohnshornets/</u>

Worship Schedule

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