St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

"The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."

> **T** Lent 5 **T** March 17, 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.

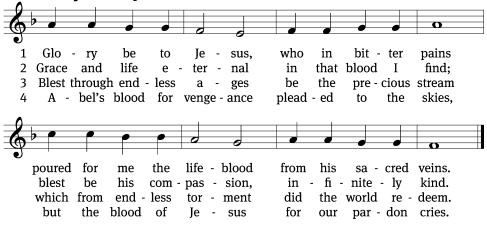
For further assistance in worship and information on our church, please see the back cover.

In the season of Lent, Jesus teaches things that turn the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "Christianity." So, in this holy season, let us go straight to Christ and let him replace assumptions with truth. Jesus, help us to rethink religion!

Today is Lent 5. Our focus: Rethinking Religion: Devoted Commitment

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402 Glory Be to Jesus CW 21



- Oft as earth exulting lifts its praise on high, angel hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood; louder still and louder praise the precious blood!

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Italian, c. 18th cent., abr. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

Service of The Word CW 93

- **M:** 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.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- **M:** 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.
- **M:** 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.

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

But now this is what the LORD says, the LORD who created you, O Jacob, the LORD who formed you, O Israel.

Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.

²When you cross through the waters, I will be with you.

When you cross the rivers, they will not sweep you away. When you walk through fire, you will not be burned,

and the flame will not set you on fire.

³Because I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior,

I gave Egypt as your ransom,

Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious and honored in my eyes,

and I myself love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

and peoples in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not be afraid, because I am with you. From the east I will bring your offspring,

and from the west I will gather you.

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them back!"

and to the south, "Do not hold them."

Bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,

everyone I created for my glory,

everyone I formed,

yes, everyone I have made.

Psalm 115 CW Supplement





Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us but to your name be the <u>glory</u>, because of your love and <u>faithfulness</u>.

Why do the nations say, "Where <u>is</u> their God?"

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

The LORD remembers us and will <u>bless</u> us:
He will bless the house of <u>Is</u>rael,
he will bless those who <u>fear</u> the LORD—
small and <u>great</u> alike.

Refrain

May the LORD make you <u>in</u>crease, both you and your <u>child</u>ren. May you be blessed <u>by</u> the LORD, the Maker of heav<u>en</u> and earth.

The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to man.

It is not the dead who praise the LORD, it is we who extol the LORD, both now and forevermore.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spirit</u>, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:7-9

⁷In the days of his flesh, he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. ⁹After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

Verse of the Day: Mark 10:45

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Gospel Lesson: John 12:20-33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." ²²Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

²³Jesus answered them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. ²⁵Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

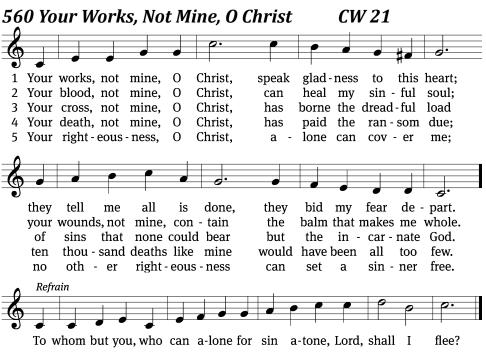
²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven: "I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again."

²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

³¹"Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die.





Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt. Tune: The Parish Choir, London, 1850 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON TEXT: John 12:20-33 RETHINK THE TOTAL COMMITMENT OF CHRISTIANITY

- I. It begins and ends with Christ's.
- II. It includes Christian's.

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.

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OFFERING & WELS CONNECTION--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

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.

BENEDICTION

M: 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: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676

Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923-1993

Text: Public domain

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This Week at St. John's: Mar 17, 2024

SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Bob & Bernice Cords

Ushers: Team 3-Dick Urban's team

Altar Guild: Judy Quicker

<u>Donating Bulletins</u>: Pat Strangfeld <u>March Website</u>: Henry & Julie Berry

SERVING US WEDNESDAY

<u>Greeters:</u> Jean Goetz & Virginia Marg <u>Ushers:</u> Team 3-Dick Urban's team

Altar Guild: Judy Quicker

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Judith Quicker & Nancy Hagedorn

Ushers: Team 3-Rex Roehl's team

Altar Guild: Jean Goetz & Ashley Leiterman

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

TODAY 9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Living Stone Youth Group serves

refreshments

10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

MONDAY 9:00-11:00 Shut In Visits

2:00-4:00 Shut-In Visits

6:00 PM LIGHTS

Dartball vs Globe-Christie

TUESDAY 2:00-4:00 Shut-In Visits

4:00 PM Church Band

WEDNESDAY 8:20 AM Chapel

3:45 PM Confirmation Class6:00 PM Pioneers serve supper

7:00 PM Lenten Worship

THURSDAY 8:30-11:00 Kindergarten Round-Up

4:00 PM Bible Study

6:30 PM Choir

NEXT SUNDAY 9:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship Service

10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

CHURCH NEWS

Bible Class: Join us in the church basement for Bible Class after the worship service today, as we continue our study of 1 Peter. All are invited!

Sunday School: Sunday School classes will be held today after the worship service for children age 3 through 8th grade.

Supper: Our Pioneer group will be serving supper this Wednesday, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the school gym. The menu includes a variety of homemade chili and all the extras. All of you are invited to attend.

Lent: We will have a Lenten worship service at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday. Our Lenten series this year is called "God on Trial." This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth. **This Wednesday our particular focus will be "Sympathy."**

Pastor Wilke of Globe & Christie will be leading our service. Pastor Biebert will be leading the service at Trinity, Marshfield. Gifts given in your special "Lent" envelopes will go toward Home. We hope to see many of you as we continue our Lenten journey and see the depth of our Savior's love as he goes to the cross for us.

Thursday Bible Study: Thursday Bible Study will be held this week at 4:00 in the school conference room. Join us as we complete our study of the book of Romans.

Living Stones-Refreshments: Our Living Stones Youth Group (Grades 8-12) is starting up again after a hiatus since Covid. To put some faces to the Youth Group name, the teens would like to serve you refreshments after the church service today. Four girls and two chaperones are also planning to attend this year's International Youth Rally in Colorado in June. There will be an opportunity to support them with your encouragement, prayers, and free will donations if you so desire as well.

Pancake Breakfast: Immanuel of Globe is sponsoring a pancake breakfast next Sunday, March 24, from 10:30-12:30. They are serving potato pancakes, regular pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit salad, cheese, bars, coffee and milk. All are invited. A free-will offering will be taken.

March Communion Update: We will not be having communion next Sunday. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday (3/28) and Easter Sunday (3/31). Because we will be using the piano for both of those services, communion will be at the rail both days.

Easter Breakfast: Anyone willing to help the Youth Group supply items for this year's Easter Breakfast, please check out the sign-up sheet on the table in the entryway. Thanks!

SAVE THE DATE & SPREAD THE WORD

Kindergarten Round-Up: Kindergarten Round-Up will be held on Thursday, March 21st, from 8:30-11:00. All current 4K students are invited. More information will be sent home to those families.

Easter Flowers: If you would like to purchase flowers to help beautify our worship services on Easter Sunday, please sign up on the sheet on the table in the entryway. Orders and payment must be received by Sunday, March 24. Money can be given to Charlene Siebert or Linda Biebert. Purchased flowers can be taken home after the 9:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday to grace your private Easter celebrations. If you aren't interested in a flowering plant but would still like to help beautify the altar, donations are gladly accepted.

Basketball Wrap-Up: As the basketball season has come to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our coaches, Mr. Allard and Mr. Backaus, for all their hard work during the season. We also want to thank our referees, Mr. Leiterman, Pastor Wilke, and David Harder for their time and efforts. Special thanks goes to all the parents who supported their players, all those who worked in the concession stand, drivers, fans who came to the games...thanks for helping to make this a successful season!

School Band Online Voting Contest: We are 1/3 of the way through the Heid's Music "Big 10 Contest." Thank You everyone who has voted so far. You can vote once a day to support our school. This contest goes through March.

To vote, you will need to go to the link below. Then you will scroll down the page to the section "Vote For Your Favorite Photo." There you will enter your email address, first and last name. As you scroll down, please find the picture of our school students and vote. https://www.heidmusic.com/big10plus/

Penny Wars: Penny Wars has started up again. This will go until Easter Sunday. We will have the money containers at church on Sundays, and you can stop in at school any time during the week if you'd like to drop off coins (or bills). Funds raised will go toward the school bathroom project.



Student of the Week: The student of the week is Jett Hemp. Jett is in 5th Grade. He has been working hard on setting a good example in the classroom, has been treating his fellow students well, and is very helpful to the younger students in chapel. **Congratulations Jett!**

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

Do you know someone who is great at working with children? St. John's Early Learning Center is NOW HIRING! We will be needing to fill a full-time caregiver position to work with ages 0-3 during the school day. Position options are flexible. Must be at least 18 years old, organized, a good communicator, and ready to share Jesus' love with little ones! Previous experience working with children is great but not required. We're happy to help with training. Stop by the St.

John's school office or contact Megan Allard 715-937-7535 or preschool@stjohnsneillsville.com if interested.

Please share this information with those you know who may fit this position and consider it for yourself! St. John's has a wonderful working environment and it's a joy to see so many young children spend their days surrounded by God's Word. Thanks for considering!

Hospitalized: Jane Zank has returned home. **Erland Greeler** has been moved back to Three Oaks in Marshfield. Let's keep them in our prayers.

Annual Report: The 2023 annual reports, which include an updated church directory, are available on the table in the entryway.

Thrivent Choice: Just a reminder, you have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2023 choice dollars.

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.

Church Campout Date Change: The dates for this year's church campout are September 13-15, one week later than normal. Mark your calendars!

Holy Week Devotions: Martin Luther College will be making Holy Week devotions available under the theme "The Savior We Need." Two thousand years ago, God's people were expecting the Messiah to be a conquering hero who would rescue them from their Roman oppressors. Instead, he came as a suffering servant who died at the hands of those Romans. This is what Paul called the foolishness of the cross. But the Bible makes it clear that the Jesus those people received—the Jesus we are blessed to call our Savior today—is far greater than any we could ever have designed on our own. These devotions will show us that Jesus truly is the Savior we need.

You can subscribe to these devotions by going to https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/

Worship the Lord with Gladness:

Last Sunday: 85 Last Wednesday: 124

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:

Thankoffering Given Last Sunday: \$6,333.95 (Home); \$334.00 (Missions) Needed per week for Home: \$8,400.00



Maundy Thursday, March 28

Communion service at **7:00**

Service Focus: God on Trial-Respite

Our Adult Choir sings.

Offerings given in your special Maundy Thursday envelopes will go toward Home.

Good Friday, March 29

Worship service at 1:00

Service Focus: God On Trial-Evidence

Students in grades K-8 sing.

Offerings given in your special Good Friday envelopes will go toward Missions.

Easter Sunday, March 31

Communion services at **6:30** and **9:00**.

Service Focus: God on Trial-Vindication

Our Adult Choir sings for both services.

Easter Breakfast: will be held between services

Offerings given in your special Easter envelopes will go toward Missions.

Please join us for these very special worship services, and please consider inviting someone you know to worship with us as well.

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: stjohns1886@gmail.com

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: 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)