St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

"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 6

May 5 & 7, 2024

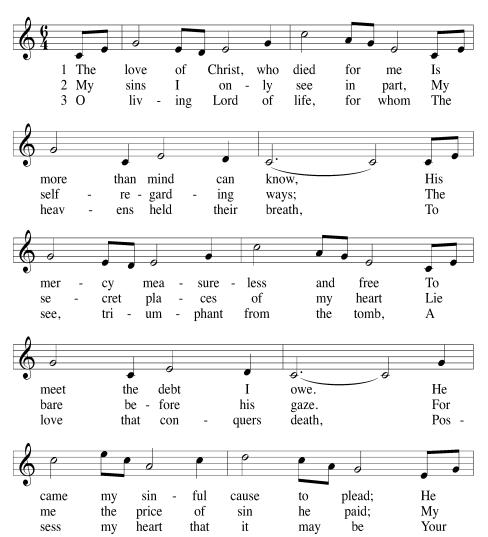
Easter: St. Paul writes, "Christ has *indeed* been raised from the dead". The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. The reality is: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior, and Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now.

Today is Easter 6. Our focus today: Resurrection Reality: Jesus' business is love; ours is the same.

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

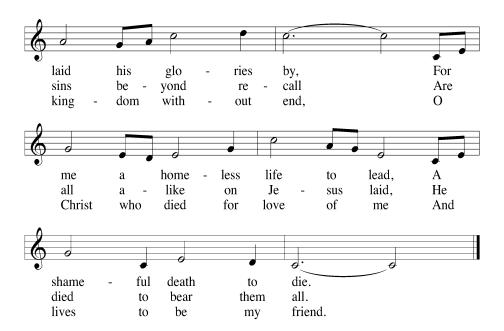
St. John's practices "member communion." We ask, therefore, that only those who are members of St. John's or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament.

749 The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me



(Hymn continues on page 3)

Hymn 749 (continued)



This hymn examines the true nature of God's grace. While human love is directed toward people and things that bring pleasure, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 © 1991 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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Tune: RESIGNATION (CM D) A Compilation of Genuine Church Music, Winchester, VA, 1832

Divine Service I CW Supplement

- M In the name of the Father and of the Son 🕆 and of the Holy Spirit.
- C (spoken) Amen.

CONFESSION 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.
- 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



- 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 (章) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C *(spoken)* Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

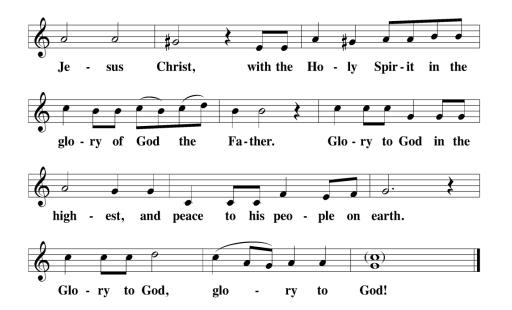
M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis







PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **M** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **M** Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C (spoken) Amen.

THE WORD

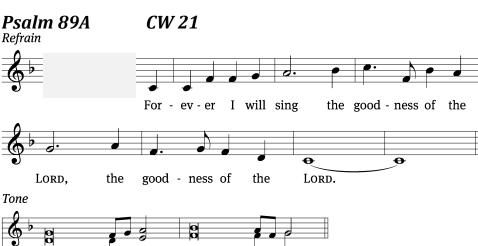
First Lesson: Acts 9:36-42

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was always doing good deeds and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became sick and died. After they had washed her, they laid her in an upstairs room. ³⁸Since Lydda is near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, who urged him, "Come to us without delay!"

³⁹Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing him the robes and clothing that Dorcas made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰After Peter sent them all outside, he got down on his knees and prayed. Then he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her stand up. After he called the saints and the widows, he presented her to them alive.

⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.
⁴³Peter stayed in Joppa for many days with a man named Simon the tanner.





I will sing of the LORD's great love for- / ever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all gener- / ations.

I will declare that your love stands firm for- / ever, that you have established your faithfulness in / heav'n itself.

The heavens praise your / wonders, LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the / holy ones. *Refrain*

Who is like you, LORD God Al- / mighty?

You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness sur- / rounds you.

Blessed are those who have learned to ac- / claim you,

who walk in the light of your / presence, LORD.

They rejoice in your name / all day long;

they celebrate your / righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be-/ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune: Marty Haugen

Text: © 1969, 1981, 1997 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716538 Tune: © 1988, 1994 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716538 Setting: © 2011 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Used by permission: License no. 130020061

Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-11,19-21

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has not seen? ²¹This then is the command we have from him: The one who loves God should also love his brother.

Verse of the Day: 1 Corinthians 13:13

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love. Alleluia!

Gospel Lesson: John 15:9-17



⁹"As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

¹²"This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.



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 fully 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.

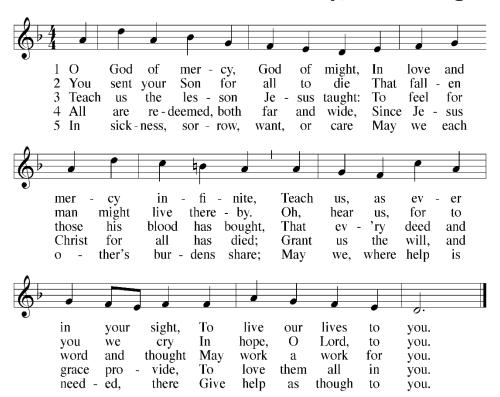
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

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.

499

O God of Mercy, God of Might



6 And may your Holy Spirit move All those who live to live in love Till you receive in heav'n above All those who lived for you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt.

Tune: ISLEWORTH (888 6) Samuel Howard, 1710-82.

SERMON TEXT: John 15:9-17

WHO ARE YOU?

- I. Chosen...to be on the receiving end of Jesus' love.
- II. Chosen...to be on the giving end of Jesus' love.



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 may also sign the guest register 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.

THE SACRAMENT

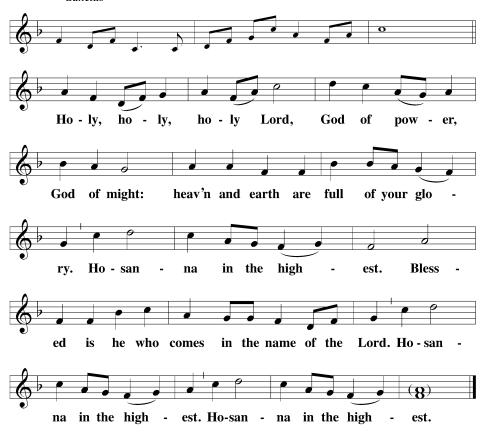
- **M** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **M** Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them up to the Lord.
- M Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C It is good and right so to do.
- M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M 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."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \$\dagger\$ 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."

- **M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C (spoken) Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 557

Personal Prayer after communion: Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

557 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark ly
- 3 My own good works a vailed me naught, no mer it they at
- 4 But God be held my wretch-ed state be fore the world's foun-



spring - ing. and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho tor - ment night and day; my me. Sin was my in sin a - gainst God's judg-ment fought, no will tain - ing; mv hope for da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer-cies great, he planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, moth - er bore me. me re - main - ing. my sal - va - tion. pro-claim the won-ders God has done, how Yet deep and deep - er still I fell; life My fears in-creased till sheer de-spair left A fa-ther's heart he turned to me, sought



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly on - ly death to be my share and hell to my re - demp-tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his

How dear - ly it has cost him! so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me. and hell to be my sen - tence. he gave his dear - est trea - sure.

CW 21

5 He spoke to his belovèd Son:

"It's time to have compassion.

Then go, bright jewel of my crown, and bring to all salvation.

From sin and sorrow set them free; slay bitter death for them that they may live with you forever."

- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will, was born of virgin mother, and, God's good pleasure to fulfill, he came to be my brother.

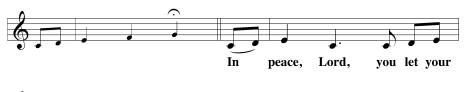
 No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; a servant's form like mine he bore to lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I myself will be; for you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, your friend divine, and evermore you shall be mine; the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "The foe will shed my precious blood, me of my life bereaving; all this I suffer for your good; be steadfast and believing.

 Life will from death the vict'ry win; my innocence shall bear your sin, and you are blest forever.
- "Now to my Father I depart, the Holy Spirit sending and, heav'nly wisdom to impart, my help to you extending. He will a source of comfort be, teach you to know and follow me, and in all truth will guide you.
- "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and teaching; so shall my kingdom's work be wrought and honored in your preaching. Take care that no one's man-made laws should e'er destroy the gospel's cause; this final word I leave you."

Text: tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



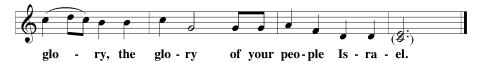


ser - vant now de - part ac - cord-ing to your word.



tion, which you have pre-pared for eyes have seen your sal - va





- Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
- his mercy endures forever.
- Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup.
- We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holv Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- (spoken) 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.
- (spoken) Amen.



Text: Edward Osler, 1789–1863, alt. Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

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This Week at St. John's: May 5, 2024

SERVING US TODAY

<u>Greeters:</u> Kathleen Quast & Lynda Hilliard Ushers: Team 1-Joel Zschernitz' team

Altar Guild: Judy Quicker

Donating Bulletins: Henry & Julie Berry

Donating May Website: Bob & Bernice Cords for their 63rd

anniversary. Thanks to God!

SERVING US THURSDAY

<u>Greeters:</u> Joan Zickert & Jean Goetz <u>Ushers:</u> Team 2-Verlyn Shaw's team

Altar Guild: Jean Goetz & Ashley Leiterman

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Ed & Jenn Schmid

Ushers: Team 3-Dick Urban's team

Altar Guild: Rachel Anderson & Jenny Shadrick

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

TODAY 9:00 AM Communion Service

10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

11:30 AM Sunday School Teachers Meeting

MON-TUES Joint Pastors' Conference

MONDAY 5:15 PM School Board Meeting

6:00 PM LIGHTS

TUESDAY 4:00 PM Church Band

6:00 PM Communion Service

7:00 PM Church Council

WEDNESDAY 8:20 AM Chapel

3:45 PM Confirmation Class

6:00 PM FSJ

THURSDAY 5:00 PM Altar Guild serves supper

6:00 PM Ascension Worship-Choir sings

NEXT SUNDAY 9:00 AM Communion Service

10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

Worship the Lord with Gladness:

Last Sunday: 207; Tuesday: 2

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:

Thankoffering Given Last Sunday: \$7,383.36 (Home); \$472.62 (Missions) Needed per week for Home: \$8,400.00.

CHURCH NEWS

Bible Class: Bible Class will be held today after the worship service in the church basement. Join us as we continue our study of 1 Peter.

Sunday School: Sunday School will be held today after the worship service. All children age 3 through 8th grade are welcome.

Pastor's Conference: Pastor Biebert will be gone tomorrow and Tuesday attending a joint pastors' conference.

LIGHTS: Our LIGHTS group will be meeting tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. in the school conference room.

Church Band: Our church band will be rehearsing this Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. in the church balcony. All instrumentalists are welcome!

Ascension Day Worship: Our Ascension Day worship service will be a joint service with Immanuel, Globe and St. John's, Christie **this Thursday, May 9th**. The service will be held here at 6:00 p.m. (Offerings given in your special Ascension Day envelopes will be split evenly between home and missions.)

Our Altar Guild will be serving supper in the school gym before the worship service this Thursday. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. The menu will include sandwiches and salads and extras. All are invited.

Bulletin Board: Is there someone who would like to take over updating the bulletin board by the drinking fountain in the church entryway? Call or see Pat Strangfeld if interested, as she has some supplies you might want to use.

Calendar: May calendars are available in the entryway.

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

Congratulations: We congratulate Mrs. Mary Luchterhand on her retirement from her position as Lead Teacher of the Toddler Room here at St. John's. Mary played a large role in preparing for and opening up our Early Learning Center here and we definitely couldn't have done this without her. Mary does want to thank the parents for all their support throughout

the years. Mary loves her work here with the children so much that she isn't quite ready to be done completely and will still work in the Learning Center on a part time and as needed basis. Mrs. McKayla Schoen will be taking over the Lead Teacher role starting this summer. We are still looking for a classroom aide for the toddler room. If you or anyone you know has interest in this position, please let us know and ask Megan Allard for more information.



Student of the Week: The student of the week is Jarus Backaus. Jarus is in 4th Grade. He has been a hard worker all year, gets his work done, is polite and respectful, and sets a good example. Congratulations Jarus!

Music, Lit, & Skit Night-5/16: Our annual Music & Literature Appreciation Night will be held on <u>Thursday</u>, May 16th, 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.

Youth Group Brat Fry-5/18: Our Youth Group will be having a brat fry at IGA on Saturday, May 18th, from 10:00-2:00. Proceeds will go to help cover costs for the teens to attend the International Youth Rally in Colorado in June.

Graduation Sunday-5/19: Students in grades K-8 will be singing for our Graduation worship service on Sunday, May 19th. The service begins at 9:00 a.m. In a special ceremony during the worship service, our 8th graders will be receiving their diplomas.

Preschool Graduation: Grades 3K and 4K will be having a special graduation ceremony on Wednesday, May 22nd, at 6:00 p.m.

Last Day of School-5/23: Our last day of school will be **Thursday, May 23. 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 also invited, and school will dismiss after lunch.

We will be providing hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch. If you are planning on joining us, please bring a dish to pass. Thank you!

Fundrive Wrap-Up: We delivered all the items that were donated toward our Fundrive to Savers in Eau Claire this past Thursday. Our goal was to raise \$1,000; we exceeded that by raising \$1,894.07 for the school bathroom project!! We had a total of 15,967 pounds altogether! If there are other groups who would be interested in doing a fundraiser through Savers, they can ask us for a referral code and we will get an extra \$50.

We would to like to offer a huge "thank you" to everyone who donated items; your support is greatly appreciated!! Special thanks goes to the following: Eric & Julia Backaus for the use of their trailer, Joel & Darlene Zschernitz, Pat & Alice Glinski, and Linda Biebert for helping load and count donations, Steve Knoop for the use of his semi-trailer, Mel & Sharon Nemitz for covering the \$200 to use the semi, Jeremy Knoop for driving the donations to Eau Claire and helping to unload, Pastor & Linda Biebert and Matt Meyer for helping to unload.

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 12 to watch the Brewers take on the Washington Nationals. Tickets for WELS members and guests are discounted and are reserved all together in a block. Seating will be along the field outfield box, and cost is \$23/ticket.

A sign-up sheet is available in the entryway. 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 \underline{Sunday} , $\underline{June~2^{nd}}$ so we know how many are interested.

Don't forget to order your WELS Night at the Brewers t-shirt at welsstore.net!

WELS Weekly Prayer: Lutheran Schools – Lord Jesus, we praise you for your amazing, unchanging truths revealed in the Bible—your perfect law and your gracious fulfillment of the law, suffering, death, and resurrection from the dead for our salvation. We thank you for churches and schools where fellow Christians walk with us as we grow in your grace and teach it to the next generations. We also thank you that neighbors are finding peace in the clarity of the Christian values we teach in our schools. Enable us to provide enough teachers to meet the needs of our students, and may your Holy Spirit lead families to trust in you through your gospel in Word and sacraments. Amen.

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: 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)