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!"

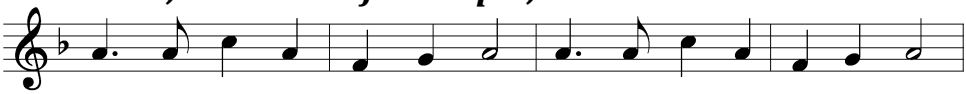
To those who are visiting us for the first time, we extend our sincere welcome; to our friends who know us we renew our welcome; to those who seek a church home we invite you to be part of our family and enjoy fellowship with our Savior.
For further assistance in worship and information on our church, please see the back cover.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

Our focus today: WHAT MAKES CHRISTIANS DIFFERENT-CHRISTIANS LIVE AS WHEAT AMONG WEEDS

491 Come, You Thankful People, Come CW 21



1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home,
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har-vest home;

All be safe - ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be - gin.
wheat and weeds to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a - way,
gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,

God, our mak - er, shall pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the weeds to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.

Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come with all your an - gels, come; raise the glo-rious har-vest home.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893
Text and tune: Public domain

The Service Setting 1 CW 21

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

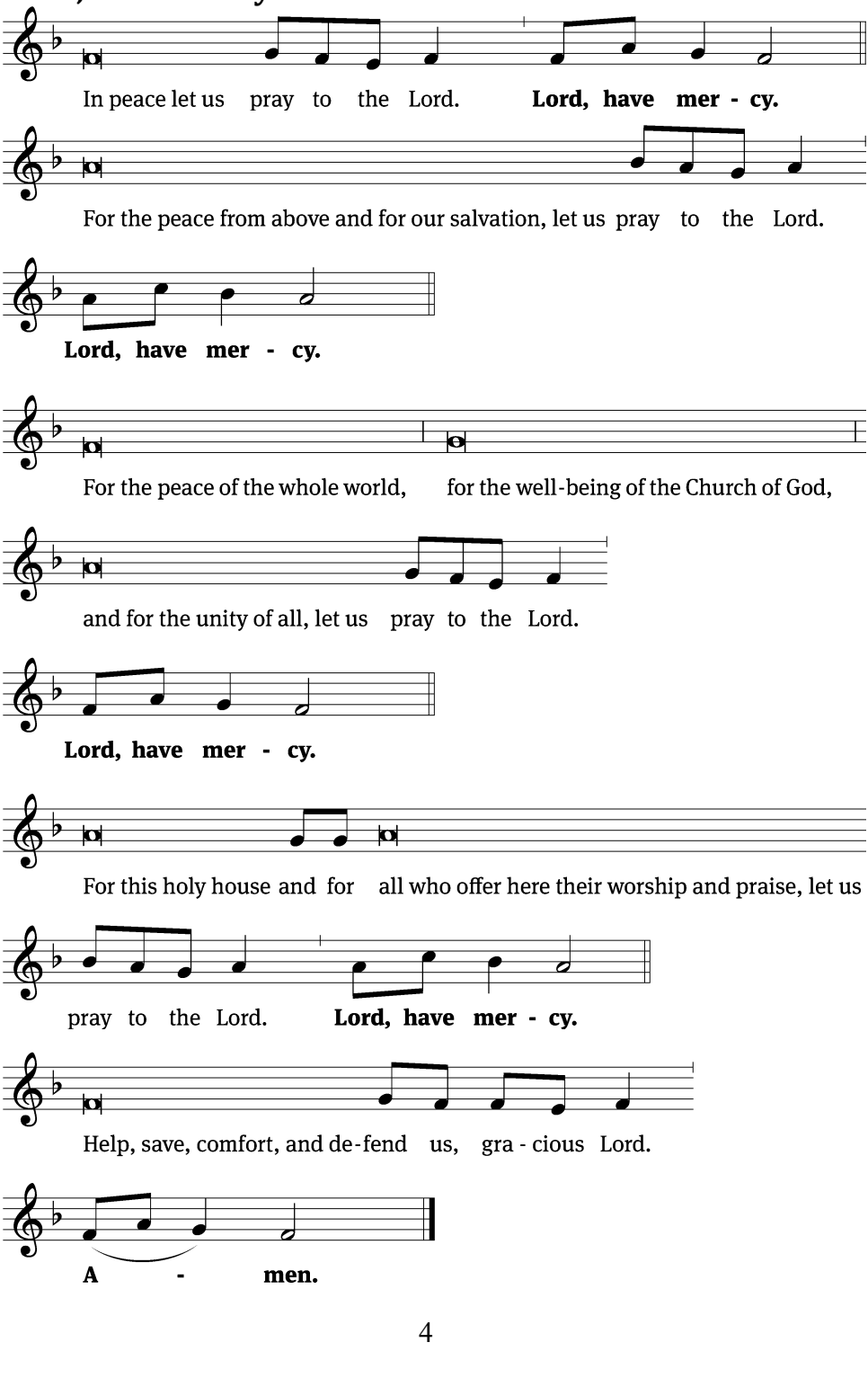
Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.
Amen.

Tune: Kevin Becker
Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716538

Lord, Have Mercy



Glory Be to God on High

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day
Let us pray.

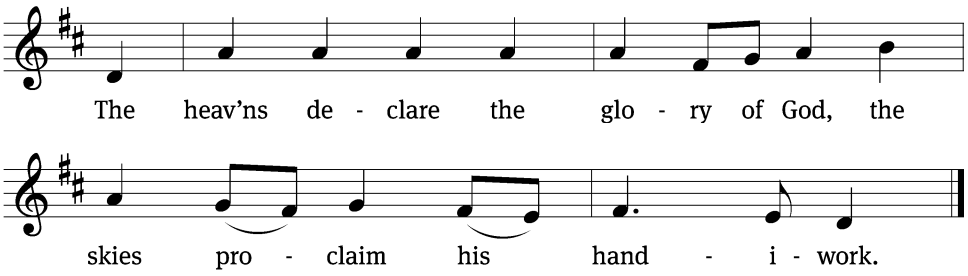
O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6–11
6 This is what the LORD, the King of Israel,
Israel's Redeemer, the LORD of Armies, says.
I am the first, and I am the last.
Except for me there is no god.
7 For who is like me? Let him declare it.
Let him recite in order for me the things that took place
since the time I established an ancient people.
Or let them declare what is yet to come,
and what is going to take place.
8 Do not tremble, and do not be frightened.
Did I not announce this to you,
and declare it already long ago?
You are my witnesses.
Is there any god except me?
There is no other Rock. I am not aware of any other.
9 All those who form an idol are good for nothing.
All the things which delight them provide no benefit.
As for their witnesses—they do not see.
They know nothing, so they will be ashamed.
10 Who is this who forms a god or casts a metal image that can provide no profit? 11 Look at him! All his associates will be ashamed. The craftsmen are merely men. Let them all gather themselves and take a stand. They will be terrified and ashamed together.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19A *CW 21*

Refrain



Tone

They have no speech, they / use no words;
no sound is / heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into / all the earth,
their words to the ends / of the world. *Refrain*

The law of the LORD is perfect, refresh- / ing the soul.
The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light / to the eyes.
They are more precious than gold, than much / pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the / honeycomb.
By them your servant / is warned;
in keeping them there is / great reward. ***Refrain***

May these words of my mouth and this meditation / of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my rock and my Re- / deemer.
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: Benedetto Marcello; arr. John F. Wilson
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Setting: © 2010 World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716538

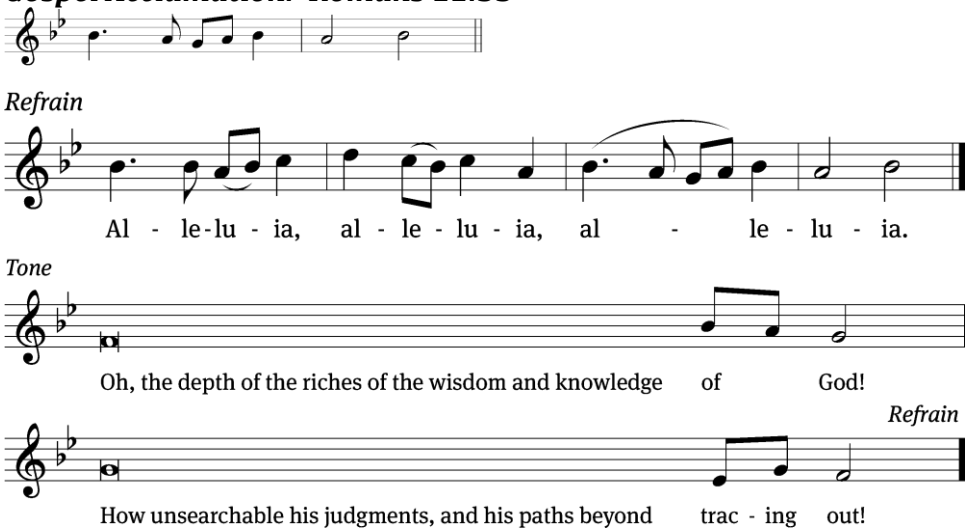
Second Reading: Romans 1:18–25

[18]Indeed, God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who try to suppress the truth by unrighteousness. [19]This happens because what can be known about God is evident among them, because God made it evident among them. [20]In fact, his invisible characteristics—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, because they are understood from the things he made. As a result, people are without excuse, [21]because, even though they knew God, they did not honor him or give him thanks as God. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless heart was darkened.

[22]Although they claim to be wise, they have become fools [23]and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human, or like birds, four-footed animals, and crawling things. [24]So, as they followed the sinful desires of their hearts, God handed them over to the impurity of degrading their own bodies among themselves. [25]Such people have traded the truth about God for the lie, worshipping and serving the creation rather than the Creator, who is worthy of praise forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Romans 11:33



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Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24–30,36–43

[24]He presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. [25]But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. [26]When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. [27]The servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?' [28]He said to them, 'An enemy did this.' The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?' [29]'No,' he answered, 'because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. [30]Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn."'"

[36]Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

[37]He answered them, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. [38]The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. [39]The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. [40]Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. [41]The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. [42]The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [43]Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–1599, abr.; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

488 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near *CW 21*

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
and for my sin was smitten;
within the Book of Life I know
my name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
and Satan cannot threaten me;
there is no condemnation!

6 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
but hasten our salvation;
we often tremble on our way
in fear and tribulation.
Your saints are waiting patiently;
come soon, Redeemer, make us free
from ev'ry evil. Amen.

Sermon Text: Matthew 13:24–30,36–43
Sermon Theme: Jesus' Field is God's World.

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.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.
Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.
Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.
Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.
Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.
Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.
Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.
Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

OFFERING & WELS CONNECTION - *The members of St. John's have joined together, in gratitude for God's grace in Jesus, to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world and support this gospel ministry with their time, talents, and treasures. 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 fill out our guest register by the drinking fountain in the entryway.*

864 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God CW 21

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite
Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Special Choir Song: "Dona Nobis Pacem" (Give Us Peace)

Acknowledgments
Setting One from Christian Worship
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This Week at St. John's: July 19, 2026

SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Kathleen Quast & Lynda Hilliard
Ushers: Team 1-Joel Zschernitz' team
Altar Guild: Charlene Siebert
Bulletins: Lee & Joan Kurasz for Lee's 84th birthday
July Website: Betty Nemitz in thanks for God's Blessings

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Joan Zickert & Jean Goetz
Ushers: Team 2-Verlyn Shaw's team
Altar Guild: Pat Strangfeld

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

TODAY	9:00 AM Worship Service
	10:15 AM LIGHTS serve refreshments
NEXT SUNDAY	9:00 AM Worship Service
	10:15 AM Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting

Worship the Lord with Gladness:
Last Sunday: 135
Last Sunday Installation Service: 155

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:
Thankoffering Given Last Week:
$7,907.40 (Home); $627.00 (Missions)
Needed per week for Home: $9,035.00

Owed on line of credit: $48,908.98

CHURCH NEWS

Refreshments Today: *Because of our semi-annual meeting on July 26th, our LIGHTS group has decided to serve refreshments under the canopy today right after the worship service. All are invited to enjoy some goodies and some extra fellowship.*

Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting: *Our semi-annual voters' meeting will be held next Sunday, July 26th, right after the worship service. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend.*

Reports for the semi-annual meeting are available on the table in the entryway. Please feel free to pick one up.

Council Positions: Elections for officers and elders will take place at the semi-annual meeting. Please consider whether the Lord has given you the gifts to serve His church. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to have your name placed on the ballot, please contact any of our current church council members or talk to John Hagedorn.

Communion Distribution: *Starting in August, we will resume our usual communion practice. The first Sunday of the month we will distribute the Lord's Supper at the rail. The second Sunday of the month we will distribute the Lord's Supper in the front pews.*

Private Communion: *If you've missed a couple services recently and would like to have the Lord's Supper before next month, talk to Pastor Walsh. He will be happy to serve you communion privately.*

Home Visits: *Over the next year, I hope to visit all our members at home. Please start thinking about when your schedule would allow for a short visit from me. God richly bless you all!" – Pastor Walsh*

Special Thanks: *"Thank you all so very much for warmly welcoming our family to Neillsville and St. John's. To those in particular who organized our pantry shower and other gifts on our arrival, we are incredibly grateful. God has already richly blessed us through you!" -- the Walsh family*

Installation: *Pastor Jeremiah Wallander is being installed at St. Paul's in Wisconsin Rapids at 4pm this afternoon. Pastor Walsh will be participating in the laying on of hands. If you would like to attend to support our sister congregation as they welcome their new pastor, you are more than welcome! There will be a welcome meal following the service.*

Sunday Bible Class: *Sunday Bible study will resume on Sunday, September 20th. Watch for further details and reminders.*

Sunday School: *Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 20th. As of right now, we have teachers for the Preschool-Kindergarten classroom and the Grades 1-4 classroom.*

Is there anyone who would be interested in teaching our Grades 5-8 classroom, or even team-teaching in one of the other classrooms? It'd be great if we had a few more volunteers so that it wouldn't necessarily be an "every Sunday" obligation. If you're interested or would like more details, please talk to Pastor Walsh.

Member Update: *Ina Mae Dux has moved to Riverside Assisted Living (1210 W 4th St, Room 18). If you'd like to contact her, her cell phone number is 715-937-1832.*

Day Camp: *We enjoyed another wonderful week of Day Camp this year! We had around 60 kids each day. Each day kids were taught to "Ride the Wave" knowing that God is right there beside them!*

It's always a blast to host Camp Phillip staff who bring the fun of summer camp to Neillsville for the kids in our congregation and community. This year our Camp Phillip Staff included Jake and Lillian as well as their Junior staff helpers Levi, Sage, and Gracelyn. We'd like to thank all our leaders who helped to keep camp running smoothy: Ashley Leiterman – Bible Story, Grace Biebert (Yes, she came back to help!) - Recreation, Gloria Hamm and Ann Clark- Snack, Donna Sternitzky and Mary Luchterhand- Crafts. We also had a fun group of counselors working with groups of kids: Ruth Walsh and Darlene Zchernitz-4K, Kaitlin Thoma and Ella Anderson– K, Ella Biebert and Daisy Harder- 1st, Jett Hemp and Ezra Allard- 2nd, Levi- 3rd,

and Gracelyn- 4th-6th. Camp is just as much fun for the helpers as it is for the campers! Thank you also to everyone who donated money towards camp, items for snack and crafts, and food items for meals for the Camp Phillip Staff. It's exciting to see the support that the congregation has for sharing this program with our congregation and community.

Golf Outing: *The HIS group is sponsoring a Golf Outing on Saturday, August 15th, to help raise funds for tuition assistance. More details can be found on the poster on the next page.*

$45
Neillsville Country Club Members

$60
Non-Members

TEE-OFF For Tuition

Support St. John's and help us build our Tuition Assistance Account as we strive to provide an excellent Christ-Centered Education to as many students as possible.

ST. JOHN'S HORNETS

Neillsville Country Club

SATURDAY
August 15

10:00 AM
9 Hole 4 Person Scramble
Includes Lunch and Cart

Register by August 1st!
Scan QR Code or Contact:

Becca Biebert : 507-766-1159
beccalbiebert@gmail.com

***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)
- ✞ 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
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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.