

## News & Notes

### Camp Philip Door Offering

We missed having our annual door offering last fall, so we'll have a belated door offering **AFTER WORSHIP TODAY**. The gathered funds support WELS programs at the camp and also allow our members to receive discounts on camp fees.

### FVL MusicFest 2017

...formerly known as Winterfest, is going on **THIS AFTERNOON, from noon until 4 pm**. This family-fun event showcases FVL's student musicians. Valet parking is available. Enjoy the marionette show, the children's room, and great music on several stages. Lunch & treats will be available for purchase. Admission \$2. Students with FVL ID or FVL Passport are free. All proceeds benefit the FVL music programs.

### WELS Online Interactive Bible Study

On **Wednesday evenings during February** (1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>), Rev. Randy Hunter will lead a study with the theme "Mysterious Marriage." This would be a great opportunity for spouses to grow together in God's Word and in their relationship to their Savior and each other! Why not make plans to participate? You can view the study online – live at either 6pm or 8pm, or a recording of the session a day or so after it airs. Simply go to [wels.net](http://wels.net) and click on the *Interactive Faith* banner on the homepage. Downloadable study guides will be available from that site.

### Host Families Needed

FVLHS is hosting two male MLC student teachers between February 27<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>. Both have transportation but need room and board. A stipend is paid by MLC for hosting student teachers. Contact Principal Granberg at 739-4441 or [sgranberg@fvlhs.org](mailto:sgranberg@fvlhs.org).

### The Ave Student Ministries

WELS high school students and their guests are invited to attend semi-monthly meetings at Copper Rock Coffee, College Ave., Appleton. Hang out to listen to music, socialize, and grow together. The winter session consists of two Wednesday meetings – **February 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> – from 6:30 until 8:00 pm**. Touch base with Pastor for possible carpool arrangements.

### Long-Term Care Workshop @ FVLHS

St. John member and attorney Tori Kluess and Mr. Dave Wendland are offering a FREE "Planning for Long-Term Care" workshop at FVL on **February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am or 6:30 pm**. Medicaid rules regarding nursing home/long-term care and funding healthcare in retirement will be covered. Please RSVP to Robert Fischer ([rfischer@fvlhs.org](mailto:rfischer@fvlhs.org)).

### Electronic Giving

At the last voters meeting, an electronic giving option was approved. Members will be able to set up recurring automatic fund transfers between their checking account and the church's. Besides the convenience this offers, this should provide more consistent offerings. This giving option is completely voluntary; members are free to continue to use their envelopes if they choose. Watch for more information on how to enroll.

### New(er) Member Welcome Dinner

All are invited to welcome our newer members on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP using the sheet in the entryway. Indicate name and number of adults and children attending.

### Midweek Lent Suppers

Groups willing to host a supper should contact Don Treptow at 532-4788.

## Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2017



### St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School

437 Turner Street, Wrightstown WI, 54180

[www.stjlw.com](http://www.stjlw.com)

Pastor Mike Gehl ([pastorgehl@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgehl@gmail.com))..... (920) 309-5171  
Church Office ([church@stjlw.com](mailto:church@stjlw.com))..... (920) 532-4865  
School Office ([stjlsww@gmail.com](mailto:stjlsww@gmail.com)) ..... (920) 532-4361  
Mr. Timothy Raddatz, Principal, Grades 4-8..... (920) 636-5007  
Mrs. Jennifer Bunn, Grades 1-3 ..... (920) 217-3405  
Mrs. Rebecca Wicks, Pre-K and K..... (920) 809-8648  
Miss. Jamie Buss, Preschool and Pre-K ..... (920) 538-0470  
Mr. Terry Sieker, Congregation President ..... (920) 864-7307  
Fox Valley Lutheran High School ..... (920) 739-4441

## Welcome!

We extend a very warm and friendly welcome to all who've joined us for worship today. We pray that the God of grace, who sent his Son to save you and who proved his love for you by raising him from the dead, will fill your heart with joy in knowing that your salvation has been made sure through Jesus. May God bless your worship!

If you're a guest with us this morning, please sign the Friendship Register in your row, checking any applicable boxes. If you need assistance of any kind, don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers. If you'd like to learn more about St. John congregation or the Bible's teachings, please speak with Pastor Mike Gehl. And if you don't already have a church-home, feel free to return and worship with us again at your earliest convenience.

Our restrooms are located downstairs (through the entryway). Activity bags to help keep children occupied are on a hanger in the entryway. We love having your children sit with you during the service, but if you feel that your infant or toddler is getting a little too fussy, you may briefly step out of the sanctuary until they're ready to come back in.

Today's order of service is displayed on the screen and printed out in the worship folder (with music notes) for your convenience. Hymns are found in the red book in front of you.

St. John also operates an all-day preschool and a full-day kindergarten through eighth grade Lutheran Elementary School. We're a member of the Fox Valley Lutheran High School federation. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities for Christian education, please speak with Pastor Gehl or Principal Tim Raddatz.

### At Your Service Today:

	<b>7:45</b>	<b>10:15</b>
<b>Greeters:</b>	Pat Vickman Bea Ambrosius Brenda Pohlman Betty Schmidt	Faye Patoka Aura Lee Gehl Carol Just
<b>Ushers:</b>	Bernie Vickman Steve Wierschke Chad Schmidt Jesse Schmidt Kevin Vande Hey	Lloyd Patoka Terry Sieker Richard Patton Les Schmidt Bart Reschke
<b>Organist:</b>	Deb Schaeuble	Deb Schaeuble
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Lou Ann B, Mary F, Aura Lee G	

*Refrain*

Re - jice and be glad!  
Bless - ed are you; ho - ly are you. Re -  
jice and be glad!  
Yours is the king - dom of God.

Tune: BLEST ARE THEY (Irregular)  
Text, Tune: David Haas, b. 1957 © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Blest Are They



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it;  
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones;  
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy;  
 4 Blest are they who seek peace;  
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate



Theirs is the king - dom of God.  
 They shall in - her - it the earth.  
 Mer - cy shall be theirs.  
 They are the chil - dren of God.  
 All be - cause of me. Re -



Blest are they, full of sor - row;  
 Blest are they, who hun - ger and thirst;  
 Blest are they, the pure of heart;  
 Blest are they who suf - fer in faith; the  
 joy and be glad. Yours is the king - dom;



They shall be con - soled.  
 They shall have their fill.  
 They shall see God!  
 glo - ry of God is theirs.  
 Shine for all to see.

**Service Theme for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany: The Savior's Sermon: Trust in God's strength! The Beatitudes are hard for us to swallow. Jesus seems to be espousing a Christianity imbued with fatalism at best or defeatism at worst. Look closer, however, and see what he says. The weaker you are, the stronger God is in your life. The weaker you are now, the more ready you are to trust in a future reward. Look at the past acts of God's grace and you will find many reasons to trust his strength in the face of adversity, persecution or sorrow.**

Service of the Word

*This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word, and believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

Opening Hymn..... "Hail, O Source of Every Blessing" (CW 87)

*The grace of our Lord [†] Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.*

**And also with you.**

Confession of Sins

*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.*

**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.**

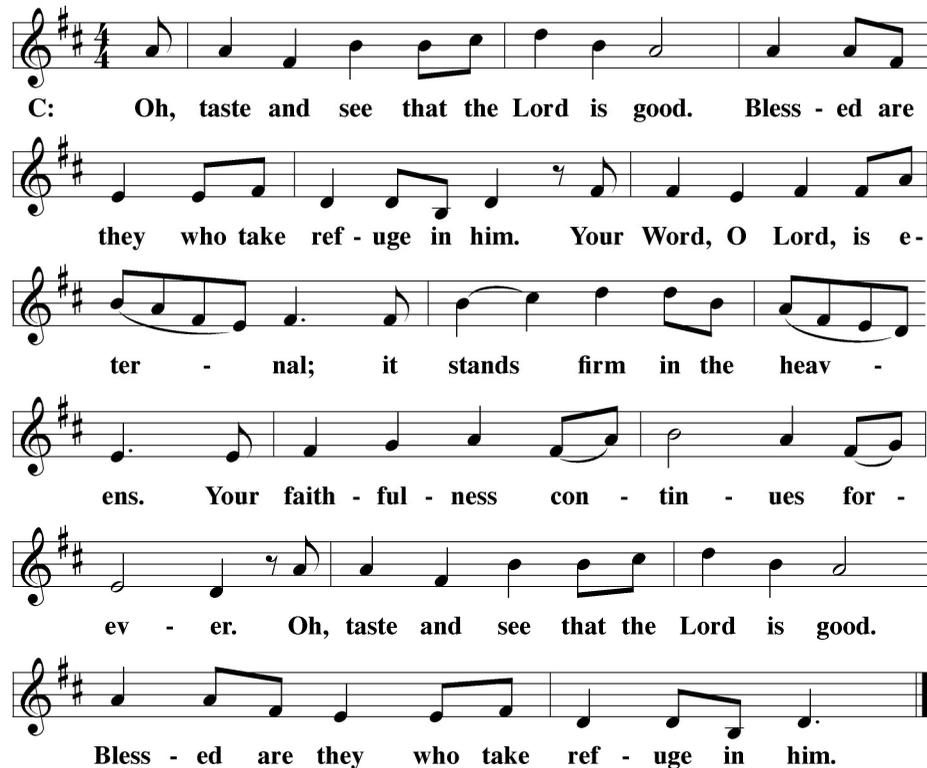
*God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.*

**Amen.**

## Prayer and Praise

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

### Oh, Taste and See



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### Prayer of the Day

*Let us pray. Lord God, you know that we are surrounded by many dangers and that we often stumble and fall. Strengthen us in body and mind, and bring us safely through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



C: A - men.

## Last Week's Stewardship of the Means of Grace and the Means for His Work

Worship 124                      ABC: 32    SST: 6    YSS: 15

	<u>LW</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD Goal</u>
Church Offerings	\$4,264.50	\$157,966.64	\$204,522.90
St. John LES Tuition	\$0	\$16,000.00	\$40,384.50
Synod / Missions	\$111	\$9,048.49	\$10,384.50
Fox Valley Luth. HS	\$195	\$5,726.00	\$5,769.30

## The Week+ Ahead as We Live in God's Grace

<b>Today (29<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:45 am	Worship (WELS Connection)
	9:00 am	Sunday School (Joseph Tests His Brothers) Adult Bible Class (Life of Christ: Jesus' Passion)
	10:15 am	Worship (WELS Connection)
<b>Mon (30<sup>th</sup>)</b>	6:30 pm	Endowment Meeting
<b>Tue (31<sup>st</sup>)</b>	7:00 pm	Long-Range Planning Meeting
<b>Wed (1<sup>st</sup>)</b>	6:45 am	Breakfast & Bible Study (Same-sex marriage; Gender Identity)
	8:15 am	St. John LES Chapel ( <a href="#">at church</a> )
	3:30 pm	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Catechism Class
	6:00 pm	WELS Online Bible Study (wels.net): "Mysterious Marriage"
	6:30 pm	the Ave Student Ministries (Copper Rock Coffee, Appleton)
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
	8:00 pm	WELS Online Bible Study (wels.net): "Mysterious Marriage"
<b>Thu (2<sup>nd</sup>)</b>	7:00 pm	Handbells Practice (at Trinity, Kaukauna)
<b>Sun (5<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:45 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	9:00 am	Sunday School (Joseph Makes Himself Known) Adult Bible Class (Life of Christ: Jesus' Exaltation)
	10:15 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
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<b>Tue (7<sup>th</sup>)</b>	9:00 am	Martha's Circle
<b>Sun (12<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:00 pm	Satellite Bible Study: 1 John (L&M Smith home)
<b>Mon (13<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
<b>Tue (14<sup>th</sup>)</b>	11:30 am	Senior Luncheon (all members are always invited)
<b>Thu (16<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
<b>Mon (27<sup>th</sup>)</b>	7:00 pm	FVLHS General Board Meeting

## The 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.

*Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



C: A - men.

*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.*



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

**Closing Hymn** ..... "Blest are They" (CWS 758)

## The Word

**First Lesson** ..... Daniel 3:13-27

**Psalm of the Day** ..... Psalm 1

### Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

### Psalm tone



Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the • wicked\*  
or stand in the way of • sinners.

But his delight is in the law • of the LORD,\*  
and on his law he meditates • day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in • season\*  
and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does • prospers.

### Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the • judgment,\*  
nor sinners in the assembly of the • righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the • righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will • perish.

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

**Second Lesson** ..... 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Verse of the Day ..... Luke 4:18

*Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me; he has anointed me to preach good news. Alleluia.*

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

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Lesson .....Matthew 5:1-12

*[the lesson ends with the words] ...this is the Gospel of our Lord.*

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day.....“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” (CW 82)

Sermon .....Matthew 5:1-12

**Blessed Are Those Who Follow in Jesus’ Footsteps!**

**The 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.**

Thanksgiving

**Free-Will Thank-Offering**

**Handbell Choir**

**Prayer of the Church**

*Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.*

**We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

*You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.*

**We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

*Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.*

**Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

*Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.*

**Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

*We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.*

**We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**