



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of St. John**

N1904 Church Road  
Town of Grover – Peshtigo, Wisconsin  
Pastor Sargent—920-228-1061

**Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This weekend is the second of a three-week stewardship emphasis titled *Ten for Ten*. In this worship series, we are looking at the daily struggle we all face when two paths are set before us, one by God and the other by this world. Shall we live for this life or the life that is to come? One very obvious way that struggle manifests itself is when we plan our finances.



Americans are generally shy when it comes to talking about money. The Lord isn't. He speaks to us about worldly wealth and possessions over 2,300 times in his Word. Last week we heard that the Lord asks, without apology, to be first in our hearts. The Lord's position in our hearts is to be reflected in our firstfruits giving. Firstfruits giving calls for us to *open up our hearts* and offer up to God our first and our very best.

This weekend, the Lord will *open our minds* to consider the magnitude of his blessings. Each of us has been blessed in different ways and at various levels. What should our thoughtful, prayerful response be to these blessings? That's where the Bible's teaching about proportionate giving is such a help. For some families with fewer resources, the practice of giving 10% of their income might be a significant leap of faith. For other families with more resources, the practice of giving 10% may be a starting point for faith-filled giving.

St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made" (1 Corinthians 16:2). Christians are blessed as they put God's principles of proportional giving into practice!

Our worth is taking us on this path:

Week One: OPEN HEARTS (Firstfruits Giving)

Week Two: OPEN MINDS (Proportionate Giving)

Week Three: OPEN HANDS (Sacrificial Giving)

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear Father, you have given me so much more than I can ever return to you. Give me the wisdom I need to respond to your love thoughtfully. Strengthen my will to dedicate all that I am and have to your glory thankfully. I ask this in the name of the One who lived and died for me, Jesus Christ, your Son, my Lord. Amen.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## OPENING HYMN

*We Give Thee but Thine Own* | CW485

## INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## DIALOGUE

M: “Everything under heaven belongs to me,” declares LORD.

**C: Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.**

M: You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.”

**C: But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.**

M: The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**C: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.**

*Job 41:11; James 1:17; Psalm 24:1; Deuteronomy 8:17,18; 1 Chronicles 16:34*

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly come before you today knowing that we have failed to speak lovingly, think purely, or act rightly. We have sinned against you and against others...

...in wasting the precious time you give us.

**C: ...in our slowness and hesitancy to spread your Gospel.**

M: ...in the faithful care of our relationships.

**C: ...in our restless and relentless preoccupation with worldly wealth.**

M: ...in caring for the bodies and minds you have given us.

**C: ...in our refusal to make you our first priority.**

*Silence for personal reflection*

M: Hear our confession, for we have sinned and are in need of your mercy and forgiveness.

**C: 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.**

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 and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving care; and grant that we, remembering the richness of your grace, may be faithful stewards of all your good gifts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **LESSON**

#### **1 Corinthians 16:1-4**

*Scripture calls for offerings that “in keeping with your income,” that is, proportionate. These offerings are given so that God’s people might be a blessing to others, meeting physical and eternal needs.*

<sup>1</sup>Now about the collection for the Lord’s people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. <sup>2</sup>On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. <sup>3</sup>Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.

### **PSALM OF THE DAY**

#### **Psalm 100 (read responsively)**

*Page 104 in Christian Worship*

### **GOSPEL**

#### **Matthew 25:14-30**

*Through a parable Jesus teaches us that we are to manage all that the Master gives to us for his glory.*

*Continued on next page*

<sup>14</sup>“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup>So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

<sup>19</sup>“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

<sup>21</sup>“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

<sup>22</sup>“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

<sup>23</sup>“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

<sup>24</sup>“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup>So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

<sup>26</sup>“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

<sup>28</sup>“‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup>For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup>And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

**M:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ!

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*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.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure* | **CW349:1,4,5**

## SERMON

***What Really Matters Is Knowing the Master***

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.
- C: Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**
- M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work and the income it provides.
- C: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.**
- M: We know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. We understand that you call us to be the stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us.
- C: Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives.**

*Special prayers and petitions may be offered here.*

M: Help us, Lord, to be wise and fruitful stewards of the opportunities that you give us to use our gifts.

**C: Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

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.

**C: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

*Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us* | **CW486:1-2**

***Fifth Sunday After Epiphany***  
***February 9, 2020***

***Pastor Daniel Sargent***  
***Becky Marotz***  
***Lisa Sargent & Connie Seefeldt***  
***Kevyn Lange, Brent Richlen, Michelle Sobeck***

***Pastor***  
***Organist***  
***Sunday Greeters***  
***Counting Team***

***Welcome to All*** Thank you for joining us in worship today, and a special welcome to our guests who are with us. May the Word and promise of our Lord's love for us in Jesus fill your heart and soul with his peace. If you are a guest with us today, please sign our guest book in the entrance area.

***Prayer Requests*** Please remember the following in your prayers:

\*Birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations this week.

contact Pastor Sargent for any prayer requests and to inform him of any family members entering the hospital.

Also, if you would like a special prayer put in the bulletin, please contact Brenda Polzin or email the request to [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) by Thursday mornings.

***Children's Sermon*** A children's sermon will be included in today's worship service. The children should come up to the front during the ***last verse of the Sermon Hymn***.

***Special Voters' Meeting*** **TODAY**, all voters of our congregation are requested to attend a special meeting after the service here in church. This is an important meeting for the plans to call a new principal.

***Youth Meeting*** There will be a meeting **TODAY** after the service in the church basement for who are interested in going to the International Youth Rally.

***2020 WELS International Youth Rally*** There is information on the bulletin board regarding this year's International Youth Rally. More details will be coming.

***Youth Outing*** **TODAY** there will be a snow tubing outing. We will meet at St. Paul Church, Oconto Falls at 1:00pm. Bring your own snow tubes!! You can still sign up!!!  
**SIGN UP SHEET IS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD!!!**

***Organ Anniversary*** Our beautiful church organ will celebrate it's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February, 2021. The Church Council has recommended that a Committee be formed to help plan a Worship Celebration of Thanksgiving for this anniversary. To help with the planning, Dave Fabry Jr. from the Fabry Organ Company in Antioch IL, is willing to

come to address the congregation on the status of our Organ and any repairs or improvements it may need. He will be here next Sunday, February 16, 2020 to meet with members of the congregation after service.

**2020 Altar Flowers Sign Up** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for special dates in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion.

**Weekly Bulletins** You can now find the weekly bulletins on our website (stjohnpeshtigo.org). Go to the website, click on “weekly bulletins”, then click on the link for the bulletin.

**Changes** To better help us keep our records up to date (address changes, landline disconnection, cell phone numbers, family members move, etc), it would be greatly appreciated if you could fill out a form which is located in the rack in back of church. You may return to any usher, Brenda Polzin, or Pastor.

**Worship & Daily Devotions on WOCO** The worship broadcast on WOCO AM 1260 today (11:00 am) is hosted by Grace, Crivitz. The daily devotions on WOCO AM (1260) & FM (107.1) this week (Monday-Friday at 9:05 am) are hosted by St. Paul, Oconto Falls, by Pastor Matthew Arnold.

**Last Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

Those Who Joined Us in Worship (2/2/20)	185
Average Sunday Attendance for the Year (5 weeks)	167
Sunday School/Bible Study Attendance	16/20
Sunday School Mission Offering	\$ 6.75

**This Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

Today’s Ushers: Shane Seefeldt, Seth Seefeldt, Austin Seefeldt, Connie Seefeldt (Head Usher – Shane Seefeldt; Assistant – Mitch Bushmaker)

Monday 6:00pm Church Council

Wednesday 4:30pm Confirmation Class (4:30-6:00pm)

THURSDAY/FRIDAY - TEACHERS’ CONFERENCE IN APPLETON - NO SCHOOL

Sunday 8:30am Sunday School & Bible Study

9:30am Worship Service & Holy Communion

Next Sunday’s Counting Team: Team “G” - Aaron & Erin Pape - Joel Rohde

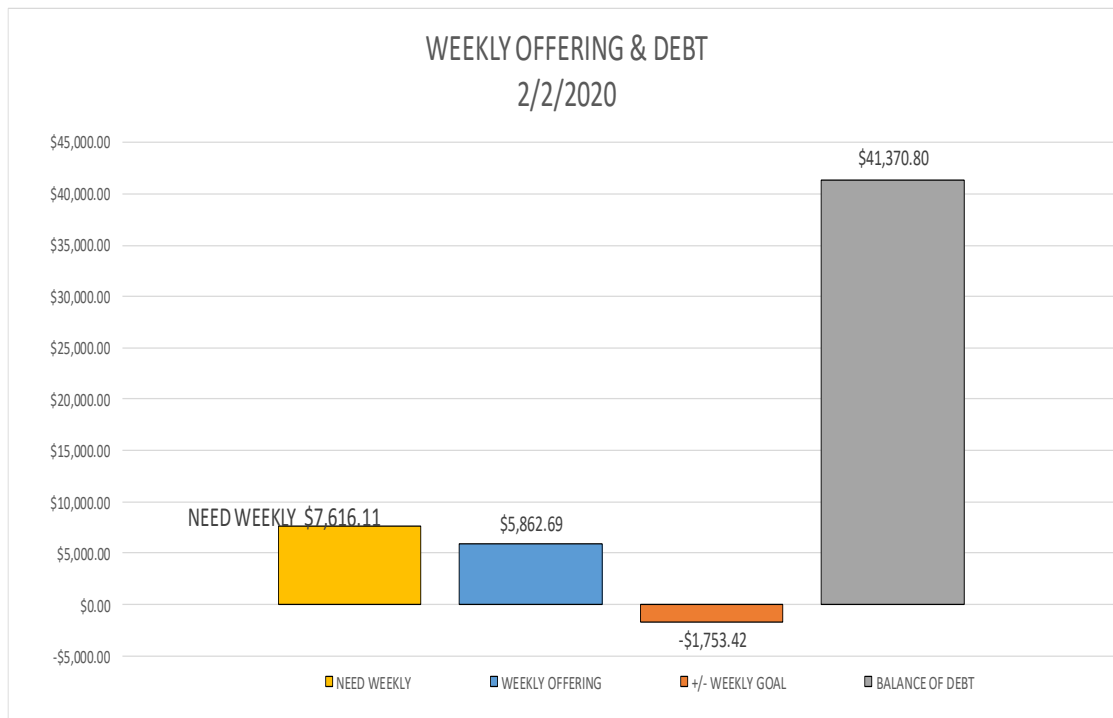
Next Sunday’s Greeters: Randy & Brenda Polzin

***Offerings for the Lord’s Work***

General Fund Income for 1/5/20, 1/12/20 (2 weeks)	\$ 11,694.96
General Fund Income for 1/19/20, 1/26/20 (2 weeks)	\$ 11,197.13
General Fund Income for 2/2/20 (1 week)	\$ 5,862.69

Total General Fund Income (32 weeks)	\$198,648.79
Budget Needs Weekly at \$7,616.11 (32 weeks)	\$243,715.52
Total Budget Deficit in Offerings	\$ 45,066.73
Borrowed Funds for Current Operating Expense	\$ 41,370.80
<b><i>Included in General Fund Income Total:</i></b>	
<i>E-giving - \$595.69; Tuition - \$700</i>	
<b><i>Special Gifts &amp; Offerings</i></b>	
<i>Debt Reduction - \$20; CMO - \$40; Sunday School Missions - \$6.75;</i>	
<b><i>Memorials &amp; Special Gifts Received:</i></b>	

LARGER VIEW OF THIS BAR GRAPH IS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD



## School News

- Today some of our school children in grades K - 8 are singing at Calvary, Abrams. We hope to help beautify their service as well as remind them of the value of Christian Education for their families.
- On Thursday (2/13) and Friday (2/14) all of our teachers will be attending the Northeast Wisconsin District Teachers Conference at Mt. Olive Lutheran School in Appleton. As a result, there will be no school on Thursday or Friday this week.
- This week the girls basketball team picked up a win against St. Thomas Aquinas Academy and the boys defeated the Twin City Eagles. Great job kids!

***St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School Staff***

*Pastor Daniel Sargent* *Cell 920-228-1061*

*E-mail dsargentzambia@gmail.com*

*Lisa Sargent* Cell 920-228-1563

*Mr. Lance List, Principal (Grades 6-8)*      *Office*      *715-582-4565*

Cell 715-927-5478

*E-mail* [school@stjohnpeshtigo.org](mailto:school@stjohnpeshtigo.org)

Mrs. Beth Arnold (Grades 3-5) Home 920-846-8397

*Mrs. Susan Myslik (Grades K-2)*      Cell      507-327-4421

*Mrs. Becky Rohde (Preschool)* Home 715-923-5826

Church/School Website      [www.stjohnpeshtigo.org](http://www.stjohnpeshtigo.org)

*Church Secretary-Brenda Polzin* Cell 920-660-5801

*Email stjohngrover@gmail.com*

### *Office hours @ St. John School*

*Wednesday 7:30am-2:30pm*

*Thursday 7:30am-12pm(subject to change)*

***E-giving(Online Giving)*** This is an optional program and you can opt in or out at any time. There will be three methods to donate to our church. Here's how:

\*Go to our website-stjohnpeshtigo.org. Click on the "Online Giving" tab (right side of screen). That'll take you directly to our E-giving webpage. Click on "create profile" and follow steps for adding transaction. The church incurs fees for debit/credit cards. You can help offset those fees by clicking on the button "help offset"(first time setup transaction only). These amounts will be added to your annual contribution statement.

\*\*GivePlus Church (smartphone app) - Download the app through "apple store (iphone)" or "play store (android)". Create your online profile and follow the steps for adding a transaction. Search for our church by either typing the zip code (54157), typing "Ev. Lutheran Church of St. John, Grover, WI", or turn your locations on and "search for churches near me". With this method you can also help offset fees the church incurs for ACH transactions ONLY(bank routing) by clicking on the button "help offset"(first time setup transaction only).

\*\*\*Smartphone thru a QR scan code. You must download any "QR code reader" app. Open the app and scan the QR code(to the right). It'll take you directly to our e-giving webpage. Create your online profile and follow steps for adding transaction.



If you are a participant in this program already, THANK YOU!

Information is in the back of church to help guide you. Please don't hesitate to contact Brenda Polzin(920-660-5801) or Dave Kaus(715-923-9494) if you have any questions or need help setting it up.