

July 5, 2026

ST. LUKES EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS), Pickwick, MN

Website: stlukespickwickwels.com / Email: stlukespickwick@outlook.com



Welcome to our Guests!

Thank you for joining us! We are gathered here to be strengthened in the faith through the Word of Jesus, the Son of God, who has come to forgive and save us. If there is anything we can do to better serve you, please let us know.

Pastor Steven Neumann's Contact Information

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Musicians:

Connie Hagedorn

Kris Swogger



THEME: Today we Celebrate the Blessings God Showered on Our Nation in the Past. We also Look Ahead to Our Hope for the Future.

OPENING HYMN: "God of our Fathers" (sung to the tune of CW #321)

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
Our grateful songs before your throne arise.**

**Your love divine has led us in the past;
In this free land by you our lot is cast;
Oh, be our Ruler, Guardian, Guide and Stay,
Your Word our law, your paths our chosen way.**

**From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Make your strong arm our ever-sure defense.
Your true religion in our hearts increase;
Your boundless goodness nourish us in peace.**

**Refresh your people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with heav'n-born love and grace
Until at last we meet before your face.**

INVOCATION

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 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. I have failed you as an American citizen. I have at times failed to support our armed forces. I have grumbled and complained, been defiant and obstinate, been lazy and quarrelsome. I have taken my American privileges for granted, and neglected my responsibilities to my country. 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 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.

PSALM 100 WITH HYMN #618 RESPONSES

M: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

C (♩): **1) Before the Lord we bow, The God who reigns above
And rules the world below in boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring, In joy and praise our hearts we raise
To heav'n's high King.**

M: Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his. We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture

C (♩): **2) The nation you have blest, May well your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, protected by your care.
For this fair land, For this bright day, Our thanks we pay -
Gifts from your hand!**

M: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

C (♩): **3) May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine with your Word's pure light and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue, Be tuned to praise And join to raise
A grateful song!**

M: For the Lord is good: his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

C (♩): **4) Earth, hear your Maker's voice, Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore and bow before
The crucified!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord God, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be people at peace among ourselves, and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve you faithfully in our generation, to the honor of your holy name; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. / **C: Amen.**

+THE WORD OF THE DAY+

Old Testament Lesson: Daniel 9:15-19 (*sermon text*)

“Now, Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day, we have sinned, we have done wrong. Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of

our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us. Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name.” (NIV)

**C (♩): 5) And when in pow’r he comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing to heav’n’s high King
Salvation’s song!**

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:1-7

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God’s servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. (NIV)

VERSE OF THE DAY:

***C: Alleluia. Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.
Alleluia. (Proverbs 14:34)***

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Jesus in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?” But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying

to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?” “Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away. (NIV)

HYMN OF THE DAY “America the Beautiful”

1. **O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain.
America! America! God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.**
2. **O beautiful for pilgrim feet Whose stern impassion’d stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness.
America! America! God mend thine ev’ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.**
3. **O beautiful for heroes prov’d In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life.
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness, And ev’ry gain divine.**
4. **O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

Sermon by Pastor Neumann on Daniel 9:15-19: "Our Hope as a Nation"



Confession of Faith:

(sung to the tune of CW #551)

C (♩):

**In God we trust, Lord of eternity
By whose strong Word creation came to be,
Lord of the nations, Clothed in majesty, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**In God we trust, The Father's own true Son,
By whose strong death redemption has been won,
And by whose rising new life is begun, Alleluia! Alleluia**

**In God we trust, the Holy Spirit dear,
Whose inspiration, shines the gospel clear
That all the world the saving Word may hear. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

+ Offering of Thanksgiving +

Visitors: We are very glad you are worshiping with us today. Please don't feel obligated to give an offering. / **ALL: Please greet and introduce yourself to those worshiping around you on this special day of God's grace.**

Prayer for our Nation (w/ CW# 617 & 616)

M: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all that we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hands. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people. Father in heaven, on this anniversary of our nation's birth two hundred and fifty years ago, we come before your throne of grace to praise you, to thank you, and to bring you our petitions. We praise you, Lord God, for the good land you made ready in this New World, a land of fertile soil and abundant minerals, a land of scenic wonders.

C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

C (♩):

***Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored, Gracious, mighty sov'reign Lord
God of nations, King of Kings, Head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed, God o'er all, forever blest --
Pleading, at your throne we stand: Save your people, bless our land.***

(#617 v.1)

M: We thank you, Lord God, for the many good things you permitted us to build, to find, and to preserve in this land. We thank you for our government under which we may enjoy liberty and a contented life. We thank you for the countless discoveries and inventions that have made this nation a leader in putting your creation to use for the service of mankind. We thank you for permitting this land to become a haven for

people in distress. Above all, we thank you for making this land a refuge for the preaching of the Gospel, and for giving us the strength to spread this good news of the Savior of all in Jesus to the ends of the earth.

C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

C (♩): *On our fields of grass and grain, Send, O Lord, the kindly rain;
O'er our wide and goodly land, Crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be, O'er the commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand; Bless your people, bless our land.*
(#617 v.2)

M: Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces, and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

C (♩): *Give us rulers who will be, Known for love and honesty.
Let the pow'rs that you ordained, Be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase, Love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand, One wide, free, and happy land.* (#617 v.3)

M: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic

C: Teach us not to worry, but to 'cast all our cares on you.'

C (♩): *Feed your children God most holy, Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
Jesus, Bread of Life from heaven, Bless the food you here have given
As your gifts our body nourish, May our souls in graces flourish.
Till with saints in heavenly splendor At your feast due thanks we render*
(#616)

M: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

(Special prayers and intercessions may follow.)

M: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and requests.

C: Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

CLOSING PRAYER FOR OUR NATION:

M: Gracious God, wonderful Lord, we praise your name for the blessings of living in a free country. Keep our country free, great, and prosperous according to your will, and lead citizens everywhere to acknowledge you as the only source of true freedom, and the provider of all blessings. Cause us especially to treasure and make use of the freedom to worship and to confess you openly and without fear. God bless America; and bless us in Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. / **C: Amen**

BLESSING

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. / **C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn: "God Bless Our Native Land," Hymn #619 in our RED Hymnal

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**All are Invited to Join Us *Downstairs* in our Fellowship Hall
Right After Today's Service for Pie/Desserts & Ice cream!**

Today's Door Offering: WELS Mission work in Brazil

Browser Link for ordering St. Luke's Apparel: stlukesapparel26.itemorder.com

This Week at St. Luke's

Wednesday: Bible Study 6:30 PM; Book is "*Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up*"

Thursday: OWLS Mtg at 1st Lutheran, La Crosse – Noon Potluck; program after.
WORSHIP SERVICE with Communion 6:30 PM.

Happy Birthday: Bob Green (6th), Chris Woodard (7th).

Happy Anniversary: Fran & Jean Dzwonkowski (10th).

July Church Cleaning Schedule: Kim Hansen by 7/5; Deb Merchlewitz by 7/12; Denise (Jim) Albrecht by 7/19; Jess McCann by 7/26/2026.

July Ushers: Jim Larson, Tom Mueller, and Dean Morgan.

July Bulletin Sponsors: Jamie & Sue McNally in celebration of their anniversary; Dave and Tracy Albrecht in memory of Wayne and Mabel Albrecht.

Looking Ahead:

Opportunity to Serve: WELS Camp Whitewater desperately needs volunteers (weeks of July 12th -17th and July 19th-24th). They need teen & adult helpers both weeks. Talk with Nick Wieser who is on the camp board for more specifics.

New Pastor Ordination & Installations: Pastor Austin Claflin at St. Matthew's Winona on the afternoon of Sunday, July 19th, and Pastor Michael Friesenegger of Grace & Trinity at Grace in Ridgeway on the afternoon of July 26th. More specifics to follow.

Sullivan's Boat Trip: Join us Sunday, July 26th for a late afternoon boat trip on the river and then supper at Sullivan's afterward. The cost is \$20/person for the boat trip (plus the cost of your supper at the restaurant) with a maximum of the 1st 45 people registered and paid setting sail. There will also be room for about 5 more people at the restaurant who don't participate in the boat trip but join us there afterwards. Please sign-up on the sheet in back of church and pay Rachel Fabian within a week or 2 of signing up to hold your spot if you are taking the boat trip.

Upcoming WELS Retreats for Women & Men: How fantastic it is to get together with like-minded WELS Christians to be built up in faith! We have some wonderful opportunities to do just that over the course of the next few months.

- **Ladies**, you are invited to the Equipped Women's Conference July 17-18 in North Mankato, and to the Eau Claire Women's Retreat July 24-25 at Cornerstone Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI.
- **Gentlemen**, you are invited to Camp Croix in Danbury WI September 18-20 for the annual Men's Retreat (with MLC Prof. Mark Paustian presenting on Apologetics) hosted by the Twin Cities Churches of WELS, as well as the 1-day Men of His Word Conference on October 24th at Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN.

Bible Soccer Camp 2026: will be held at our sister church, St. John's Lutheran Church of Nodine, MN the week of July 27-30, 2026, 9:00am-12:00 noon under the theme: '*Christ Makes Us Champions.*' Children entering Grades K-6 this fall are invited to join in for daily Bible Lessons about how Christ Makes us Champions, as well as some Soccer Fun, and a daily Snack. Wear athletic clothing, bring a water bottle, and running shoes or non-metal cleats. Invite Friends, Family, Neighbors; for ALL Children K-6 are Welcome! No previous soccer experience is needed. To register you can use this Google Form Sign Up Link: <https://forms.gle/vfqmpyf4iMHf8Ykm6> or you can call or email St. John's Nodine at office@stjohnsnodine.org or 507-643-6440.

St. Lukes Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS), Pickwick MN

Service Times: Thursdays: 6:30 PM Sundays: 9AM w/Bible Study at 10:15 AM

Communion is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month.

We also offer a Women's bible study on Monday PMs (except summer), an every other week Men's Breakfast bible study on Thursday mornings at Perkins in Winona, a Family Bible study (except over summer), and a Wednesday PM bible study.

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Feel Free to Contact the Spiritual Leaders of St. Luke's anytime:

Church Council Members

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Jim Albrecht, Financial Sec. (1st Term – 2027), ltcattle@acegroup.cc, 507-643-6126

Jeremy Church, Treasurer (2nd Term – 2028), jeremych87@gmail.com, 507-459-0648

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St. Lukes Evangelical Lutheran Church is a gathering of Christians that exists to teach and preach the Word of God in all its truth here among us and to all the people of the world, and to worship God and serve our neighbor in love as Jesus calls us to. As a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, we accept the Bible as the inspired inerrant Word of God. We believe that God created the entire universe in six natural days out of nothing by his almighty Word. We believe that humankind fell into sin and is totally corrupt, dead in trespasses and sin, and doomed to hell. We believe that God out of love for us humans sent his own Son who became human, lived a perfect life in our place, and suffered eternal death (hell) for us. We believe that God the Holy Spirit uses this Gospel message in Word and Sacraments to create faith in us and thus make Jesus' saving work ours.

If you or someone you know might be interested in joining our congregation, we would LOVE to have you join us! Our Pastor offers a NO COST / NO OBLIGATION class that goes over the main doctrines of the Christian faith, which also does serve as a Preparation to Take the Lord's Supper & New Member Class, if so interested. Speak with Pastor Neumann for specifics. He runs that class whenever there is someone interested; and he schedules it on days and times that work best for those expressing interest. Speak with Pastor Neumann for specifics.



LET US SERVE YOU