



Then Eli realized  
that the LORD  
was calling  
the boy.  
So Eli told Samuel,  
"Go and lie  
down, and if  
he calls you,  
say, 'Speak, LORD,  
for your servant  
is listening.'"

1 Samuel 3:8-9

Second Sunday After Epiphany

January 16 / 17, 2021

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 S. Washington Street New Ulm, MN

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee  
revbovee@gmail.com  
507-217-6364 Cell

[www.stjohnsnewulm.com](http://www.stjohnsnewulm.com)  
Email: [stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com)

Pastor Rob Guenther  
[pastorguenther@gmail.com](mailto:pastorguenther@gmail.com)  
507-240-2433 Cell



Recorded services online

507-354-6744



[facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm](https://facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm)

**Today's service is televised locally**

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

# Second Sunday after the Epiphany

## January 16/17, 2021

**Prayer before worship:** Speak O LORD, for your servant is listening. Cause your Word to fill our hearts and spill over into our lives that we may hear it, obey it, and share it with others. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*God's people long to gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning for worship may be used on any occasion to remind God's people of the blessings of his Word.*

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

**C: Amen.**

Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered all to hear you.  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear you,  
By your teach - ings, sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

M: Oh, how I love your law!

**C: I meditate on it all day long.**

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

**C: for they are ever with me.**

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

**C: for I meditate on your statutes.**

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

**C: sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:97-99,103)**

All our knowl-edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est dark - ness shroud - ed  
Till your Spir - it breaks our night With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed.  
You a-lone to God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

**C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

(2 Timothy 3:16,17)

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his 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 gave his Word so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST LESSON

## 1 Samuel 3:1-10

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli

and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I

am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

## PSALM of the DAY

## Psalm 67

CW p. 91



May God be gracious to us and bless us\*  
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be known on earth,\*  
your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,\*  
for you rule the peoples justly  
and guide the nations of the earth.

## Refrain

Then the land will yield its harvest,\*  
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,\*  
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Refrain

## SECOND LESSON

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

"Everything is permissible for me"-- but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"-- but I will not be mastered by anything. "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"-- but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. By his power God raised the Lord from the dead,

and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee

from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

## VERSE of the DAY

Alleluia. He said to me, "You are my servant in whom I will display my splendor." Alleluia.  
- Isaiah 49:3

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL LESSON

## John 1:43-51

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

♪: **Glory be to you, O Lord! Glory be to you, O Lord!**

The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote-- Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." "Nazareth! Can anything good

come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip. When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you

are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

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

## 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.

*Please be seated*

## HYMN of the DAY

***Speak, O Lord***

**CWS 735**

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To receive the food of your Holy Word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All your purposes for your glory.
2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes In the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail, Let their truth prevail over unbelief.
3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises, And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built And you fill the earth with your glory.

## SERMON

**1 Samuel 3:1-10**

### **SPEAK LORD, FOR YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING**

- 1. LISTENING FOR THE RARE AND VALUABLE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD**
- 2. LISTENING IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD'S WORD**

*Please stand*

- ♪: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold, uphold me with your free Spirit.

## OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

### PRAYER of the CHURCH

#### 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.**

**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, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:**

♪: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**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 † 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

♪: **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN      *Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face***

**CW 315**

1. Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face; Here would I touch and handle things unseen,  
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace, And all my weariness upon you lean.
2. This is the hour of banquet and of song; Here is the heav'nly table spread anew.  
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong The brief bright hour of fellowship with you.
3. I have no help but yours nor do I need Another arm but yours to lean upon.  
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed; My strength is in your might, your might alone.
4. Mine is the sin but yours the righteousness; Mine is the guilt but yours the cleansing blood.  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace: Your blood, your righteousness, O Lord, my God.
5. Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear. The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.  
The bread and wine remove, but you are here, Nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
6. Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

*Please stand*

♪: **In peace, Lord, you let your servant now depart according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for ev'ry people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory, the glory of your people Israel.**

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: And his mercy endures forever.**

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 Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: 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.

**C: Amen.**

† † †

**PREACHER  
PRESIDING MINISTER  
ORGANIST**

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee  
Pastor Rob Guenther  
Craig Hirschmann



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Attendance** for the past weekend was 313.

Fruits of faith given:

\$11,728	Home Operations ~ \$15,346 is our weekly need		
\$855	MVL ~ \$1,163 is our weekly need	\$675	St. Paul's School Building Fund
\$1,680	Missions ~ \$1,714 is our weekly need	\$20	K-12 Education Assistance
\$336	Building Fund ~ \$1,397 is our weekly need	\$10	Benevolence Fund
\$100	Designated Miscellaneous		

**Voters' Meeting** ~ The St. John's voters' assembly will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, January 26, at 7 pm in the church sanctuary. Social distancing will be practiced and face masks are required in compliance with local pandemic protocols. An online participation option will be provided for those who cannot attend in person at [bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass](https://bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass). The agenda will include reports from our called workers, congregational officers, boards, and committees as well as an update on the strategic ministry plan. The voters will be asked to extend two divine calls during the meeting: 1) To make Emily Stoering's one-year call to teach at St. Paul's Lutheran School permanent; and 2) To extend James Dretske a one-year, half-time call to continue service as staff minister at St. John's. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

**2021 Contribution Envelopes** ~ The 2021 offering envelopes can be found either in your bulletin box or in alphabetical order on the tables in the new narthex. Feel free to recycle any unused 2020 envelopes. Thank you for your cooperation.

**In-Person Bible Classes** ~ Thursday Bible classes will be the topic of Angels at 10:30 am given by Pastor Bovee. Pastor Guenther will lead a study of the book of Revelation at 7 pm.

Sunday morning Bible class starts at 9:30 am. There are 25 tables available in the church basement with one family per table. Please sign up for a table at [bit.ly/SundayBibleClass](https://bit.ly/SundayBibleClass). The First 1,000 Years of Christianity will be taught by Prof. Keith Wessel.

All of the in-person classes will be held in the church basement or join online at [bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass](https://bit.ly/StJohnsBibleClass).

## **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**St. Paul's School Preschool Open Houses** ~ COVID careful Open Houses for the 2021-2022 school year will be held Monday, January 18, from 3 - 6 pm. To sign up for an Open House time slot or for more information, please contact St. Paul's Preschool office at [preschool@splnewulm.org](mailto:preschool@splnewulm.org). The time slots will be 20 minutes.

**Amazing Race 2021** ~ Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 30! Race time is at 1 pm sharp. Unfortunately, there will be no gathering in the school before or after the race. Once again, proceeds for this event will benefit the School Building Project, so form your team, take part in the online silent auction from January 25 until January 30 at 10 am, and be ready for the best time you've had since...well... Amazing Race 2020! Teams can register and order t-shirts using this link: [bit.ly/amazingrace21](https://bit.ly/amazingrace21). Contact Amy Rich at [stampinnut@me.com](mailto:stampinnut@me.com) with any questions you may have.

**MVL News** ~ Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School seeks a WELS or ELS male to serve as *Director of Mission Advancement*. Interested individuals should contact MVL Principal, Dr. Tim Plath, for more information at 507-354-6851 or [tplath@mvlhs.org](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org).

**WELS/ELS Singles Facebook Group** ~ If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 290 members with ages ranging from 18-65+. We're an active group who loves sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and food. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us. [www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles)

**Job Opening** ~ Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for one part-time Administrative Receptionist. A comprehensive description for this position can be found at [mlc-wels.edu/hr](http://mlc-wels.edu/hr). Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

**Staff Minister Jim Dretske**  
**Teacher Christine Baganz**  
**Teacher Laura Balza**  
**Teacher Karen Grunwald**  
**Teacher Emily Stoering**  
**St. John's Church Office**

[sm.dretske@gmail.com](mailto:sm.dretske@gmail.com)  
[cbaganz@splnewulm.org](mailto:cbaganz@splnewulm.org)  
[lbalsa@splnewulm.org](mailto:lbalsa@splnewulm.org)  
[kgrunwald@splnewulm.org](mailto:kgrunwald@splnewulm.org)  
[estoering@splnewulm.org](mailto:estoering@splnewulm.org)  
[stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com)

**About the Cover** ~ The copy of the painting on the cover for today is the work of American artist John Singleton Copely (1738-1815), who is probably best known for his famous portrait of Paul Revere as a silversmith. The cover art depicts the young prophet Samuel, who during the night, having been called by the LORD for the first time, explains the next morning to his step father, the high priest Eli, the revelation God had given to him. From that time forward Samuel was filled with the Holy Spirit and he proclaimed God's Word faithfully so that none of his prophecies ever failed.