



Numbers 24:17

*"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near.
A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel."*



The Epiphany of Our Lord January 5 / 6, 2019 St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 S. Washington Street
New Ulm, MN

www.stjohnsnewulm.com

Pastor Jeffrey A. Bovee
revbovee@gmail.com
507-225-0158 Cell

Email: stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com
 facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
507-354-6744

Pastor Rob J. Guenther
pastorguenther@gmail.com
507-240-2433 Cell

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.

Worship Notes

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5/6, 2019

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, we thank you that in the midst of this dark world you have caused the light of life to shine on us. In Jesus Christ our Savior you have revealed yourself as our loving Lord and God who redeemed us from Satan, sin, and death, and you have given us the certain promise of everlasting life in heaven. Lead us always by the light of your Word, and deliver us from all evil. May the joy of the Wise Men who first saw the star and followed it by faith also be ours during this Epiphany season and always. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *Service of Word and Sacrament* page 26

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Saturday

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

CW Supplement 737

OPENING HYMN

Sunday

As with Gladness Men of Old

CW 83

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 10:1-9

When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relation to the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan-- with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones-- she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. When

the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed. She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. But I did not believe these things until I came and

saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. How happy your men must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness."

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 72

CW p. 93

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:2-12

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the

Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this

mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

GENERAL VERSE

p. 30

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this

is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel." Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they

went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

HYMN of the DAY

The People that in Darkness Sat

CW90

WHY DO YOU SEEK THE KING OF KINGS?

- 1. HE BRINGS TROUBLE TO THE HEARTS OF THE PROUD**
- 2. HE BRINGS JOY TO THE HEARTS OF THE HUMBLE**

NICENE CREED

p. 31

OFFERING

PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER

p. 32

THE SACRAMENT

p. 33

To our worship guests seeking an altar at which to commune: Since the Lord's Supper is an expression of outward unity in the faith as well as inner union with Christ, we ask that those who are not communicant members of our fellowship please schedule a meeting with the pastor before coming to the Lord's Table. We ask this in loving obedience to the Scriptures and not in judgment of anyone's faith, sincerity, or standing before God.

DISTRIBUTION

Brightest and Best

CW92

HYMNS

O God from God, O Light from Light

CW85

† † †

PREACHER

Pastor Jeff Bovee

ORGANIST

Craig Hirschmann

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Mon	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6:30 pm	Education Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Wed	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
Thu	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: 1 Kings
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: James
Fri	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God"
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Weekly Sermon Topic

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 13	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Youth Mission Trip Presentation / "Prayer: A Simple Way to Pray"
Jan 14	7 pm	Evangelism Meeting
Jan 16	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Jan 17	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: 1 Kings
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: James
Jan 18	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God"
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Weekly Sermon Topic
Jan 19	9 am	Cards of Caring, 403 N. Minnesota St.
	10:30 am	Youth Group: Mt. Kato and Chili/Sandwiches
Jan 20	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: "Prayer: A Simple Way to Pray"
	11 am	Church Officer Installation
Jan 21	7 pm	Council Meeting
Jan 22	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	7 pm	Annual Voters' Meeting
Jan 23	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Jan 24	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: 1 Kings
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: James
Jan 25	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God"
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Weekly Sermon Topic
	10 am	Sunset Apt. Service
Jan 27	8 am	Grades 1-8 sing
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: "Prayer: A Simple Way to Pray"
Jan 28	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Jan 29		St. John's MVL Night: MVL Boys Basketball vs. BLHS High School
Jan 30	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir

ST. JOHN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 382.

Fruits of faith given:

\$44,349	Home Operations ~ \$14,532 is our weekly need		
\$507	MVL ~ \$2,520 is our weekly need	\$1,000	Audio/Video Equipment
\$1,614	Missions ~ \$1,648 is our weekly need	\$700	Benevolence Fund
\$1,039	Building Fund ~ \$1,603 is our weekly need	\$680	Lutheran Charities
\$1,100	Hmong Outreach in Vietnam	\$85	Youth Group
\$50	Endowment Fund	\$10	Memorials

Born Again through Holy Baptism ~ this weekend is Leah Ann Dummer, newborn daughter of Matt and Nicki Dummer. May God keep this child in her baptismal grace all her life and make her a citizen of heaven through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Financial Statements ~ Statements reflecting contributions for January – December, 2018, are available and can be found in your church bulletin box. Please pick up yours today.

2019 Contribution Envelopes ~ The 2019 offering envelopes can be found either in your bulletin box or in alphabetical order on the tables in the new narthex.

Women of St. John's ~ will be held on January 8, 2019 at 7 pm. Karen Grunwald will present "Purposeful Movement to Enhance Learning." God created our bodies with amazing sensory systems. Movement is necessary to aid in the development of these systems which are linked with a child's ability to handle academic learning. Whether you have children or grandchildren, there will be something to learn. Fellowship and refreshments will follow. Child care can be arranged. If you will need child care, please sign up on the sheet in the new narthex or call Jeneane Thiesfeldt at 507-240-4523. Signing up needs to be done prior to Tuesday the 8th. Thank you.

Mixed Choir Rehearsals ~ There will not be a rehearsal on January 9th. Rehearsals will resume on January 16th.

Cards of Caring ~ The Cards of Caring volunteers will meet Saturdays, January 19, and February 9, to make Warm Winter Wishes, Valentines, Easter, and Anniversary cards for our "Thinking of You" and homebound members. We meet at 403 N. Minnesota St. between 9 am and 12 pm. We welcome MLC students and members age 12 and older. Come and join us for this fun volunteer project. Contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230 with questions.

Youth Group ~ The Youth Group (Grades 6-12) are invited to Mt. Kato on Saturday, January 19th. We'll meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 am. Chili and sandwiches will be served at church following tubing. Please bring \$15 for the lift ticket. Sign up on the youth board in the new narthex if you are able to come. Parents, please pick up the kids at 3:30 pm. We will need a chaperone or two. Please sign up on the board or contact Lisa Goegelein at ali3b2g@gmail.com or 507-217-7117 if you are able to drive. Thank you!

Newly Elected Church Officers ~ will be installed during the 11 am service on Sunday, January 20.

Annual Voters' Meeting ~ will be Tuesday, January 22 at 7 pm.

St. John's Night at MVL ~ will be Tuesday, January 29th. The MVL boys basketball teams will face the Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart High School teams. The C squad game begins at 4:30 pm and the Junior Varsity game at 5:45 pm followed immediately by the Varsity game at 7:15 pm. Complimentary tickets will be available in the narthex.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Announcements ~ *MVL Anniversary Shirts* MVL has anniversary t-shirts available for purchase, \$10 for adults (S-3XL) and \$7 for youth (S-XL). Limited quantities in certain colors and sizes, so order yours soon! Contact Kristin Matzke at kmatzke@mvlhs.org or 507-354-6851. *Scrip Coordinator Needed* MVL is looking for a volunteer who would be willing to help order Scrip and fill orders for families. The time commitment for this position averages out to about two hours on Monday morning and two hours on Friday morning. If you are interested in serving MVL and our Lord in this way, please contact the MVL office at 507-354-6851.

The Southwest Area Lutheran Chorale ~ invites you to participate in their 2019 season. Our first rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, January 13th at St. John in Redwood Falls from 2 - 5 pm. Our concerts will be held on Sunday, April 7th, at St. John's, Fairfax at 2 pm and St. Paul's, in St. James at 7 pm. A complete schedule will be distributed at our first rehearsal. You can also learn more by contacting our Organizational Committee: Jim Renz 507-327-7222 (director), Linette Scharlemann 507-227-2161 (director), and Pastor Scott Muske 507-426-7007 (pastoral advisor). New members are always welcome!

St. Paul's Lutheran School PreK Open House ~ for 3 & 4 year olds is Monday, January 14 from 2 - 6 pm. Visit school, let your child "try out" the room and talk to Mrs. Meyer about the Pre-K program! Contact Heidi Meyer, Pre-K Director, at 507-354-2329 with questions. Members of St. John's and St. Paul's are welcome to register early, January 1-14. (Public registration begins Jan 15).

OWLS ~ OWLS will attend MLC Evangelism Day on Wednesday, January 16. The program is dedicated to equip students to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, both in their personal lives and when they serve in the public ministry. Please join the OWLS and hear inspirational speakers as they talk about their evangelism experiences. The first presentation is at 4:30 pm. OWLS will eat dinner in the cafeteria at 5:30 pm. The second presentation follows at 6:10 pm. Registration is required. You can register and view topics and classroom locations at mlc-wels.edu.

Evangelism Day at MLC ~ MLC Evangelism Day is dedicated to equipping MLC students to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, both in their personal lives and when they serve in the public ministry. Again this year, we are proud to offer Evangelism presentations that are open to the public! Please join us Wednesday, January 16 starting at 4:30 pm and be inspired to do outreach one-on-one and within your congregation. For more information, and to register, visit our website - <https://mlc-wels.edu/event/evangelism-day-2019/>

Summit Avenue Music Series ~ presents the world-renowned string quartet, Pro Arte Quartet, on Sunday, January 27, 3 pm, in MLC's Chapel of the Christ. For more information, visit summitavenuemusic.com.

Save the Date ~ St. Paul's School Amazing Race Winter Edition is coming your way on Sunday, January 27, at 3:30 pm. Our Race is a team scavenger hunt around New Ulm, patterned after the TV show. In addition to the Race, the event will include supper (taco in a bag), cupcake walk, lightning tournament (a basketball shooting competition), and a silent auction featuring themed baskets put together by each classroom. Everyone is welcome (you don't have to race)! Proceeds will benefit the School Building Project. If you'd like to put together a team, you can find the registration form on our St. Paul's Amazing Race 2019 Facebook page or contact Amy Rich at stampinnut@me.com. Registrations are due to the school office January 10.

Men of Truth ~ WHAT'S IT MEAN TO BE A "MAN OF GOD"? Husbands, fathers, and young men, join us for the 4th Annual Men of Truth Conference as we are encouraged from Scripture on what it means to be a "Man of God" on Saturday, March 23, 2019 at Martin Luther College. www.menoftruth.org

Staff Minister Kelly Emde

Administrative Teacher Jim Dretske

Teacher Laura Balza

Teacher Karen Grunwald

Teacher Jean Schroeder

St. John's Church Office

kremde@comcast.net

jdretske@splnewulm.org

lbalsa@splnewulm.org

kgrunwald@splnewulm.org

jschroeder@splnewulm.org

stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com

About the Cover ~ The Bible verse on the cover of the bulletin from Numbers 24:17 was spoken by a false prophet -- that is to say, although he was a false prophet, the Holy Spirit made him speak the truth when he mouthed these words. Balaam the false prophet had been hired by Balaak the King of Moab to curse the Israelites. But instead, God not only turned Balaam's words into a blessing, Balaam even spoke a prophecy about the coming of the Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. It is commonly believed that it was this very passage of Scripture which caused the Wise Men to come in search of the Christ child, and to be led by the Epiphany star to the place where he lay. God guided them to the Savior, and still guides us today. It is still his Word which directs us where to go to find him and reveals what he has done to save us.