

# Faith

*"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you."*

# Forgiveness

*"If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him."*

# Fortitude

*"We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty."*



*The Gospel According to St. Luke – Chapter Seventeen: Verses One through Ten.*

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 26 /27, 2019

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St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church  
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New Ulm, MN 56073

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**Today's service is televised locally**

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.; Thursday at 10:00 a.m.  
Channel 3 - Nuvera: Monday at 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.; Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

# *Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*

## **October 26/27, 2019**

**Prayer before worship:** Almighty God, we pray that you would strengthen our faith so that we may never forsake your promises, but instead hold fast to them. Teach us to forgive others as you, Lord, have forgiven us in Jesus Christ our Lord. And by the power of your Holy Spirit working through your Word, enable us to serve you willingly and in love, motivated by the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

### **Order of Service: *Service of the Word* page 38**

#### **OPENING HYMN**

***With the Lord Begin Your Task***

**CW478**

*8 am Congregation sings stanzas 1, 3 and 4; Choir sings stanza 2*

#### **FIRST LESSON**

**1 Chronicles 29:1-2, 10-18**

Then King David said to the whole assembly: "My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God-- gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble-- all of these in large quantities."

David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, O

LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. We are aliens and

strangers in your sight, as were all our forefathers. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. O LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you."

#### **PSALM of the DAY**

**Psalm 27**

6:30 pm, 9:30 and 11 am: *CW* p. 75

8 am: Choir

***I Shall See***

Michael John Trotta

*Teach me your way; lead me in a straight path One thing I seek, I seek to dwell in your house.*

*Your face I seek, hide not from me. You are my light, my light, whom should I fear?*

*In times of trouble he shall hide me, he shall hide me. I will not fear. I will not fear. He is my strength.*

*I believe I shall see all of your good in the land of the living.*

*I believe that I shall see all your good, I shall see in the land of the living.*

*Wait upon him, and he will strengthen you.*

*Wait for him, he is your strength. I will not fear. He is my strength.*

## SECOND LESSON

## Romans 6:15-23

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey-- whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to

which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of

righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## GENERAL VERSE

p. 40

## ANTHEM

### *The Lord Is My Salvation*

Jonas Myrin, Keith Getty

*The grace of God has reached for me, and pulled me from the raging sea.  
And I am safe on this solid ground: The Lord is my salvation.*

Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockels

8 am

*I will not fear when darkness falls. His strength will help me scale these walls.  
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun: The Lord is my salvation.*

*Refrain: Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love.  
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won: The Lord is my salvation.*

*My hope is hidden in the Lord. He flows each promise of His Word.  
When winter fades, I know spring will come: The Lord is my salvation.  
In times of waiting, times of need. When I know loss, when I am weak, I know  
His grace will renew these days: The Lord is my salvation.*

*And when I reach my final day, He will not leave me in the grave.  
But I will rise. He will call me home: The Lord is my salvation.  
Glory be to God, the Father. Glory be to God, the Son.  
Glory be to God, the Spirit. The Lord is our salvation.  
The Lord is our salvation!*

## GOSPEL

## Luke 17:1-10

Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch

yourselves. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him." The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a

mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Would he

not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?	Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were	told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"
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<b>HYMN of the DAY</b>	<i>Come, Oh, Come, Life-Giving Spirit</i>	<b>CW181</b>
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<b>SERMON</b>		<b>Luke 17:1-10</b>
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**Lord, Increase Our Faith**

1. So that we do not forsake your Word
2. So that we forgive as we are forgiven
3. So that we serve you faithfully

<b>APOSTLES' CREED</b>		p. 41
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**OFFERING**

<b>PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER</b>		p. 42
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<b>HYMN</b>	<i>Oh, for a Faith that Will Not Shrink</i>	<b>CW405</b>
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<b>CLOSING HYMN</b>	<i>May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill</i>	<b>CW458</b>
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<b>PREACHER</b>	Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
<b>PRESIDING MINISTER</b>	Pastor Rob Guenther
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Adrian Smith
<b>CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Gr. K-4)</b>	Jean Schroeder
<b>MIXED CHOIR</b>	Bethel Boeder
<b>MLC LECTORS</b>	

Throughout the year, St. John's asks men who are studying for the pastoral ministry to read for a service. We are in a privileged position to see our Lord's answer to our prayers for future called workers.

6:30 pm	Chris Gorr	St. John's, New Ulm, MN
8 am	Jordan Massiah	Hope, Toronto, ON, Canada
9:30 am	Buok Chuol	Good Shepherd, Omaha, NE
11 am	Jacob Borgwardt	Redeemer, Fond du Lac, WI

*I Shall See*

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*The Lord is My Salvation*

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## **THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S**

Sun	8 am	Gr. K-4 sing
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Isms and Ideologies
	3 pm	Joint Reformation Service at MLC
Mon	6:30 pm	Altar Guild Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Tue	6 pm	CTCF Meeting
	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Call Meeting</b>
Wed	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Thu	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Colossians
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings
Fri	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2"
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Ecclesiastes
	7 pm	MVL Fall Play
Sat	7:30 pm	MLC Musical
	7 pm	MVL Fall Play
	7:30 pm	MLC Musical

### **† Upcoming Services †**

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov 3	11 am	Jr. Choir sings
	2 pm	MVL Fall Play
	2 pm	MLC Musical
Nov 4	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
Nov 5	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6:30 pm	Education Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
Nov 6	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	MVL Fall Band Concert
Nov 7	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Colossians
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Nov 8	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2"
	2 pm	Youth Group
Nov 10	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Questions and Answers
Nov 11	10 am	Pastors' Study Club, St. Paul's Church
	10:30 am	Stewardship Meeting
	11:45 am	OWLS Meeting at St. Paul's Church
	7 pm	Evangelism Meeting
Nov 12	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting

The full church calendar can be found at [www.stjohnsnewulm.org](http://www.stjohnsnewulm.org)

## **ST. JOHN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Attendance** for the past weekend was 534 with 407 attending Communion.

**Voters' Meetings** ~ The voters will also consider a recommendation to call a replacement for teacher Jean Schroeder who is retiring at the end of the current school year. Copies of the proposed budget and a list of the various positional nominations can be found in the narthex. A meeting to call for Mrs. Schroeder's replacement is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 29, at 7 pm**. All voters are encouraged to attend these meetings.

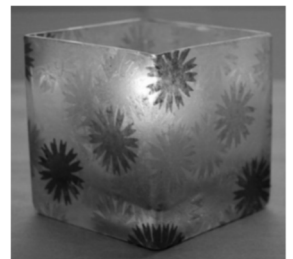
**EHV Bibles** ~ The EHV Bibles have arrived and are ready to be picked up and paid for. The Bibles are located in Pastor Guenther's office and can be picked up and paid for at your convenience. There is an envelope for payment on the bookshelf. Please also highlight your name so that we know who has picked theirs up.

**Contribution Statements** ~ Contribution statements for January – September are ready and can be found in your church bulletin box; please pick yours up today.

**Contributions for St. Paul's School Building Fund** ~ Please make out checks to "St. John's Lutheran Church" and indicate "St Paul's School Building Fund" on your offering envelope. This will help us better track our congregation's support of the building project. These amounts will be reflected on your St. John's contribution statement. Thank You!

**Altar Guild Meeting** ~ There will be an Altar Guild meeting on Monday, October 28th at 6:30 pm. We could always use a few more helpers, so if you're looking for a way to serve your brothers and sisters in Christ at St. John's, please feel free to check us out. The time commitment is relatively small as we only meet formally once a year, and we take turns preparing the church for worship (communion, flowers, banners, etc....). If you have any questions, please contact Val Bovee.

**Youth Group** ~ Since there is no school, teens in grades 6-12 are welcome to come to the church basement on **Friday, November 8** from 2 - 4 pm to decorate rocks and make stained glass votive holders. These could make wonderful Christmas presents! Bring a friend and a snack to share! Please sign up on the youth board in the narthex.



**Cards of Caring** ~ The St. John's "Cards of Caring" volunteers will meet for fellowship and to make cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas for our "Homebound" and "Thinking of You" members. We will meet on the following Saturday, November 16. You are welcome to join us any time between 9 am and noon as your schedule permits. We will again meet at 403 N. Minnesota St. (front door is on 4th North St.). We welcome MLC students and members ages 12 and older. There are activities for everyone to do. No "card making skills" are required. For information, contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230.

## **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**St. Paul's School *Time to Build* Campaign Update** ~ Praise God and thank you! This past weekend the campaign crossed the \$3 million mark. So far we have paid out \$2,360,175. We project that our principal and office staff will move into the new offices on Nov. 8. Things are moving along! For a pictorial update on the project go to [app.oxblue.com/open/knutson/all](http://app.oxblue.com/open/knutson/all). Please keep the project in your prayers.

**St. Paul's School Boxtops** ~ Please check out the new app for Box Tops for Education! No more clipping! Just scan the receipts.

**MVL News** ~ *Study Hall Supervisor* Mrs. Maribeth Wong will retire as study hall supervisor at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School at the end of the first semester. As a result, MVL is looking for an individual to serve as study hall supervisor beginning January 6, 2020. The position is part time (7:30 – 3:45 on school days) and does not offer benefits. Interested individuals should contact Dr. Tim Plath, MVL's principal, at 507-354-6851 or [tplath@mvlhs.org](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org). *Fall Play* Turn the game Clue into a play and you have the entertaining *Murder's in the Heir!* At intermission, the audience votes for whom they think committed the murder. The actors will play out the end of the play according to the majority vote. You may want to attend all three performances: November 1 and 2 at 7 pm, and November 3 at 2 pm. *Veterans' Day Program* The Veterans' Day recognition will be held on Wednesday, November 6. Veterans and their guests are invited to a breakfast in the MVL commons before the program. Please contact Kristin Matzke, 507-233-8662 or [kmatzke@mvlhs.org](mailto:kmatzke@mvlhs.org), to RSVP. The public is invited to the hour-long program, which begins at 9 am in the MVL gymnasium. *Boys' Basketball Coach* MVL is looking for someone to coach 9th grade boys basketball. Candidates must be able to practice after school with early evening games. The season will run from November 18 to late February. If interested, email Craig Morgan at [cmorgan@mvlhs.org](mailto:cmorgan@mvlhs.org) or call 507-233-8658.

**MLC Fall Musical** ~ Based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton, *Big Fish* tells the story of Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest . . . and then some! Edward's incredible, larger-than-life stories thrill everyone around him—most of all, his devoted wife, Sandra. But their son, Will, about to have a child of his own, is determined to find the truth behind his father's epic tales. Overflowing with heart and humor, *Big Fish* is an extraordinary musical that reminds us why we love going to the theatre—for an experience that's richer, funnier, and bigger than life itself. This musical features music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa and book by John August. For more information and to order tickets, visit [mlc-wels.edu/forum](http://mlc-wels.edu/forum) or call (507) 233-9114.

**Phantom at the Orpheum** ~ WELS members are invited to join Martin Luther College students for a night out in Minneapolis on Sun, Nov 24. \$50 includes a "high balcony" seat and round trip coach transportation. The bus will depart from MLC in New Ulm at 2:30 and could make pick ups along the way in Nicollet, St Peter, Belle Plaine, and St Louis Park. The bus would arrive in Minneapolis around 4:30. Dinner is on your own and the show starts at 6:30. We would depart Minneapolis at 9:15 with an ETA in New Ulm of 11:15. Limited tickets are available (cash or check to MLC). Contact Steve Balza (507-217-1731 or [alumni@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:alumni@mlc-wels.edu)) by Nov. 6 to reserve yours.

**OWLS Meeting** ~ will be Monday, November 11, at 11:45 am. Lunch provided by the school (\$5). At 12:30 pm, we will continue with a Devotion followed by the 12:45 pm Program. The Program will highlight the Technology used in St. Paul's Classrooms: Chrome Books and Smart Boards. This will be followed by a tour of the new facilities. All Seniors of our churches are cordially invited to attend, to ask questions (by all means!!), and to offer encouragement to the school in its crucial work of helping to bring up our children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Sign up for the lunch by contacting Dale Markgraf at 354-2735 or demarkgraf@gmail.com. By the time of our meeting, the school driveway will be a one way road. Enter the school driveway from Payne Street; leave via Garden Street. A free will offering will be taken for the military chaplaincy program and 2020 dues may be paid. (\$15).

**The MN River Valley Wind Ensemble** ~ will perform on Sunday, November 17, at 3 pm in the WCC Auditorium. The ensemble is a semi-professional group comprised of faculty, community members, music teachers, music students, and professional musicians. This group of talented musicians continues to perform demanding music in its 15th season.

**MLC Wind Symphony Concert** ~ Please join the MLC Wind Symphony for "The British Invasion!" as we celebrate the influence of British composers on the development of wind band literature. Works by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Percy Grainger, Adam Gorb, and Philip Sparke will be featured. Also featured on this program are student conductors studying to be future instrumental music educators. As part of their program of study, these students are assigned a work for wind band, which they study and rehearse with the ensemble and then conduct in the concert. The goal is to provide the students an authentic experience in preparation for their future full-time work. The concert will take place Sunday, November 24, at 3 pm in the MLC Auditorium.

**Volunteer Opportunity** ~ Treasure Haus is looking for more volunteers. We are in need of people who are willing to help sort, price, fill shelves and run the register. Please consider donating your time and talents. If you have any questions please talk to one of our managers: Darci, Jennifer, Donna or Laura at 507-354-6108.

**Job Opportunity** ~ The WLCFS-Christian Family Solutions counseling clinic in Mankato, MN is seeking a Licensed Psychologist to perform psychological testing, case consultation, supervision, and treatment of clients. This person must be a Licensed Psychologist in Minnesota, with advanced training and specialties within a broad spectrum of mental health concerns, including depression, anxiety, relationship functioning, trauma, addictions, child and adolescent counseling, and family therapy, among other disorders. For detailed information and to apply, please visit [www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org](http://www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org) and click on the Employment tab.

**About the Cover** ~ Faith, forgiveness, and fortitude... These are virtues Jesus impresses on his hearers in this many faceted text from Luke 17 which will serve as the basis for today's sermon. Beginning with a stern warning about teaching the truth of God's Word and the consequences of those who don't, he reminds us that our purpose as Christians is to point all people to the forgiveness of sins that is ours in him alone. Putting our faith in Jesus will lead us to speak the truth in love. It will cause us to forgive others as Christ had pardoned us. It will give us the fortitude to continue to serve Jesus, not because we are trying to earn our salvation, but because we already have it through faith in him. Even faith as small as a mustard seed is still saving faith, and as we trust in God's promises, we know his blessings are ours.