

**St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church**  
**627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota**



**Minor Festival: The Presentation of Our Lord**  
**February 1/2, 2020**

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**Today's service is televised locally**

Channel 14 - Comcast: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

# Worship Notes

## *Minor Festival: The Presentation of Our Lord*

### February 1/2, 2020

**Prayer before worship:** Heavenly Father, too often we grow impatient instead of waiting for the consolation that you've promised and we sin against you. But in your grace you sent your Son to do for us all that the Law required and to suffer and die for us. We praise you that you have revealed Jesus and his work to us. And we ask you to help us sing your praise and live for you in thanks for the peace that is ours through him. In his name we pray. Amen.

**Order of Service: *Common Service* with Communion page 15**

**OPENING HYMN**

**In His Temple Now Behold Him**

**CW 77**

**ANTHEM**

***The Light of Glory***

Joseph Martin

*You are the Light of Glory, You are the wondrous story, You are the Author of our faith. 8 and 9:30 am  
You are the Life eternal, You are the Word supernal, You are the Lamb, the Giver of grace.  
You are the mighty warrior, You are the great Redeemer, You are the Chief and Cornerstone.  
You are the Sure Foundation, You are the Hope of nations, You are our God and God alone.  
You are the Light of Glory, You are the wondrous story, You are the Maker of all things.  
You are the great Creator, You are the Lord and Savior, You are the One, the King, the King of kings!  
You are patient and kind, You are Love divine, a treasure of priceless worth.  
Your kingdom endures forever. Your mercy faileth never.  
You are the joy of salvation, the Light of the World!*

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**FIRST LESSON**

**1 Samuel 1:21-28**

When the man Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always." "Do what seems best to you," Elkanah her husband told her. "Stay here until you have weaned	him; only may the LORD make good his word." So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him. After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. When they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the boy to Eli,	and she said to him, "As surely as you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.
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## PSALM of the DAY

## Psalm 27

6:30 pm and 11 am: CW p. 75

8 and 9:30 am Choir sings first refrain; Congregation sings all subsequent refrains

### Refrain



*The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is my stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? REFRAIN*

*There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long:*

*To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. REFRAIN*

*I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord, in the land of the living;*

*Hope in him, and take heart, hope in the Lord! REFRAIN*

## SECOND LESSON

## Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil -- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

## VERSE of the DAY

Alleluia. My eyes have seen your salvation. Alleluia.

- Luke 2:30

## GOSPEL

## Luke 2:22-40

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to

<p>Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.</p>	<p>She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who</p>	<p>were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.</p>
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## NICENE CREED

p. 18

## HYMN of the DAY

*O Light of Gentile Nations*

**CW78**

## SERMON

**Luke 2:25-35**

### Our Eyes Have Seen God's Salvation

1. Confronted by the Christ of Conflict
2. Comforted by the Prince of Peace

## OFFERING

## PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER

p. 20

## THE SACRAMENT

p. 21

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 one of the pastors 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 HYMNS

*Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal*  
*O God from God, O Light from Light*

**CWS711**  
**CW85**

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## PREACHER PRESIDING MINISTER ORGANIST MIXED CHOIR

Pastor Rob Guenther  
Pastor Jeffrey Bovee  
Jon Roux  
Bethel Boeder

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

Sun	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Prayer
Mon	6:30 pm	Elders in Action
Tue	6:30 pm	Education Meeting
	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
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: I Apologize
	11 am	Baptism
Sat	9 am	Cards of Caring at 403 N. Minnesota St.

### **† Upcoming Services †**

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Feb 9	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Prayer
	11 am	PreK-8 sing
	1 pm	St. Paul's School Amazing Race
	1 pm	MVL Delegate Pre Meeting
	2 pm	MVL Delegate Meeting
Feb 10	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
Feb 11	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
	6 pm	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Feb 12	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Feb 13	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Colossians
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings
Feb 14	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2"
	4:30 pm	Basement Reserved
Feb 16	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: St. John's Mission Statement
	3 pm	MLC Wind Symphony Concert
Feb 17	10:30 am	Stewardship Meeting
Feb 18	7 pm	Council Meeting
Feb 19	6:30 pm	Public Catechism
	7 pm	Mixed Choir
Feb 20	10:30 am	Adult Bible Class: Colossians
	7 pm	Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings
Feb 21	6:30 am	Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2"
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: I Apologize
	7:30 pm	MLC Play: <i>The Mouse that Roared</i>

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

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

**Attendance** for the past weekend was 510.

Fruits of faith given over the past two weeks:

\$18,050	Home Operations ~ <i>\$15,346 is our weekly need</i>	\$100	Audio/Video Equipment
\$1,714	MVL ~ <i>\$1,163 is our weekly need</i>	\$60	K-12 Education Assistance
\$2,797	Missions ~ <i>\$1,714 is our weekly need</i>	\$41	Food & Fellowship
\$3,581	Building Fund ~ <i>\$1,397 is our weekly need</i>	\$25	Wish List: Handbells
\$500	Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund	\$20	Endowment Fund
\$340	St. Paul's School Building Fund	\$10	LWMS

**2019 Contribution Statements** ~ The final 2019 contribution statements are available and can be found in your church bulletin box. Please be sure to pick yours up today.

**Qualified Contribution Distribution** ~ If you plan to make a Qualified Contribution Distribution from a retirement account, please notify Wendy Lambrecht, Bookkeeper, or Mike Thom, Financial Secretary, so that when the check arrives we know who initiated the contribution and can properly acknowledge it. Thank you.

**Women of St. John's** ~ The Women of St. John's Meeting will take place at 7 pm this Tuesday in the basement fellowship area. Come and learn about the exciting "Joys of Reading Aloud at Every Age." Professor Jonathan Roux from MLC will be the presenter and share new and classic titles for you to explore.

**Cards of Caring** ~ The St. John's Cards of Caring volunteer group will meet on Saturday, February 8th to make Valentine and warm winter wishes cards for our homebound and "thinking of you" members and also, for our LWMS Befriend a Mission families. We continue to meet at 403 N. Minnesota St (enter on 4th North). You are welcome to come for fun and fellowship between the hours of 9 am and noon as your schedule permits. MLC students are welcome as are our members ages 12 years old and older. Contact Lois Willems with questions at 507-676-1230.

**Youth Group** ~ In February, the youth group is invited to Open Skate at The New Ulm Civic Center (1212 N. Franklin St.) on Sunday, February 23 from 2 - 3:30 pm. At 3:30, we'll go upstairs to the meeting room for a devotion and snacks until 4:30 pm. The cost is \$4.75 for open skate and \$2.25 to rent skates. Bring a friend and a snack to share! Also, check out the Upcoming Events on the Youth Board!

**Cancer Journey Fellowship** ~ Sunday, March 8, 4 - 5:30 pm. Have you or someone in your immediate family experienced a cancer diagnosis at any time? Maybe it was yourself, your spouse, a child, or a parent. It might be a recent diagnosis, or the person may be undergoing treatment, be in post-treatment, or be in remission. Come to this opportunity for Scripture-based encouragement and conversation with others. We will meet in the lower level fellowship area. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Church Kitchen Give Away Items** ~ Aqua colored coffee servers and red candles are available. Help yourself. They can be found in the kitchen area.

**Handbell Choir** ~ If you'd like to be a part of something musical but you have limited vocal ability, then the new Handbell Choir is for you! If you're not good at reading notes or rhythm, I can teach you! Practices will be in the church basement at 6-7 pm on Wednesday. I need 11-17 Confirmed members. Please indicate your willingness to join the Handbell Choir by email to Becky Berg: rberg@mvlhs.org. As soon as we have enough people, we will begin practices.

**St. John's Coffee Mugs** ~ Newly ordered St. John's coffee mugs are used by our prospective member visitation team as a gift to help our new friends remember our local congregation. Perhaps you wish you had your own St. John's mug to help you remember to pray for our ministry during your morning java. Your wish has been granted! Stop by the display table in the narthex to pick up one of these stylish mugs for only \$5 each! Leave your payment, cash or check to St John's, in the box.

**2020 Contribution Envelopes** ~ The 2020 offering envelopes can be found in alphabetical order on the table in the new narthex. If you have not done so already, please pick up yours 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!

### **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**St. Paul's School Dedication Success** ~ Over 700 attended the Dedication service. Over 500 stayed for dinner. Almost 200 attended the Community Open House. We received over \$6,100 in support of the Dedication service and meal. Offerings for the campaign total \$3,194,200. Thanks to all who helped with Dedication. God be praised! Please make donations out to St. John's Lutheran Church and indicate St. Paul's School Building Fund. Thank you!

**Mission Trip to Mexico** ~ If you are interested in participating or learning more about this trip, please contact Staff Minister Kuschel at [kkuschel@splnewulm.org](mailto:kkuschel@splnewulm.org). Participants must be 16 years or older and have some Spanish knowledge.

**Senior Recital** ~ MLC Senior Karissa Nolte will present an organ and voice recital on February 8th at 2 pm in the Chapel of the Christ. The singing section will include works by Handel, Hoiby, Debussy, Bellini, and more. The organ section will feature works by Bach, Buxtehude, Widor, and Mathias. All are welcome; admission is free! Refreshments to follow.

**St. Paul's School Amazing Race** ~ The Amazing Race will be held on February 9 at 1 pm. There is still time to put a team together by February 5 - registration forms are available in the school office. We hope that even if you don't race, we will see you at school for the big event! We will have a Taco in a Bag lunch (12:00-1:30), lightning basketball competition for all ages (12:30, 1:30, and 2:30), a decorate-your-own-cupcake station, an opportunity to purchase gourmet cupcakes made by Sugar High Bakery, and a Silent Auction (bidding ends at 2:45). All proceeds will go to the school building project. Follow our Facebook event page for more details: St. Paul's Amazing Race 2020. If you would like to help with the event, please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/rEzazNM>.

**MLC Ladies Auxiliary** ~ The annual Bingo Night at MLC is scheduled for 7 pm on Thursday, February 13th. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary for the enjoyment of all MLC students and supported by people such as you. Bingo Night has been a highly anticipated and successful event for many years. The success of the event lies in great part on the gifts awarded to the students. Many gifts are needed due to the number of students that participate. You could help by donating: 1) baked goods, such as pies, cakes, cookies, bars; 2) gift cards for gas, pizza, stores; 3) quilts; 4) cash. Items should be brought to the MLC receptionist desk by Friday February 7th. The desk is open from 8 am to 4:30 pm weekdays. Baked goods could be delivered on the 13th. You may also mail items to: MLC, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. Questions may be addressed to the receptionist at 507-354-8221. Thank you for your participation in this event. Jeneane Thiesfeldt, contact person 507-240-4523; thiesfjm@gmail.com.

**MLC Wind Symphony Concert** ~ The Martin Luther College Wind Symphony presents “Be Still, My Soul: A Sacred Concert for Wind Band” on Sunday, February 16, at 3 pm in Chapel of the Christ. The concert will also feature the combined strength of the MLC Chorale, Mannerchör, and Women’s Choir. Please join us for this concert of praise!

**Marriage Enrichment** ~ at St. Paul's Church. All married or engaged couples are invited to join us for Simply Marriage. This is a video based program by Pastor Randy Hunter. Each session is about an hour and a half. We will meet on February 16 and 23, March 1, 15, and 22 beginning at 4 pm. Childcare will be provided during the sessions.

**Mentoring Event** ~ You are invited to attend a special presentation brought to you by the MN River Valley Mentoring Program. Michelle Markgraf will be presenting “Breaking the Silence,” a look into Intimate Relationship Violence (IRV). Participants will examine their thoughts and beliefs about IRV in the context of God’s Word, learn to recognize the signs, and what to do when they see them. The event will be **Saturday, February 22nd, from 9-1030am**. It will be held at the St. Paul’s Lutheran Church fellowship hall located at 201 N. State Street, New Ulm, MN. This is a FREE event. RSVP is not required to attend, but will help us identify how many participants to expect. You can RSVP by the following methods: Email: MRVMentoring@gmail.com or via Google Form: <https://forms.gle/1HeavDpDk1EfuCQA7>

**OWLS February Event** ~ The OWLS invites all seniors to join us for a MLC performance of the winter play in a section of prime seats at 2 pm on Sunday, February 23. Seats will be reserved in the Wittenberg Collegiate Center auditorium until 1:45 pm. Purchase play tickets at the door for \$6. The attraction will be *The Mouse That Roared*, a humor filled play presented by the MLC Forum. It is proven entertainment and will lead us to muse on whether we want a government that seeks only to crush opposition or stands ready also to be merciful and forgiving. Perhaps the play will finish before 4:30 pm and those who may wish to visit with each other will be welcome to attend the Prairie Caterers evening meal beginning at 5 pm. It is served in the dining hall for guests at \$7.

**About the Cover** ~ “Simeon in the Temple,” was painted by Gerbrand van den Eeckhout (an artist in Rembrandt’s immediate circle) in 1672 (just two years before he died). Eeckhout depicts the elderly Simeon holding the baby Jesus, as priests and scribes, Mary and Joseph, and the prophetess, Anna, all look on. The two figures in the center almost seem to glow, a visual reference to Simeon’s characterization of his infant Savior as “a light to lighten the Gentiles.” (Luke 2:32). We too rejoice that we have been enlightened to know Jesus as our Savior. Now we can depart in peace, having seen God’s salvation for us. (Note: for more information on this piece and its artist, visit <https://www.theleidencollection.com/artwork/simeon-in-the-temple>.)