

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



Presentation of Our Lord
February 1/2, 2025

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

www.stjohnsnewulm.com
office@stjohnsnewulm.com
facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
507-354-6744
bit.ly/SJyoutube

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

Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am
Channel 3 - Nuvera: Monday at 6 pm, Tuesday at 1 pm & Thursday at 10 am

PRESENTAION OF OUR LORD

February 1/2, 2025

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: God, we know that we deserve to depart this life in misery to endure your eternal punishment in hell. But, by your grace our eyes have seen the salvation you have prepared for all people. We know of your grace to us in Christ. In fact, as Simeon held you in his hands, we, in the Lord's Supper, hold your body and blood in our hands and in our mouths. Thank you for your grace! Now we depart the church today in peace, knowing we are forgiven. And we can depart the earth in peace, knowing that heaven is ours when this life is over. Thank you! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Service Setting 1

OPENING HYMN

In Holy Conversation

CW 722

Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS

pg. 154

LORD HAVE MERCY

pg. 157

GLORY TO GOD

pg. 157

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Be seated

ANTHEM

Nunc Dimittis

arr. Peter S. Klemp

Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace according to thy Word.

And, now let your servant, Lord, depart in heav'nly peace.

We have heard your holy Word, seen your redeeming grace.

This salvation is a Light to light the Gentiles' way,

Lord of Glory, King Almighty with us here today.

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; Proudly let your voices raise.

Forth we go into the world, strengthened by his holy Word,

Sins forgiven, our faith restored. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

As we go our sep'rate ways, united by your love,

Fed and nourished by your grace for life in heav'n above.

Bless us with desire to serve, great things you've done for us,

Took the death that we deserve: your Son upon the cross.

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; Proudly let your voices raise.

Forth we go into the world, strengthened by his holy Word,

Sins forgiven, our faith restored. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Glory be unto the Father, glory to the Son,

Glory be unto the Spirit, holy Three in One.

As it was in the beginning, from eternity.

Our God is among us now and evermore shall be.

So all who seek the Lord rejoice! Let us make a joyful noise!

Forth we go into the world, strengthened by his holy Word.

Sins forgiven, our faith restored. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

²¹ When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, ²² 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.”

²³ “Do what seems best to you,” her husband Elkanah 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.

²⁴ 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. ²⁵ When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, ²⁶ and she said to him, “Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. ²⁷ I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. ²⁸ 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place* Psalm 84B
 9:30 & 11 Choir will sing verse 1,3,5 Congregation will sing verses 2,4,6,7



1 How love - ly is your dwell - ing place, O God, I
 2 As yearns the spar - row for her nest, so yearns my
 3 How rich the joy to live with you, and sing your
 4 How blessed are those who trust your care, the path to



long to see your face. My soul in - to your
 heart to find its rest be - fore your al - tar,
 praise my whole life through; how hap - py those who
 you is sweet and fair; to pil - grim ears the



courts would wing and, in your pres - ence, glad - ly sing.
 there to stay and make my home through night and day.
 trav - el here to find their God is ev - er near.
 des - ert sings, dry ground is laced with cool, clear springs.

- 5 O hear my call, great God of might, as now I stand within your sight,
 this pilgrim in your holy place, O look, and see your servant's face.
- 6 One day I hold with you more dear than thousands spent away from
 here. If I could stand before your door and serve you well, I'd want no
 more.

7 My sun, my shield, my heart, my grace, my blessing sure, my dwelling place, unfailing light to pilgrim's feet who journey forth their God to meet.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:14–18

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human 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. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Refrain



Tone



I must proclaim the good news of the king - dom of God,



because that is why

I was sent.

Refrain

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22–40

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), ²⁴ 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.”

²⁵ 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 on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴
Then Simeon blessed them and said to 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, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be
revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of
Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after
her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never
left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming
up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the
child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the
Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the
child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of
God was on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Light of Gentile Nations

CW 497

SERMON

Luke 2:22-40

How This Poor World Looks to One Who Holds Christ in His Arms

- I. His Obedience to God's Law Cleansed us, Branch and Root
- II. His Universal Grace Leaves no Doubt About Our Eternity with Him

Stand

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 truly 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.

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH pg. 164

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT pg. 165

LORD'S PRAYER pg. 171

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *I Come, O Savior, to Your Table* CW 670

Stand

PRAYER AND BLESSING pg. 171

CLOSING HYMN *Lord, Now You Let Your Servant* CW 951

PREACHER Pastor Wayne Laitinen

PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor Jeff Bovee

ORGAN Susan Decker

SR. CHOIR Adrian Smith

VIOLIN Sebastian Smith

PERCUSSION Josiah Smith

Welcome, Visitors! Please scan the QR code to sign our guest register.



Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Nunc Dimittis #99315 Words and Music - ©2013 Concordia Publishing House Contributors: Peter S. Klemp

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	8, 9:30, 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class: Psalms
Monday	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
Tuesday	4 pm	Oak Hills Service
	7 pm	Women of St. John's
Wednesday	3:30 pm	Public and Homeschool Catechism
	6 pm	Handbells
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday	10 am	Bible Class: Proverbs
	7 pm	Bible Class w/ Pastor Josh Koelpin
Friday	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Vices and Virtues
Saturday	6:30 pm	Worship
Sunday, Feb. 9	8, 9:30, 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Bible Class w/ Pastor Josh Koelpin
	5:30 pm	Youth Group Mount Kato
Monday, Feb. 10	11:30 am	OWLS
	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 11	11:30 am	Stewardship Meeting @ MLC
	6 pm	Sunday School Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 12	3:30 pm	Homeschool & Public School Catechism

	6 pm	Handbells
	6:30 pm	Bible Information Class
	7 pm	Choir
Thursday, Feb. 13	10 am	Bible Class: Proverbs
	7 pm	Bible Class: Vices and Virtues

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for this past weekend was 537.

Fruits of Faith:

\$12,384 Home Operations ~ BTD: \$71,192 / YTD received: \$80,162

\$1,427 WELS Missions ~ Received to Date: \$5,774 (2025 Goal: \$87,000)

\$1,667 MVL ~ Received to Date: \$4,221 (2025 Goal: \$57,000)

\$75 Building Fund

\$20 K-12 Education Assistance

\$25 LWMS

Slide Advance Assistants Needed ~ If you can click a remote, you are qualified to assist with advancing slides during services, especially if you already are in the habit of watching the slides during the services. If you have interest in assisting in this way, please send me an email at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com to get on a list of people who receive notices when there is a need to fill a service for the coming weekend. A link to an Online Slide Advance Sign-up sheet will be sent which will allow you to fill in your name for services which would work for you. Easy! Thanks!

Printed Church Directories - The pew Copies are getting worn and we have now had quite a few new members join St. John's recently, as well as have had members move away or have babies ;) So it would be good to update pictures, phone numbers, addresses, birthdays, anniversaries for all of

our current members and their families. Please send updates to sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com You can also ask me or some other member to take your picture in the New Narthex and send the file with any changed information for your family. I am usually available between services. Let's get this done in February so that I can print New Pew Copies early in March. Thanks!

Close Communion ~ At St. John's we practice "close communion." That is, we invite only those who are in fellowship with us as members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church (or of a synod that is in fellowship with us) to commune with us. We are in no way judging your personal faith. But we recognize that in the Lord's supper we enjoy not only a close communion, or fellowship, with God, but we also enjoy a close communion with one another as we publicly express our agreement in every teaching of God's Word. And we wouldn't presume to ask you to publicly confess your agreement with all that we teach and believe without first being instructed in what it is that we teach and believe. But if you do desire to commune with us, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host families needed ~ Martin Luther College is excited to host the WELS National Band Fest on March 7-9, 2025! The festival band is made up of band students from our WELS high schools across the nation. We are seeking welcoming local families to house those who are traveling distances to be here. Please contact Beth Scharf at events@mlc-wels.edu if you are willing to host or scan the QR code to complete the hosting form. Thank you!



Bingo Night The MLC Ladies' Auxiliary is sponsoring their annual Bingo Night on Wednesday, Feb. 26. This is one of the year's highlights for MLC students when they can have a night of fun and win great prizes of quilts, gift cards, and baked treats! We are looking for donations of blankets &

quilts, cash to purchase the gift cards, and treats for alternate prizes during the evening. Please consider this opportunity to partner with the Auxiliary for this night of fun encouragement! Drop off donations at the MLC reception desk by February 18 or mail them to 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm, MN 56073. On behalf of our future pastors, staff ministers, and teachers, thank you!

MVL JV Softball Coaches Needed ~ Is anyone interested in coaching JV fastpitch softball? MVL is in need of a JV head and assistant coach. If you have any interest please contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org

OWLS MEETING ~ Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors) will be gathering on Monday, February 10 for a noon Jimmy Johns meal at St. John's Lutheran Church, New Ulm. The costs will be covered with Thrivent Action Team moneys. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM. After the meal and a devotion, Pastor Norman Schell will do a zoom presentation on The Bethlehem Star. If you have not signed up and plan to attend, contact Myron Fluegge at flueggemtj@hotmail.com or phone 507-359-2424 by Wednesday noon, February 5, 2025, for a meal count. Hope you can make it.

Open Positions at LMSG ~ Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is seeking a part-time paid bookkeeper to manage financial transactions, contributions, and reports for the organization. Additionally, there is a volunteer opening for an LMSG Their Stories Told interviewer/writer to share the stories of WELS/ELS Military Service Members. LMSG provides Christ-centered support to WELS and ELS Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. Learn more at www.lutheranmilitary.org.

Treasure Haus ~ The Treasure Haus Board of Directors announces the 2025 annual meeting. This annual meeting will be special as it will commemorate the 40th anniversary of support for Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School and contributions to many other ministry support groups. Members of the MVL Congregational Association and their numerous volunteers are welcome to attend. The meeting will be held at MVL on March 16, 2025 beginning at 2:00pm. Those planning to attend must notify the planning committee by 1. signing up at the Treasure Haus, 2. emailing manager@treasurehaus.org 3. or calling the Treasure Haus 507-354-6108. All reservations must be received by February 15, 2025. There will be musical entertainment by MVL students, a trivia quiz game on our history, displays of historical memorability, and a tour of the new MVL addition. Join us to recognize God's blessings as we continue "serving one another in love."

St. Paul's School Amazing Race ~ The team registration is closed; however, not racing? Everyone can take part in events at school on Race Day, Sunday, February 2. Taco in a bag lunch from 11:30-1:00, cupcakes, lightning basketball games and bean bags are all on the agenda. We are looking forward to seeing you there, but don't forget about the silent auction! The online auction is live now and closes on February 4, at noon. You can bid for items in the auction on our website here: <https://virtualauction.bid/amazingrace2025> All proceeds benefit the St. Paul's School Capital Campaign.

