

**Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)<sup>15</sup> .....Luke 2:29-32**

*Sung to the tune of "I Hear the Savior Calling"*

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| <p>1. O Lord, now let your servant<br/>Depart in peace, assured:<br/>For I have seen your promised<br/>incarnate, saving Word—<br/>A Light that will enlighten<br/>All gloom where Gentiles dwell;<br/>The brilliant, crowning glory<br/>Of those in Israel!</p> | <p>2. All glory to the Father,<br/>All glory to the Son,<br/>All glory to the Spirit,<br/>Forever three in one;<br/>For as in the beginning,<br/>Is now, shall ever be,<br/>God's triune name resounding<br/>Through all eternity.</p> |
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**Closing Prayer**

*We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

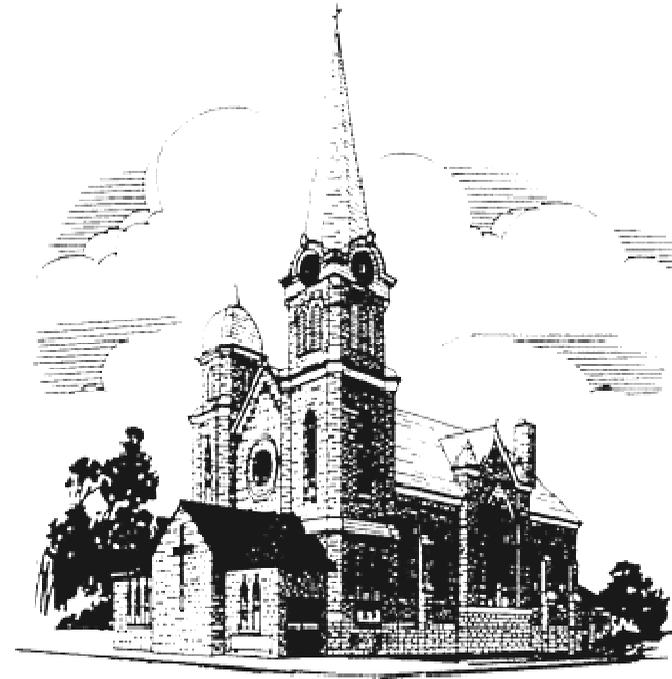
**Blessing<sup>16</sup> ..... Numbers 6:24-26**

*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.*

**Amen.**

**Closing Hymn ..... "Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying" (CW 573)**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 2, 2017**



**St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School**

*437 Turner Street, Wrightstown WI, 54180*

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<sup>15</sup> The *Nunc Dimittis* ("Now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon." Through God's Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

<sup>16</sup> The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

## Welcome!

We extend a very warm and friendly welcome to all who've joined us for worship today. We pray that the God of grace, who sent his Son to save you and who proved his love for you by raising him from the dead, will fill your heart with joy in knowing that your salvation has been made sure through Jesus. May God bless your worship!

If you're a guest with us this morning, please sign the Friendship Register in your row, checking any applicable boxes. If you need assistance of any kind, don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers. If you'd like to learn more about St. John congregation or the Bible's teachings, please speak with Pastor Mike Gehl. And if you don't already have a church-home, feel free to return and worship with us again at your earliest convenience.

Our restrooms are located downstairs (through the entryway). Activity bags to help keep children occupied are on a hanger in the entryway. We love having your children sit with you during the service, but if you feel that your infant or toddler is getting a little too fussy, you may briefly step out of the sanctuary until they're ready to come back in.

Today's order of service is displayed on the screen and printed out in the worship folder (with music notes) for your convenience. Hymns are found in the red book in front of you.

St. John also operates an all-day preschool and a full-day kindergarten through eighth grade Lutheran Elementary School. We're a member of the Fox Valley Lutheran High School federation. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities for Christian education, please speak with Pastor Gehl or Principal Tim Raddatz.

### At Your Service Today:

	Sun	Mon
<b>Greeters:</b>	Lois Baumgartener Tina DeMerritt – Marna Johns Karen Geiger – Carol Just	
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jacob Bruecker Bryce Herlache Noah Pennenberg Monty Reynolds Kevin Vande Hey - Steve Wierschke	
<b>Organist:</b>	Dan Gresens	
<b>PowerPoint:</b>	Zaine Gehl	Amy Vande Hey
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Lou Ann B, Mary F, & Aura Lee G	

## Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)<sup>14</sup>.....John 1:29

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

### Distribution

<sup>14</sup> Jesus is God's Lamb (*Agnus Dei*), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving<sup>12</sup>

*Blessed are you, O God Almighty, who through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, created all things and made mankind in your own image. Blessed are you, O merciful Father, for when Adam sinned and lost your image, you did not forsake the people you had created. You sent your only begotten Son to take on human flesh through the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary. As our substitute, he fulfilled all of your laws in our place and died the death we deserve because of our sin. Blessed are you, O God our Savior, for you have gathered us here to remember Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. In this meal you give us his true body and blood, which paid our debt to you and assures us of your forgiveness. For all of your undeserved love toward us, we give thanks and praise to your living and life-giving name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer.....Matthew 6:9-13

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

## Words of Institution<sup>13</sup>.....Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

*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.*

**Amen.**

<sup>12</sup> Jesus took bread and gave thanks (Matthew 26:26).

<sup>13</sup> As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

*Service Theme for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: The Holy Ministry is given by God out of compassion for his people. Over the next three Sundays we hear Jesus' Missionary Discourse (Matthew 10:5-42). Last Sunday we saw the unworthiness of the servants God calls by mercy. Today the emphasis is still on the Ministry of the Word, but the focus shifts from the servants to the people they serve. We see the compassion and love of God for this world, love so great that he called ministers of the Word to share his grace and mercy and foretell of the coming kingdom of heaven. The Prayer of the Day fits the Sunday beautifully as it emphasizes how God protects us, empowers us, and sanctifies us through the ministry of the Word that shows us mercy and forgiveness and leads us to the glory of heaven. The Verse of the Day is an excellent match: ministers clothed by God make the saints rejoice!*

## Divine Service II

### Opening Hymn..... "Lord of the Living Harvest" (CW 559)

### Invocation<sup>1</sup>

*In the name of the Father and of the Son [✠] and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Amen.**

### Confession

*Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

### Absolution<sup>2</sup>

*Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son [✠] and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Amen.**

### Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie)<sup>3</sup> ..... Mark 10:47

<sup>1</sup> The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

<sup>2</sup> "The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" (The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?). See John 20:21-23.

*In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*

*For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.*

**Christ, have mercy.**

*For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.*

**Amen.**

**Glory Be to God (Gloria in Excelsis)<sup>4</sup> ..... Luke 2:14**

*Sung to the tune of “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

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|--|---|
| <p><b>1. All glory be to God on high!</b><br/>Your name, O Lord, we glorify;<br/>We praise you for your peace and grace,<br/>Your favor toward our fallen race.</p>          | <p><b>3. O Lamb of God, to you we pray.</b><br/>You take all human sin away.<br/>Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;<br/>From God’s right hand, your mercy share.</p> |
| <p><b>2. Our grateful thanks to you we bring,</b><br/>For your great glory, heav’nly King,<br/>For all, O Father, you have done<br/>Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.</p> | <p><b>4. You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;</b><br/>The Father’s glory you made known.<br/>We by your Spirit sing again:<br/>“All glory be to God!” Amen.</p>            |

<sup>3</sup> *Kyrie* is the Greek word for *Lord*. The expression “Lord, have mercy” is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

<sup>4</sup> Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. “Glory to God in the Highest” has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

**Thank-Offering<sup>9</sup>**

**Prayer of the Church**

**The Sacrament**

**Preface<sup>10</sup>**

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is good and right so to do.**

*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 has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:*

**Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)<sup>11</sup> ..... Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9**

*Sung to the tune of “We All Are One in Mission / Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”*

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|--|---|
| <p><b>1. O holy, holy, holy</b><br/>Lord God of pow’r and might,<br/>Your glory, earth and heaven<br/>In countless ways recite.<br/>Hosanna! Come and save us,<br/>Lord God of hosts on high,<br/>And in your grace and mercy<br/>Receive our fervent cry.</p> | <p><b>2. Hosanna in the highest!</b><br/>How truly blest is he<br/>Who in God’s name is coming<br/>To set his people free!<br/>He comes to bring salvation<br/>And with his blood outpoured,<br/>Deliver us from bondage—<br/>Hosanna, mighty Lord!</p> |
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<sup>9</sup> Moved by God’s love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

<sup>10</sup> The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers’ hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

<sup>11</sup> *Sanctus* means “holy.” Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

<sup>5</sup>Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them, “Do not go among the Gentiles, and do not enter any town of the Samaritans. <sup>6</sup>Go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near!’ <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick. Raise the dead. Cleanse lepers. Drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”

...this is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day<sup>6</sup> ..... “Spread, Oh, Spread the Mighty Word” (CW 576)**

**Sermon .....Matthew 9:35 – 10:8**

**The Fields Are Ripe for OUR Harvesting.**

**May OUR compassion  
be evident!**

**May OUR prayers  
be multiplied!**

**May OUR voices  
be heard!**

**Nicene Creed<sup>7</sup>**

**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<sup>8</sup> 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.**

<sup>6</sup> The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day’s Gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Public confession is faith’s response to God’s saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible’s teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

<sup>8</sup> The original text here reads “catholic,” a word meaning “universal.” The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth, of every time in history.

**Salutation<sup>5</sup>**

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

*Let us pray.*

*O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

**First Lesson .....Numbers 27:15-23 (EHV)**

*The context of this lesson is of utmost importance. After forty years of faithfully leading God’s people through their wanderings, after much pleading with God in prayer, Moses’ hopes of leading the people into the Promised Land were dashed. Moses would see the land from afar, but then like his brother before him, he would die because of his actions at Meribah Kadesh. But look at Moses’ response! There is no complaint or murmur or cry. See how this minister of the Word emulates the compassion of God and his Son: Moses’ first thought is of the people of God. He saw them as Christ would 1400 years later, as sheep without a shepherd. Leave them not leaderless, O Lord! And God answers with a man full of the Spirit to be the new leader of God’s people. Lord, give your Church more ministers who model your compassion!*

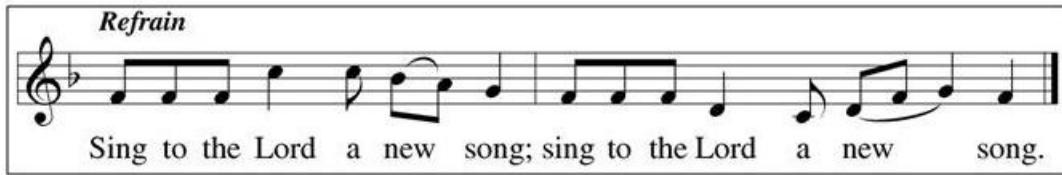
<sup>15</sup>Moses spoke to the LORD, <sup>16</sup>“May the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the community, <sup>17</sup>who will go out before them and come in before them, who will lead them out and bring them in, so that the community of the LORD will not be like sheep without a shepherd.”

<sup>18</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and place your hand on him. <sup>19</sup>Have him stand in front of Eleazar the priest and the entire community. You will commission him in their sight. <sup>20</sup>You will give some of your authority to him so that the entire Israelite community will listen to him. <sup>21</sup>He will stand before Eleazar the priest, who will inquire for him before the LORD with the decision of the Urim. He and all the Israelites with him, the entire community, will go out at his command and come in at his command.”

<sup>22</sup>Moses did just as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand in front of Eleazar the priest and the entire community. <sup>23</sup>He placed his hands on him and commissioned him, just as the LORD spoke through Moses.

<sup>5</sup> This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word section and the Sacrament section of the service.

Psalm of the Day ..... Psalm 100



Shout for joy to the LORD, • all the earth.\*  
Worship the LORD with • gladness;  
come before him with • joyful songs.\*  
Know that the • LORD is God.  
It is he who made us, and • we are his;\*  
we are his people, the sheep of his • pasture.

**Refrain**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his • courts with praise;\*  
give thanks to him and • praise his name.  
For the LORD is good and his love endures for- • ever;\*  
his faithfulness continues through all gener- • ations.

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

**Refrain**

Second Lesson ..... 2 Thessalonians 2:16 – 3:5 (EHV)

*Paul's words to the Thessalonians center on the ministry of the Word born of God's compassion. The God who loved us also gave us the encouragement of his Word and Sacraments that strengthen us in word and deed. Therefore, Paul beseeches the prayers of the Church for its ministers. Pray that their message be spread and the ministers be spared, for there are those who will work against this ministry and its message. Yet see the compassion of Christ modeled in his ministers: Paul's words are ones of concern and comfort for people of God. The solution to the wicked faithless of the Church's enemies is the faithfulness of the Lord.*

<sup>16</sup>May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and in his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, <sup>17</sup>encourage your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.

<sup>3:1</sup>Finally, brothers, pray for us so that the word of the Lord may spread quickly and be glorified just as it was among you. <sup>2</sup>Pray also that we may be rescued from evil and wicked people. For not everyone has faith. <sup>3</sup>Still, the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and protect you from the Evil One. <sup>4</sup>We also have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will continue to do what we are telling you. <sup>5</sup>May the Lord continue to direct your hearts to God's love and Christ's patient endurance.

Verse of the Day



Gospel Lesson ..... Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 (EHV)

*The compassion of God for the lost and helpless sinner is the reason for Christ's work and the ministry of the Word. The people of Israel had been harassed by their spiritual leaders and left leaderless and helpless. Christ looked upon them and loved them, and then he called the twelve apostles to the ministry of the Word that they might shepherd these lost sheep. The disciples prayed for workers and found God's answer in the twelve men Christ sent out to be leaders of the true Israel and heralds of the coming kingdom. They would go with Jesus' message and Jesus' miracles. They would go by grace to share grace.*

*The Gospel according to Matthew chapters 9 and 10.*

**Glory be to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.

<sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup>Therefore pray that the Lord of the harvest will send out workers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Jesus called his twelve disciples to himself and gave them authority to drive out unclean spirits and to heal every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.