



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
2888 W Houghton
Lake Dr
Houghton Lake, MI
48629
989-366-5164
www.stjohnhl.com
office@stjohnhl.com

5:00 - Contemporary

Prepare
the way
of the
LORD.

December 3, 2022

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Contemporary Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

May God bless your worship with us today,
Paul Kruse, Pastor

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com

Mobile: 989-992-6030

***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn, Share,
and Serve'***

***Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of
Christian faith in our community, to all
generations, wherever they may be'***

A Time of Preparation

Prelude

“Prepare The Way”

Prepare the way prepare the way Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way prepare the way Prepare the way of the Lord

Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus
Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus

You are the light of the world You are the light of the world
You are the light of the world Jesus
You are the light of the world You are the light of the world
You are the light of the world Jesus

You are the King of the earth You are the King of the earth
You are the King of the earth Jesus
You are the King of the earth You are the King of the earth
You are the King of the earth Jesus

Prepare the way prepare the way Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way prepare the way Prepare the way of the Lord

CCLI Song # 3441008 Charlie Hall | Louie Giglio © sixsteps Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

“The Heart of Worship”

When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come,
Longing just to bring something that’s of worth that will bless Your heart.
I’ll bring You more than a song, for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;
You’re looking into my heart.
I’m coming back to the heart of worship,
And it’s all about You, It’s all about You, Jesus.
I’m sorry, Lord, for the thing I’ve made it,
And it’s all about You, It’s all about You, Jesus

King of endless worth, no one could express how much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor, all I have is Yours, ev'ry single breath.
I'll bring You more than a song, for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.
I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about You, It's all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
And it's all about You, It's all about You, Jesus

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"Same God"

I'm calling on the God of Jacob
Whose love endures through generations
I know that You will keep Your covenant
I'm calling on the God of Moses
The one who opened up the ocean
I need you now to do the same thing for me
I'm calling on the God of Mary
Whose favor rests upon the lowly
I know with You all things are possible
I'm calling on the God of David
Who made a shepherd boy courageous
I may not face Goliath
But I've got my own giants
Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now
Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness
(instrumental)
You heard Your children then You hear Your children now
You are the same God You are the same God
You answered prayers back then And You will answer now

You are the same God You are the same God
You were providing then You are providing now
You are the same God You are the same God
You moved in power then God move in power now
You are the same God You are the same God
You were a healer then You are a healer now
You are the same God You are the same God
You were a Savior then You are a Savior now
You are the same God You are the same God
Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now
Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness
Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now
Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness
You freed the captives then You're freeing hearts right now
You are the same God You are the same God
You touched the lepers then I feel Your touch right now
You are the same God You are the same God
(instrumental)
I'm calling on the Holy Spirit
Almighty river come and fill me again
Come and fill me again
Come and fill me again

CCLI Song # 7183537 Brandon Lake | Chris Brown | Pat Barrett | Steven Furtick © Brandon Lake Music Bethel Music
Publishing For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes

by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

¹ In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”

⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message Song

“Less Like Me”

Oh I have days I lose the fight,
Try my best, but just don't get it right.
Where I talk a talk that I don't walk,
and miss the moments right before my eyes.
Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped.
Somebody with a hand that I could have held.
When I just can't see past myself, Lord help me be
A little more like mercy. A little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith.
A little more like patience. A little more like peace.
A little more like Jesus. A little less like me.
Yeah, there's no denying I have changed,
I've been saved from who I used to be.
But even at my best I must confess,
I still need help to see the way You see.
Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped.
Somebody with a hand that I could have held.
When I just can't see past myself, Lord help me be
A little more like mercy. A little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith.
A little more like patience. A little more like peace.
A little more like Jesus. A little less like me.

Oh to feed the beggar on the street.
Love to be Your hands and feet.
Freely give what I receive, Lord help me be.
I want to put You first above all else.
Love my neighbor as myself
In the moments no one sees,
Lord help me be.

A little more like mercy. A little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith.
A little more like patience. A little more like peace.
A little more like Jesus. A little less like me.
A little more I'm living, everything I preach,
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.

CCLI Song # 7136017 Hank Bentley | Mia Fieldes | Zach Williams © 2019 Capitol CMG Amplifier For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

Message

"Leader Reset"

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Sending Song

"Help Is On The Way"

Maybe midnight or midday. Never early, never late.

He gon' stand by what He claim. Lived enough life to say
I heard your heart, I see your pain, Out in the dark, out in the rain.
Feels so alone, feels so afraid. I heard you pray in Jesus' name.

It may be midnight or midday. He's never early, never late.
He gon' stand by what He claim. I've lived enough life to say
Help is on the way, roundin' the corner. Help is on the way, comin' for ya.
Help is on the way, yeah, yeah. I've lived enough life to say
Help is on the way

Sometimes it's days, Sometimes it's years.

Some face a lifetime of falling tears. But He's in the darkness, He's in the cold.
Just like the mornin', He always shows.

It may be midnight or midday. He's never early, never late.
He gon' stand by what He claim. I've lived enough life to say
Help is on the way, roundin' the corner. Help is on the way, comin' for ya.
Help is on the way, yeah, yeah. I've lived enough life to say
Help is on the way

Well, I've seen my share of troubles, But the Lord ain't failed me yet.
So I'm holdin' on the promise, y'all, That He's rollin' up His sleeves again.

Said I've seen my share of troubles, But the Lord ain't failed me yet.
We'll keep holdin' on the promise, y'all, That He's rollin' up His sleeves again.

It may be midnight or midday. He's never early, never late.
He gon' stand by what He claim. I've lived enough life to say
Help is on the way, roundin' the corner. Help is on the way, comin' for ya.
Help is on the way, yeah, yeah. I've lived enough life to say ...
Help is on the way

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway
Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006
Concordia Publishing House. Songs performed by the St. John Praise Team are printed under the authority of **CCLI License #2801469**