



## St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake, MI  
48629  
989-366-5164  
[www.stjohnhl.com](http://www.stjohnhl.com)  
[office@stjohnhl.com](mailto:office@stjohnhl.com)

9:00 - Traditional



**January 8, 2023**

# Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional 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](mailto: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'*

# As We Gather

**Service Setting for Today**

***Divine Service One*** (pp 151ff)

## **A Time of Preparation**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

**Opening Song**     **“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”** *LSB 400*

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
    Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
    Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
    Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
    Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,  
    Fragrance of Edom and off’rings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.  
    Richer by far is the heart’s adoration;  
    Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
    Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
    Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Text: Public domain

**Invocation**

*LSB 151*

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

**C Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**P** Behold my servant, whom I uphold,

**C my chosen, in whom my soul delights.**

**P** I will tell of the decree:

**C The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.**

**P** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

**C and the ends of the earth your possession.**

**P** You shall break them with a rod of iron

**C and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

**P** Now therefore, O kings, be wise;

**C be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

**P** Serve the Lord with fear,

**C** and rejoice with trembling,

**P** for his wrath is quickly kindled.

**C** **Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** **Lord, Have Mercy** (*Sung*)

*LSB 152*

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us  
pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise** (*Sung*)

*LSB 154*

**P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C** **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we  
give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only  
Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the  
Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in  
the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray together...

**C** **Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You  
proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy  
Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as  
Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the**



Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." <sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, Moor and mountain, Following yonder Star.

**Ref:** Oh, star of wonder, star of might, Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to the perfect Light.

Born a Babe on Bethlehem's plain, Gold we bring to crown Him again;  
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. **Refrain**

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh,  
Pray'r and praising all men raising, Worship God on high. **Refrain**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain**

Glorious now behold Him rise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
Heav'n sings "Hallelujah!" "Hallelujah!" earth replies. **Refrain**

## Message

## "Star Light"

## Offering

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



## Offering Song - Sung

LSB 159

- ☞ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Apostles' Creed

- ☞ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**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

LSB 166

**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** A - men.

## Closing Song

## “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” *LSB 394*

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,

Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,

Branch of royal David’s stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:

Anthems be to Thee addressed,

God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav’ns shall flee;

Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;

All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;

Thou by all wilt be confessed,

God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—

Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;

That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany

And may praise Thee, ever blest,

God in man made manifest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.

Text: Public domain