



## St. John Lutheran Church

2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake,  
MI 48629  
989-366-5164



**February 22, 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.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service.

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 Four** (pp 203ff)

**A Time of Preparation**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

**Opening Song**

***"Savior, When in Dust to Thee"*** LSB 419

Savior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the\_adoring knee;  
When, repentant, to the skies Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;  
O, by all Thy pains and woe Suffered once for us below,  
Bending from Thy throne on high,  
Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy helpless infant years, By Thy life of want and tears,  
By Thy days of deep distress In the savage wilderness,  
By the dread, mysterious hour Of the\_insulting tempter's pow'r,  
Turn, O turn a fav'ring eye;  
Hear our penitential cry!

By Thine hour of dire despair, By Thine agony of prayer,  
By the cross, the nail, the thorn, Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,  
By the gloom that veiled the skies O'er the dreadful sacrifice,  
Listen to our humble sigh;  
Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy deep expiring groan, By the sad sepulchral stone,  
By the vault whose dark abode Held in vain the rising God,  
O, from earth to heav'n restored, Mighty, reascended Lord,  
Bending from Thy throne on high,  
Hear our penitential cry!

## Invocation

LSB 203

**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** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

**P** Almighty God,

**C** **Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**C** **a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**C** **according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

**P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**C** **and cleanse me from my sin!**

**P** For I know my transgressions,

- C** and my sin is ever before me.
- P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** and renew a right spirit within me.
- P** Cast me not away from your presence,
- C** and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- P** Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
- C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**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.**

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

*LSB 204*

- C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

### **Prayer of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray together...
- C** **Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

### **First Reading**

Joel 2:12-15

<sup>12</sup> “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. <sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 6:3-10

<sup>3</sup> We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup> but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup> by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup> through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:16-21

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the sixth chapter

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup> "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>19</sup> "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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

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

## Nicene Creed

LSB 206

**☐ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

## Children's Message

### Message Song

***"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"*** LSB 563

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness  
My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more  
Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,  
For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise  
To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea:  
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,  
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made,  
An everlasting ransom paid.

**Message**

***“Removing Obstacles”***

**Offering**

***Imposition of Ashes***

**Prayer of the Church**

### **Service of the Sacrament**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**G** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and proper . . . Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy** (*Sung*)

*LSB 208*

**G** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 209*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**G** **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.**

**The Words of Our Lord**

*LSB 162*

## The Peace of the Lord

LSB 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**G** Amen.

## Lamb of God (sung)

LSB 210

- G** O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

*The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). Holy Communion is offered every Sunday at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:*

1. *Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?*
2. *Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?*
3. *Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?*
4. *Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?*
5. *Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?*
6. *Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly given and received in and with the bread and wine (Matt. 26:26-28)?*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer "yes" to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises.*

## Distribution Song

## "All Depends on Our Possessing" LSB 732

All depends on our possessing  
God's abundant grace and blessing,  
Though all earthly wealth depart.  
They who trust with faith unshaken  
By their God are not forsaken  
And will keep a dauntless heart.

He who to this day has fed me  
And to many joys has led me  
Is and ever shall be mine.



He who ever gently schools me,  
He who daily guides and rules me  
Will remain my help divine.

Well He knows what best to grant me;  
All the longing hopes that haunt me,  
Joy and sorrow, have their day.  
I shall doubt His wisdom never;  
As God wills, so be it ever;  
I commit to Him my way.

If my days on earth He lengthen,  
God my weary soul will strengthen;  
All my trust in Him I place.  
Earthly wealth is not abiding,  
Like a stream away is gliding;  
Safe I anchor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Song of Simeon *(Sung)*

LSB 211

**☐ O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel. All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One; For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

**☐** Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**☐ 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.
- G** **Amen.**

## Closing Song

### ***“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”*** LSB 418

O Lord, throughout these forty days  
You prayed and kept the fast;  
Inspire repentance for our sin,  
And free us from our past.

You strove with Satan, and You won;  
Your faithfulness endured;  
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust  
In God’s eternal Word.

Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed  
And fixed Your mind above;  
So teach us to deny ourselves,  
Since we have known God’s love.  
Be with us through this season, Lord,  
And all our earthly days,  
That when the final Easter dawns,  
We join in heaven’s praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930  
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no.  
110002579

#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One and Three from Lutheran Service Book 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. All Hymns from the Lutheran Service Book are used by permission and printed under the authority of **LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100011308.**

**Lenten Wednesday Services:** All services will begin at 5:00 pm

**All of the following items will be collected and distributed to Oasis of Hope Houghton Lake, River House Grayling, Houghton Lake Elementary School and Roscommon Elementary School. Thank you for your continued support.**

Ash Wednesday – February 22

(collecting mens toiletries, sanitizing wipes, hand creams, lotions, hand soap)

Lenten Midweek – March 1

(collecting kids hats, gloves/mittens, girls & boys underwear, stretch or sweatpants from size 4 to 8, girls or boys socks sizes xs, s, m.

Lenten Midweek – March 8

(collecting paper towel, Kleenex, toilet paper, gift cards to fast food restaurants (small amounts))

Lenten Midweek – March 15

(collecting Laundry or dish soap (small bottles), dryer sheets, hand sanitizer, disinfecting cleaners for bathroom etc)

Lenten Midweek – March 22

(collecting trash bags, ziplock gallon size, non latex gloves)

Lenten Midweek – March 29

(collecting crayons, coloring books, small toys, pencils, journals, notebooks (all sizes).

