




St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary

A graphic with a blue sky background, a tree, and a field of tall grass. The text "JESUS IS OUR COMFORTER" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

JESUS
IS OUR
COMFORTER

September 23, 2023

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.

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

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***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'*

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

A Time of Preparation

Sharing of the Peace and Welcome

Opening Song

"Holy Water"

God, I'm on my knees again.
God I'm begging please again. I need You.
Oh, I need You.
Walking down these desert roads,
Water for my thirsty soul, I need You.
Oh, I need You.

Your forgiveness is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips,
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears, like holy water on my skin.

Dead man walking, slave to sin,
I wanna know about being born again. I need You.
Oh God, I need You.
So, take me to the riverside. Take me under baptize. I need You.
Oh God, I need You.

Your forgiveness is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips,
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears, like holy water on my skin.

I don't wanna abuse Your grace. God I need it ev'ry day.
It's the only thing that ever really makes me wanna change.
I don't wanna abuse Your grace. God I need it ev'ry day.
It's the only thing that ever really makes me wanna change.

Your forgiveness is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips,
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears, like holy water.

Your forgiveness is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips,
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears, like holy water on my skin.

Yeah, it's like holy water on my skin.

Oh, it's like holy water ...

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Call To Worship

"Me On Your Mind"

I've read the words in red How You leave the ninety-nine
To find the one missing Feels like that was written
With me on Your mind

And the prodigal son who ran Leaving his home behind
The part where the father came Running to meet him
Did You say that with me on Your mind

Who am I that the king of the world
Would give one single thought about my broken heart
Who am I that the God of all grace Wipes the tears from my face
And says come as you are
You paid the price You took the cross You gave Your life
And You did it all With me on Your mind
Me on Your mind

Just knowing You're mindful of me
Just knowing You call me Your child
It's flooding my soul With unspeakable hope
Thank you Lord that it's me on Your mind

Who am I that the king of the world
Would give one single thought about my broken heart
Who am I that the God of all grace Wipes the tears from my face
And says come as you are
You paid the price You took the cross You gave Your life
And You did it all With me on Your mind
It was me on Your mind Oh thank You Jesus
Lord it was me on Your mind

I've read the words in red Of a heavenly home on high
You're preparing a place where the sorrow's erased
And when I stand before You I'll find
All along it was me on Your mind
Who am I that the king of the world
Would give one single thought about my broken heart
Who am I that the God of all grace Wipes the tears from my face
And says come as you are
You paid the price You took the cross You gave Your life
And You did it all With me on Your mind
With me on Your mind oh It was me on Your mind

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Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

“Lord I Need You”

Lord I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart, You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are.
Where You are, Lord I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need You.
You're my one defense, my righteousness. Oh God how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need You.

CCLI Song # 5925687 Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher
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First Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

⁶But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you— ⁷for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. ⁸For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. ⁹For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:1-8 & 20-22

¹And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. ²And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.” ³And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? ⁶But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” ⁷And he rose and went home. ⁸When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

²⁰And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, ²¹for she said to herself, “If I only touch his garment, I will be made well.” ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message Song

"Jesus Does"

Who tells the sun to rise every morning
Colors the sky with the shades of His glory
Wakes us with mercy and love Jesus does

Who holds the orphan comforts the widow
Cries for injustice feels every sorrow
Carries the pain of His children Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Who understands the heart of the sinner
Showers His grace over all our mistakes
Washes us clean with His blood Jesus does

Who sings the song of sweet forgiveness
Who stole the keys to hell and the grave
Who has the power to save Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Oh what a Friend Oh what a Savior
He's always been good He's always been faithful
He came to my rescue When I needed Him most
And saved my soul

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us

When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
That's what Jesus does

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Message

“Through Faith - Comfort”

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:

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.**

Sacrament

The Words of Our Lord

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

"God Is In This Story"

There's torn up pages in this book Words that tell me I'm no good
 Chapters that defined me for so long But the hands of grace and endless love
 Dusted off and picked me up Told my heart that hope is never gone

God is in this story God is in the details
 Even in the broken parts He holds my heart
 He never fails When I'm at my weakest
 I will trust in Jesus Always in the highs and lows
 The One who goes before me God is in this story

So if the storm you're walking through Feels like it's too much and you
 Wonder if He even cares at all

Hold on tight to what you know He promised He won't let you go
 The song of healing's written in His scars

God is in this story God is in the details
 Even in the broken parts He holds my heart
 He never fails When I'm at my weakest
 I will trust in Jesus Always in the highs and lows
 The One who goes before me God is in this story

If it reads like addiction If it reads like disease
 He's the One who frees the prisoner He's the healer of all things

If it reads like depression If it reads broken home
He's the One who holds your sorrow He won't leave you here alone

God is in this story God is in the details
Even in the broken parts He holds my heart
He never fails When I'm at my weakest
I will trust in Jesus Always in the highs and lows
The One who goes before me

Always in the highs and lows The One who goes before me
God is in this story

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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 T give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Song

“The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)”

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

Give us this day our daily bread Forgive us forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned Against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

Give us this day our daily bread Forgive us forgive us

As we forgive the ones who sinned Against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

It's yours it's yours All yours all yours
The kingdom the power The glory are yours
It's yours it's yours All yours all yours
Forever and ever The kingdom is yours

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

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