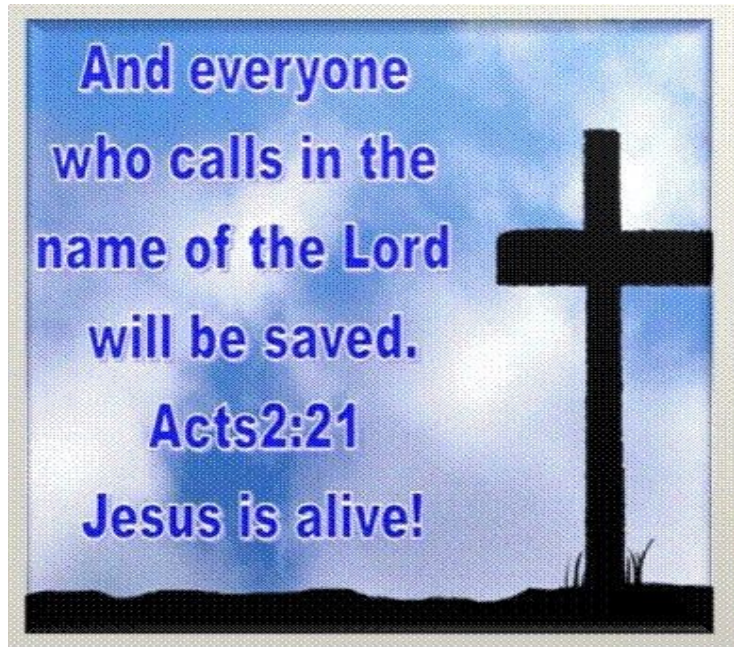




## St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
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5:00 - Contemporary



***December 30, 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.

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

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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'*

## **First Sunday after Christmas**

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Prelude**

### **"Crown Him (Christmas)"**

Crown Him with many crowns The King who left His throne  
Creator of the universe Born to the world He holds  
And with that first drawn breath The Word has become flesh  
Emmanuel has come to us O crown Him all the earth

Crowned by the angel choir They tell His royal birth  
Sing glory in the highest height And peace upon the earth  
They break the silent night Announcing endless worth  
The King of grace and love is here O crown Him all the world

Crowned by their royal gifts Gold frankincense and myrrh  
Wise men approach this manger throne With honors from afar  
Behold the Son of God And bow down in this place  
The Prince of Peace has come to us O crown Him with your praise

Crown Him with many crowns The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing God sent His Son for me  
Now hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity

Crown Him crown Him crown Him with many crowns  
Crown Him crown Him crown Him with many crowns  
Crown Him crown Him crown Him with many crowns

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## **Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship**

### **Opening Song**

### **"Do You Hear What I Hear?"**

Said the night wind to the little lamb, "Do you see what I see?  
Way up in the sky, little lamb? Do you see what I see?  
A star, a star, dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite,  
with a tail as big as a kite."

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, "Do you hear what I hear?  
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy? Do you hear what I hear?  
A song, a song, high above the tree, with a voice as big as the sea,  
with a voice as big as the sea."

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, "Do you know what I know?  
In your palace warm, mighty king, do you know what I know?  
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold; let us bring Him silver and gold,  
let us bring Him silver and gold."

Said the king to the people everywhere, "Listen to what I say!  
Pray for peace, people everywhere, listen to what I say!  
The Child, the Child, sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light,  
He will bring us goodness and light."

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

### **Song of Praise**

### **"Christmas Day"**

Joy to the world On a night like no other  
Emmanuel God is with us

Beggars and kings Let us come and adore Him  
Rest in His peace And bow before Him  
Sing all you people The Lord almighty reigns  
Sing ev'ry creature of God Come bless His name

For He is good for He is good He was born to conquer the grave  
Light of the world The reason for Christmas Day

Stars we have seen Over deserts and oceans  
The darkness was deep But never hopeless  
Redemption came And His name is Jesus

Sing all you people The Lord almighty reigns

Sing ev'ry creature of God Come bless His name  
For He is good for He is good He was born to conquer the grave  
Light of the world The reason for Christmas Day

From the mountains We will shout it out  
For the Lord our God almighty reigns  
He is with us He is with us now  
For the Lord our God almighty reigns

From the mountains We will shout it out  
For the Lord our God almighty reigns  
He is with us He is with us now  
For the Lord our God almighty reigns

Sing all you people The Lord almighty reigns  
Sing ev'ry creature of God Come bless His name  
For He is good for He is good He was born to conquer the grave  
Light of the world The reason for Christmas

Sing all you people The Lord almighty reigns  
Sing ev'ry creature of God Come bless His name  
For He is good for He is good  
He was born to conquer the grave  
Light of the world The reason for Christmas Day  
Light of the world The reason for Christmas Day

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## First Reading

Psalm 111:2-9

<sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. <sup>3</sup>Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. <sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful. <sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. <sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations. <sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; <sup>8</sup>they are established

forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. <sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

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

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 2:22-38

<sup>22</sup> And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” <sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### “Reckless Love”

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me  
You have been so so good to me

Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me  
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me  
You have been so so good to me

When I felt no worth You paid it all for me  
You have been so so kind to me

And O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine

I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

There's no shadow You won't light up  
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me

There's no wall You won't kick down  
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

There's no shadow You won't light up  
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me

There's no wall You won't kick down  
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God

O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless  
Love of God yeah

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## Message

***“A Time and a Place”***

## 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

***“Forever”***

Give thanks to the Lord Our God and King His love endures forever  
For He is good He is above all things  
His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise  
With a mighty hand And outstretched arm His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn His love endures forever

Sing praise sing praise  
Sing praise sing praise

Forever God is faithful Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us Forever, and ever forever

From the rising to the setting sun His love endures forever

And by the grace of God We will carry on

His love endures forever

Sing praise sing praise

Sing praise sing praise

Forever God is faithful Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us Forever and ever forever

#### **Acknowledgments**

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