



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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January 6, 2024

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'***

5:00 - Contemporary

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

Epiphany

Preludes **"One Small Child/More Precious"** *(instrumental medley)*

"One King"

Kings of earth on a course unknown, bearing gifts from afar,
Hoping praying, following yonder star.

Silhouette of a caravan painted against the sky,
Wisemen searching for the holy Child.

One king held the frankincense; one king held the myrrh;
One king held the purest gold; one King held the hope of the world

A star hangs over Bethlehem; a journey ends in the night.
Three kings trembling, behold the glorious sight.

Heaven's treasure, Emmanuel, drawing men to bow down.
Tiny Baby born to wear a crown.

One king held the frankincense; one king held the myrrh;
One king held the purest gold; one King held the hope of the world

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

"Here I Am to Worship"

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.

Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,

Here I am to say that You're my God.

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth you created,
All for love's sake became poor.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"At Your Name"

At Your name The mountains shake and crumble
At Your name The oceans roar and tumble
At Your name angels will bow The earth will rejoice
Your people cry out

Lord of all the earth we shout Your name Shout Your name
Filling up the skies with endless praise Endless praise
Yahweh Yahweh We love to shout Your name oh Lord

At Your name The morning breaks in glory
At Your name Creation sings Your story
At Your name angels will bow The earth will rejoice
Your people cry out

Lord of all the earth we shout Your name Shout Your name

Filling up the skies with endless praise Endless praise
Yahweh Yahweh We love to shout Your name oh Lord

There is no one like our God We will praise You praise You
There's no one like our God We will sing we will sing
There is no one like our God We will praise You praise You
There's no one like our God We will sing

Lord of all the earth we'll shout Your name Shout Your name
Filling up the skies with endless praise Endless praise
Yahweh Yahweh We love to shout Your name oh Lord

Phil Wickham, Tim Hughes CCLI Song #5942543

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First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the

people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ "'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.'" ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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.

G Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message Song

"How Many Kings"

Follow the star to a place unexpected
Would you believe after all we've projected
A child in a manger

Lowly and small the weakest of all
Unlikeliest Hero wrapped in His mother's shawl
Just a child

Is this who we've waited for ... 'cause

How many kings stepped down from their thrones
How many lords have abandoned their homes
How many greats have become the least for me
And how many gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world that is torn all apart

How many fathers gave up their sons for me
Bringing out gifts for the newborn Savior
All that we have whether costly or meek
Because we believe
Gold for His honor and frankincense for His pleasure
And myrrh for the cross He'll suffer
Do you believe
Is this who we've waited for
How many kings stepped down from their thrones
How many lords have abandoned their homes
How many greats have become the least for me
How many gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world that is torn all apart
How many fathers gave up their sons for me
Only one did that for me
How many kings stepped down from their thrones
How many lords have abandoned their homes
How many greats have become the least
How many gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world that is torn all apart
How many fathers gave up their sons for me
Only one did that for me

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Message

“Illuminating Discovery”

Offering

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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.**

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.

Sending Song

“My Lighthouse”

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through

You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

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