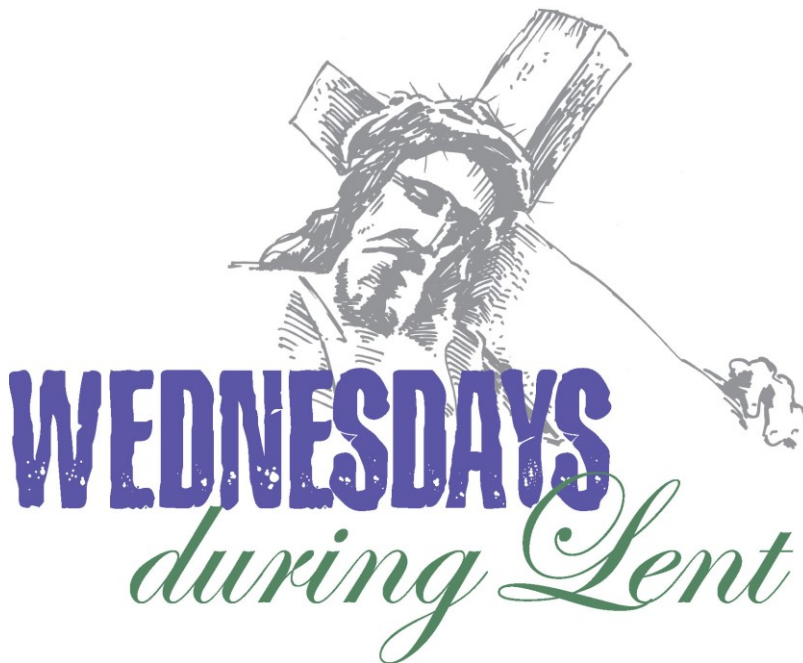




## St. John Lutheran Church

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



**March 19, 2025**

# *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 - Vespers**

The word *Lent* comes from an old English word for spring. The Lenten season, like the spring season, is a time for reflection and renewal. Our midweek Lenten services this year will prepare us to consider our identity and connection with a life in Christ as the baptized children of God. This Lenten season, we will walk through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, found in Matthew 5-7. Jesus' desire was for his original hearers to gain a deeper understanding of the counter-cultural life Christians are to live. To do this, we must first consider our lives and the distance our sins have removed us from our Creator. Once we have a realistic awareness of our standing before a holy God, we can then seek the power of his Holy Spirit to reverse our current path and come before him as repentant sinners. May God move in your hearts and lives during this time of reflection and renewal.

## **Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

### **Opening Song**

**"Jesus, Lead Thou On"** LSB 718

Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow calm and fearless.  
Guide us by Thy hand  
To our fatherland.  
  
If the way be drear,  
If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many\_a woe  
To our home we go.  
  
When we seek relief  
From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring.  
Show us that bright shore  
Where we weep no more.

Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won.  
Heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand  
In our fatherland.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.

Text: Public domain

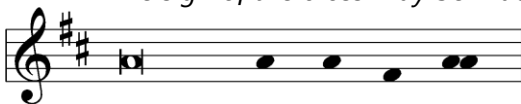
## Invocation

LSB 203

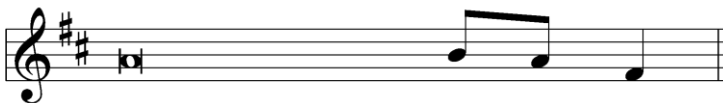
**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

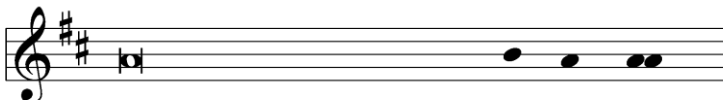
*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

## Psalm

- L** O LORD my God, in you do I take refuge;  
**C** save me from all my pursuers and deliver me,  
**L** lest like a lion they tear my soul apart,  
**C** rending it in pieces, with none to deliver.  
**L** O LORD my God, if I have done this,  
**C** if there is wrong in my hands,  
**L** if I have repaid my friend with evil  
**C** or plundered my enemy without cause,  
**L** let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it,  
**C** and let him trample my life to the ground  
and lay my glory in the dust.  
**L** Arise, O LORD, in your anger;  
**C** lift yourself up against the fury of my enemies;  
awake for me; you have appointed a judgment.  
**L** Let the assembly of the peoples be gathered about you;  
**C** over it return on high.  
**L** The LORD judges the peoples;  
**C** judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness  
and according to the integrity that is in me.  
**L** Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end,  
**C** and may you establish the righteous—  
**L** you who test the minds and hearts,  
**C** O righteous God!  
**L** My shield is with God,  
**C** who saves the upright in heart.  
**L** God is a righteous judge,  
**C** and a God who feels indignation every day.  
**L** If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword;

**☛ he has bent and readied his bow;**

☛ he has prepared for him his deadly weapons,

**☛ making his arrows fiery shafts.**

☛ Behold, the wicked man conceives evil

**☛ and is pregnant with mischief  
and gives birth to lies.**

☛ He makes a pit, digging it out,

**☛ and falls into the hole that he has made.**

☛ His mischief returns upon his own head,

**☛ and on his own skull his violence descends.**

☛ I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness,

**☛ and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.**

## Hymn

## **"Glory Be to Jesus" *LSB 433***

Glory be to Jesus,  
Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood  
From His sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal  
In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion,  
Infinitely kind!

Blest through endless ages  
Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment  
Did the world redeem!

Abel's blood for vengeance  
Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus  
For our pardon cries.  
Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing

Make their glad reply.  
Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Reading

Matthew 5:21-26, 38-48

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' <sup>22</sup> But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup> So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup> Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' <sup>39</sup> But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup> And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

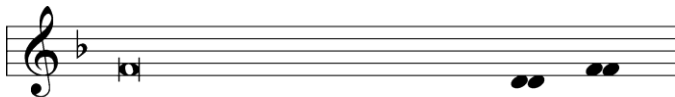


**L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.  
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.  
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.



**C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me  
from those who rise a - gainst me.

## Message



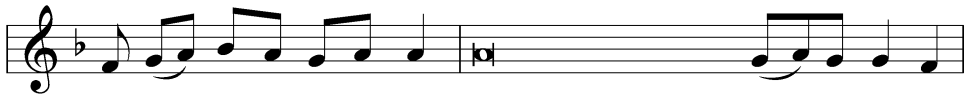
**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## Magnificat

LSB 231



**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



**I** for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



**II** For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.

**I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;

**II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.

The first staff of music is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a single measure of music. The notes are: a quarter note on B-flat (F4), an eighth note on C (F4), an eighth note on D (F4), a quarter note on E (F4), a quarter note on D (F4), a quarter note on C (F4), and a final whole note on B-flat (F4). The measure ends with a double bar line.

**I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the

imagination of their hearts. **¶** He has cast down the

might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.

**I** He has filled the hun - gry with good things,

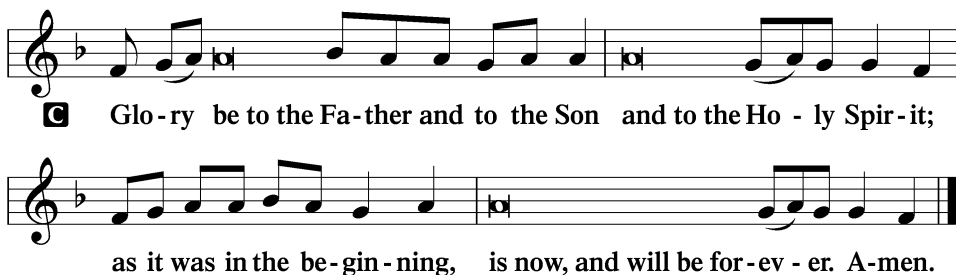
and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.

The first staff of music is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains the following notes: a quarter note B-flat, an eighth note A, an eighth note G, a quarter rest, a quarter note E, a quarter note D, a quarter note C, and a quarter note B.

**II** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy

as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.





**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## Offering

### Kyrie

LSB 233

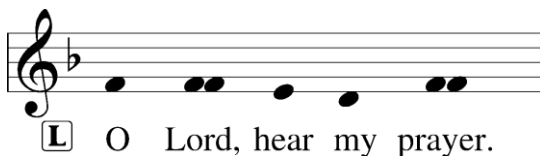


**G** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

**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.



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**G** And let my cry come to You.

### Prayer of the Day

**L** O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world

toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Prayer for Peace

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Blessing



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.



**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C** A - men.

## Closing Hymn

## “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” *LSB 575*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **Refrain**

**ref** On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! **Refrain**

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Text: Public domain

## This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

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