



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



March 22, 2025

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

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'*

Third Sunday in Lent

A Time of Preparation

Preludes

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ Alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine, Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

"God So Loved"

Come all you weary, Come all you thirsty.
Come to the well that never runs dry.

Drink of the water, Come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, Come find His mercy.

Come to the table; He will satisfy.

Taste of His goodness, Find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.

Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, Bring your addictions.

Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.

Jesus is waiting there with open arms.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.

Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

The power of hell forever defeated.

Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.

For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, praise Him For the wonders of His love.

Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, praise Him For the wonders of His love.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.

Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.

For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.

Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.

Jesus is waiting, God so loved the world.

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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.

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Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher

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First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. ¹⁰ "And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' ¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

¹There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

⁶And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

"Child Of Love"

I was walking the wayside Lost on a lonely road
I was chasing the high life Try'n to satisfy my soul
All the lies I believed in Left me crying like the rain
Then I saw lightning from heaven And I've never been the same
I'm gonna climb a mountain I'm gonna shout about it
I am a child of love I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus I am a child of love
I've felt the sting of the fire But I saw You in the flames
Just when I thought it was over You broke me out of the grave
I'm gonna climb a mountain I'm gonna shout about it
I am a child of love I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus I am a child of love
Yeah yeah oh
I am a child of love Yeah oh I am a child of love

Nothing can change the way You love me Nothing can change the way
I belong to You Yes I do. Nothing can separate
Nothing can change the way You love me Nothing can change the way
I belong to You Yes I do. Nothing can separate
I'm gonna climb a mountain I am a child of love
I found a world of freedom I am a child of love
I'm gonna climb a mountain I'm gonna shout about it
I am a child of love I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus I am a child of love
Oh yeah oh I am a child of love
I am a child of love

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Message

“Could You Spare Some Change?”

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

- ☞ 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

"Just As I Am"

Just as I am without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee

O Lamb of God I come I come

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot

O Lamb of God I come I come

I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God

Just as I am

Just as I am I would be lost But mercy and grace my freedom bought
And now to glory in Your cross O Lamb of God I come I come

I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God Just as I am
I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled

I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God
Just as I am

Charlotte Elliott, David Moffitt, Sue C. Smith, Travis Cottrell, William Batchelder Bradbury CCLI Song #5635850
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Blessing

- L** 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.

G 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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