



St. John Lutheran Church

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March 26, 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

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.

Prelude

"Glorious Day"

One day when Heaven was filled with His praises

One day when sin was as black as could be

Jesus came forth to be born of a Virgin

Dwelt among men, my example is He.

The Word became flesh and the light shined among us

His glory revealed

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.

Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;

oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day.

One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain.

One day they nailed Him to die on a tree.

Suffering anguish, despised and rejected,

Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He.

The hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree

And took the nails for me.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.

Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;

oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day.

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer.
One day the stone rolled away from the door.
Then He arose; over death He had conquered.
Now He's ascended, my Lord evermore.
Death could not hold Him,
The grave could not keep Him from rising again.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day. Glorious day.

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming.
One day the skies with His glories will shine.
Wonderful day, my beloved one bringing.
My Savior Jesus is mine.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day. Glorious day, oh, glorious day.

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song

"Jesus Messiah"

He became sin, who knew no sin,
That we might become His righteousness.
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.
Love so amazing, love so amazing.
Jesus Messiah, Name above all names,
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven.
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

His body the bread, His blood the wine,
Broken and poured out, all for love.
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, love so amazing.
Jesus Messiah, Name above all names,

Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven.
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You.
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world.

Jesus Messiah, Name above all names,
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven.
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all. Lord of all. The Lord of all.

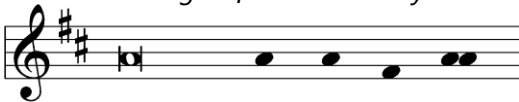
Invocation

LSB 203

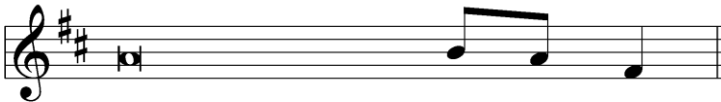
P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

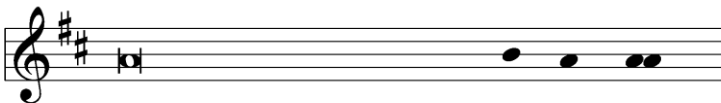
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.



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;



Psalm

- L** It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
- C** to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
- L** to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
- C** and your faithfulness by night,
- L** to the music of the lute and the harp,
- C** to the melody of the lyre.
- L** For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
- C** at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
- L** How great are your works, O LORD!
- C** Your thoughts are very deep!
- L** The stupid man cannot know;
- C** the fool cannot understand this:
- L** that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish,
- C** they are doomed to destruction forever;
- L** but you, O LORD,
- C** are on high forever.
- L** For behold, your enemies, O LORD, for behold, your enemies shall perish;
- C** all evildoers shall be | scattered.
- L** But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox;
- C** you have poured over me fresh oil.
- L** My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;
- C** my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.
- L** The righteous flourish like the palm tree
- C** and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- L** They are planted in the house of the LORD;

C they flourish in the courts of our God.

L They still bear fruit in old age;

C they are ever full of sap and green,

L to declare that the LORD is upright;

C he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Hymn

"Same God"

I'm calling on the God of Jacob
Whose love endures through generations
I know that You will keep Your covenant

I'm calling on the God of Moses
The one who opened up the ocean
I need you now to do the same thing for me

I'm calling on the God of Mary
Whose favor rests upon the lowly
I know with You all things are possible

I'm calling on the God of David
Who made a shepherd boy courageous
I may not face Goliath But I've got my own giants

Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now

Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness
You heard Your children then You hear Your children now
You are the same God You are the same God

You answered prayers back then And You will answer now
You are the same God You are the same God

You were providing then You are providing now
You are the same God You are the same God

You moved in power then God move in power now
You are the same God You are the same God
You were a healer then You are a healer now

You are the same God You are the same God
You were a Savior then You are a Savior now
You are the same God You are the same God

Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now

Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness
You freed the captives then You're freeing hearts right now
You are the same God You are the same God

You touched the lepers then I feel Your touch right now
You are the same God You are the same God

I'm calling on the Holy Spirit
Almighty river come and fill me again
Come and fill me again Come and fill me again

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First Reading

Isaiah 53:1-6

¹Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. ³He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰ nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹² Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 7:12-20

¹²"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. ¹³"Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. ¹⁵"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

G 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.

Refrain



The Refrain is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of two measures. The first measure contains a half note G#4. The second measure contains a half note A#4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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

“Man of Sorrows”

Man of sorrows, Lamb of God, by His own betrayed.

The sin of man and wrath of God has been on Jesus laid.

Silent as He stood accused, beaten, mocked, and scorned.

Bowing to the Father's will, He took a crown of thorns.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.

Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.

Sent of heaven, God's own Son to purchase and redeem.

And reconcile the very ones Who nailed Him to that tree.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.

Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full

By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled.

Now, the curse of sin has no hold on me.

Whom the Son sets free, oh is free indeed.

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full

By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled.

Now, the curse of sin has no hold on me.

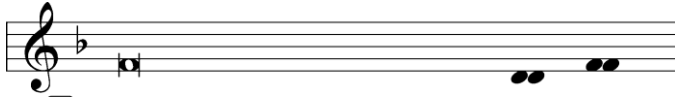
Whom the Son sets free, oh is free indeed.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.
Praise and honor unto Thee.

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Message

“Beware of Cheap Clothing”/Matthew 7:12-20



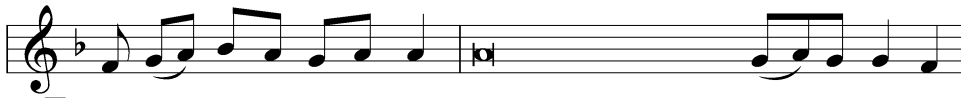
I Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



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

Magnificat

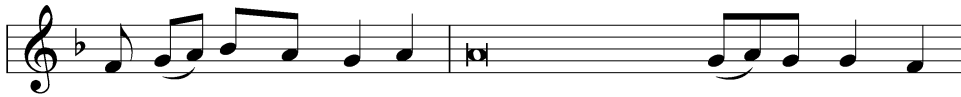
LSB 231



G 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.



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



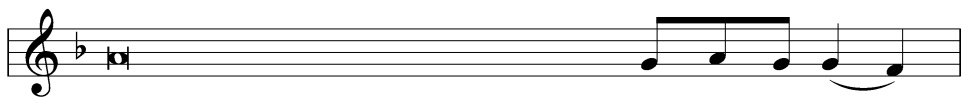
imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the



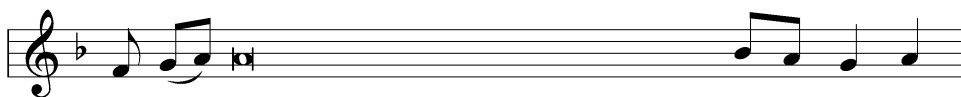
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



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



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



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.



C 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



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

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.



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Day

L Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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

"Abide with Me"

I have a home, eternal home. But for now I walk this broken world.

You walked it first, You know our pain.

But You show hope can rise again up from the grave.

Abide with me. Abide with me. Don't let me fall and don't let go.

Walk with me and never leave. Ever close, God abide with me.

There in the night, Gethsemane, before the cross, before the nails,
overwhelmed, alone You prayed.

You met us in our suffering and bore our shame

Abide with me. Abide with me. Don't let me fall and don't let go.

Walk with me and never leave. Ever close, God abide with me.

Love that will not ever let me go.
Love that will not ever let me go. You never let me go.
Love that will not ever let me go.
And up ahead, eternity. We'll weep no more,
we'll sing for joy. Abide with me

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Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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