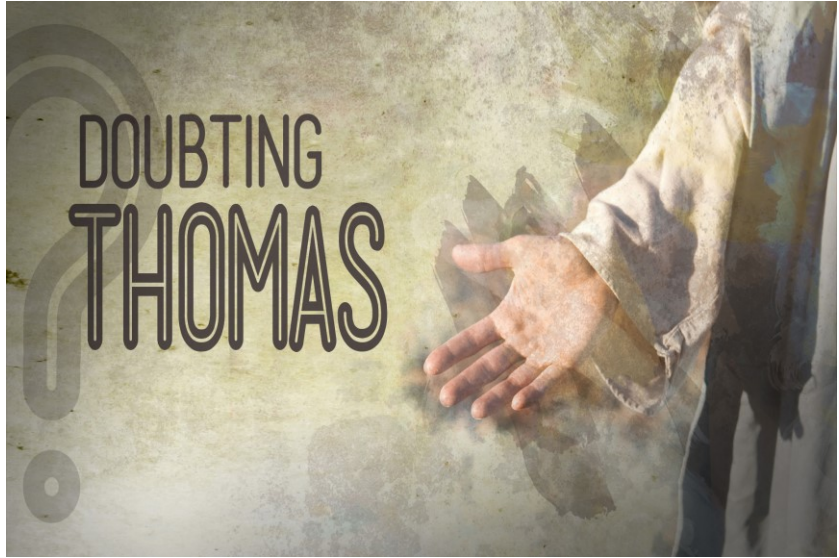




St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
2888 W Houghton
Lake Dr
Houghton Lake, MI
48629
989-366-5164
www.stjohnhl.com
office@stjohnhl.com

5:00 - Contemporary



April 26, 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'*

Second Sunday of Easter

A Time of Preparation

Prelude

"Rattle"

Saturday was silent Surely it was through
But since when has impossible Ever stopped You
Friday's disappointment Is Sunday's empty tomb
Since when has impossible Ever stopped You

This is the sound of dry bones rattling
This is the praise make a dead man walk again
Open the grave I'm coming out
I'm gonna live gonna live again
This is the sound of dry bones rattling

Pentecostal fire Stirring something new
You're not gonna run out of miracles Anytime soon

Resurrection power Runs in my veins too
I believe there's another miracle Here in this room

This is the sound of dry bones rattling
This is the praise make a dead man walk again
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again
This is the sound of dry bones rattling

My God is able to save and deliver and heal
And restore anything that He wants to
Just ask the man who was thrown On the bones of Elisha
If there's anything that He can't do
Just ask the stone that was rolled At the tomb in the garden
What happens when God says to move
I feel him moving it now I feel him doing it now
I feel him doing it now Do it now do it now

This is the sound of dry bones rattling
This is the praise make a dead man walk again
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again

This is the sound of dry bones rattling

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Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Invocation

I We make our beginning in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

A Amen.

Opening Song

“This Is Our God”

Remember those walls that we called sin and shame
They were like prisons that we couldn't escape
But He came and He died and He rose
Those walls are rubble now

Remember those giants we called death and grave
They were like mountains that stood in our way
But He came and He died and He rose
Those giants are dead now

This is our God this is who He is He loves us
This is our God this is what He does He saves us
He bore the cross beat the grave Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God King Jesus

Remember that fear that took our breath away
Faith so weak that we could barely pray
But He heard every word every whisper
Now those altars in the wilderness

Tell the story of His faithfulness
Never once did He fail and He never will
This is our God this is who He is He loves us
This is our God this is what He does He saves us
He bore the cross beat the grave Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God King Jesus
Who pulled me out of that pit He did He did
Who paid for all of our sin Nobody but Jesus
Who rescued me from that grave Yahweh Yahweh
Who gets the glory and praise Nobody but Jesus
Who rescued me from that grave Yahweh Yahweh
Who gets the glory and praise Nobody but Him
This is our God this is who He is He loves us
This is our God this is what He does He saves us
He bore the cross beat the grave Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God King Jesus
He bore the cross beat the grave
Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God King Jesus

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Confession and Forgiveness

- L** Seeing Jesus' power, Peter blurted out, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."
- C** **Heavenly Father, we confess that we have failed in thoughts, words, and deeds; we are sinful people.**
- L** Paul lamented, "If I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful."
- C** **We confess, Holy Spirit, that we have been content to find peace only for ourselves; we are sinful in our very being.**

L Isaiah cried, "I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips."

C **We confess, Lord Jesus, that we have sinned even in our speaking and doing; we deserve to have You depart from us.**

L Despite their failures, Isaiah and Paul were inspired to write parts of the Bible and Peter led the disciples. By the grace of God, Jesus died and rose for you. As the angel told Isaiah, "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for", so also for us, God forgives us all our sins and bestows on us the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

Song of Praise

"Great I Am"

I wanna be close close to Your side
So Heaven is real and death is a lie
I wanna hear voices of angels above
Singing as one

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

I wanna be near near to Your heart
Loving the world hating the dark
I wanna see dry bones living again
Singing as one

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

The mountains shake before You The demons run and flee
At the mention of Your name King of majesty
There is no pow'r in hell or any who can stand
Before the power and the Presence of the great I Am
The great I Am The great I Am The great I Am
The great I Am The great I Am

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

Prayer of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray together...

C **Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 5:12-20

¹² Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. ¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent

me, even so I am sending you.” ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message Song

“Death Was Arrested”

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin,
Lost without hope with no place to begin;
Your love made a way to let mercy come in,
When death was arrested and my life began.

Ash was redeemed, only beauty remains;
My orphan heart was given a name.
My mourning grew quiet, my feet rose to dance,
When death was arrested and my life began.

Oh Your grace, so free, washes over me.
You have made me new, now life begins with You.
It's Your endless love pouring down on us.
You have made us new, now life begins with You.

Released from my chains, I'm a pris'ner no more.

My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore.
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend,
When death was arrested and my life began.

Oh Your grace, so free, washes over me.
You have made me new, now life begins with You.
It's Your endless love pouring down on us.
You have made us new, now life begins with You.

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross.
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost.
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand.
That's when death was arrested and my life began.

Oh Your grace, so free, washes over me.
You have made me new, now life begins with You.
It's Your endless love pouring down on us.
You have made us new, now life begins with You.

Oh, we're free, free, forever we're free.
Come join the song of all the redeemed.
Yes, we're free, free, forever, amen!
When death was arrested and my life began.

Oh, we're free, free, forever we're free.
Come join the song of all the redeemed.
Yes, we're free, free, forever, amen!
When death was arrested and my life began.
When death was arrested and my life began.
When death was arrested and my life began.

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Message

"I Doubt It"

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Sacrament

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us, revealing Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son to save us. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by His death on the cross.
- Strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit that we may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood. Then gather us together with all the faithful to celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

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

"Living Hope"

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Jesus Christ my living hope Oh God You are my living hope

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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 ✕ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Song

“Praise You Anywhere”

Sometimes you’ve gotta dance through the darkness
Sing through the fire Praise when it don’t make sense

Sometimes you’ve gotta stare down the giant
Worship from the lion’s den

Sometimes you’ve gotta shout it from the mountain
Louder in the valley Trusting that He’s gonna get you there

Sometimes you’ve gotta welcome the wonder
Wait for the answer

Worship with your hands in the air I’ll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise

Sometimes you’ve gotta praise in the prison
Cry out to heaven Shout it ‘til the doors swing wide
Sometimes you’ve gotta stand on your shackles
Brave in the battle Worship with your hands held high
I’ll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise

Faithful all my life Blessings day and night
Countless reasons why I’ll praise You anywhere
Every promise kept Goodness every step
Each and every breath I’ll praise You anywhere
Faithful all my life Blessings day and night
Countless reasons why I’ll praise You anywhere
Every promise kept Goodness every step
Each and every breath I’ll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest

He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise
... I'll praise You anywhere

Ben Fielding, Brandon Lake, Hank Bentley, Jacob Sooter CCLI Song #7219772

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