



## St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake, MI  
48629  
989-366-5164  
[www.stjohnhl.com](http://www.stjohnhl.com)  
[office@stjohnhl.com](mailto:office@stjohnhl.com)

7:00 - Contemporary

Love YOUR  
neighbor  
as yourself.  
MATTHEW 22:39

*July 12, 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](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'*

## **Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Preludes**

### **"What An Awesome God"**

God is great give Him all the praise Hallelujah Name above all Names

Fire in His eyes healing in His veins Everywhere His glory on display

Take a look at those stars He can name them all

Before His throne every knee falls

The demons have to run the angels have to praise

Even the wind and waves obey

Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God

And even when I ran He didn't run away He came and put death back in its place

Friday on a cross broken for my shame Sunday morning rose up from that grave

Take a look at those scars on His hands and feet

He saved our souls for eternity

Worthy is the Lamb glory to the King

Oh let all the saints and the angels sing

Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God

Eyes on the sky there will be a day He will come and wipe our tears away

No more fear no more pain No more sorrow sin or shame

The King is coming back again

A reign of love that will never end

For everything You've done and everything You do

And everything You are I'll sing to You

My God You're an awesome God You're great in all You do  
I'm made to worship You My God You're an awesome God

God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God  
Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom power and love Our God is an awesome God  
Our God is an awesome God Our God what an awesome God

Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham, Richard Mullins CCLI Song #7255825

© 2025 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music;  
Simply Global Songs For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

## Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

### Opening Song

### “Run to The Father”

I've carried a burden for too long on my own.  
I wasn't created to bear it alone.  
I hear Your invitation to let it all go.  
I see it now. I'm laying it down. And I know that I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.  
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.  
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.  
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh

You saw my condition, had a plan from the start.  
Your Son for redemption: the price for my heart.  
I don't have a context for that kind of love.  
I don't understand, I can't comprehend. All I know is I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.  
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.  
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.  
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh

Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh  
My heart has been in Your sights long before my first breath.  
Running into Your arms is running to life from death.  
I feel this rush deep in my chest. Your mercy is calling out.  
Just as I am, You pull me in, and I know I need You now  
I run to the Father, I fall into grace.  
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.  
My heart found a surgeon, my soul found a friend.  
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh  
Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh Again and again.

*CCLI Song # 7133494 Cody Carnes | Matt Maher | Ran Jackson © Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
For use solely with the SongSelect®, Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 2801469*

## Opening Sentences

- P** Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,  
**C for His steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** It is He who remembered us in our low estate,  
**C for His steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** and rescued us from our foes,  
**C for His steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** He who gives food to all flesh,  
**C for His steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
**C for His steadfast love endures forever.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P** Let us approach the throne of mercy, humbly, and in need of forgiveness.  
We confess, Lord our God,  
**C that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We do not reflect  
Your love, heavenly Father, in the way we treat others. Forgive us.**
- P** We confess, gracious Lord Jesus,  
**C that we do not always give You the due honor and glory for all that  
You have done for us in Your life, death, and resurrection. Forgive us.**

- P** We confess, O Holy Spirit,  
**C** **that we forget that even our faulty attempts at loving as You have loved us are covered by Your overarching grace and mercy.**  
**P** Our gracious God has done all that was needed for us to be His friends, followers, and family. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
**C** **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

## “Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly”

It all comes down to this What you require of me  
Love my neighbor as myself And You above all things

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God  
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It all comes down to this To be Your hands and feet  
Good news to all the world The truth will set us free

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God  
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing  
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven  
It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing  
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven

Years from now we'll see The fruit our hands have sown  
faith just like a seed The only way it grows

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God  
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

CCLI Song # 7168697 Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Pat Barrett © 2021 Capitol CMG Genesis  
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 2801469

## Prayer of the Day

- L** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Gracious God, we give thanks that Your Son has done all that is needed for us to live in Your presence.
- C** **Strengthen our faith that we may receive Your gifts each day and seek ways to thank You with all that we are and have;**
- P** through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## First Reading

Leviticus 19:9-18

<sup>9</sup> "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. <sup>10</sup> And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God. <sup>11</sup> "You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. <sup>12</sup> You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup> "You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. <sup>14</sup> You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. <sup>15</sup> "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup> You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord. <sup>17</sup> "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Colossians 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, <sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace

from God our Father.<sup>3</sup> We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,<sup>4</sup> since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,<sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,<sup>6</sup> which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth,<sup>7</sup> just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf<sup>8</sup> and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.<sup>9</sup> And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,<sup>10</sup> so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;<sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;<sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,<sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 10:25-37

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord

<sup>25</sup> And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup> He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" <sup>27</sup> And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." <sup>28</sup> And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." <sup>29</sup> But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who

stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> And the next day he took out two denarii<sup>[a]</sup> and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' <sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" <sup>37</sup> He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### "Love Of God"

It's so good I almost can't believe it  
Far beyond what hearts could ever dream  
The God who set the galaxies in motion  
Would descend to give His life for me  
For what could make perfection bleed for sinners  
What leads a King to pay so great a cost  
All my life my heart will sing the answer Only the love of God  
Singing oh how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days we will sing our Savior's praise  
How great is the love of God  
It's so kind it leads us to repentance  
It's so bright the darkness has to flee  
Hallelujah it cleared my guilty sentence  
For I was bound but now I stand redeemed



For what could break the chains of any prison  
What force could rob the power from the grave  
What would trade my rags for heaven's riches Only the love of God

Singing oh how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days we will sing our Savior's praise How great is the love of God

Though I try my mind can't comprehend it  
It's so high too marvelous for words  
I could sing a million songs about it  
And barely scratch the surface of Your worth

This all my life the banner I'll be waving  
My anthem cry no matter what may come  
And when I rise to walk the streets of heaven  
I'll still be singing this song  
For everything that You've done How great the love of God

Singing oh how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days we will sing our Savior's praise How great is the love of God

I'm singing oh how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days we will sing our Savior's praise ....  
How great is the love of God  
How great is the love of God  
Thank You Jesus

Benjamin Hastings, Brandon Lake, Cody Carnes, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7241154

© Brandon Lake Music; Capitol CMG Paragon; Writer's Roof Publishing; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs;  
Remaining portion is unaffiliated For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)  
CCLI License #2801469

## Message

**"Orders is Orders" *Luke 10:25-28***

## REMEMBRANCE OF OUR BAPTISM

**P** Let us remember our Baptism by again renouncing the devil and confessing our faith responsively . . . Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**C I do renounce them.**

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**C Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

**C Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

**P** You have been baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ; therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

## 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

*"Instrumental"*

## 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.

**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  
Brandon Lake Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License  
#2801469

**Acknowledgments**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a  
division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing  
House. Songs performed by the St. John Praise Team are printed under the authority of CCLI License #2801469

## This image shows a single 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, text, or other markings on the paper.



The Good Samaritan loved his neighbor.