



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



September 13, 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'*

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

A Time of Preparation

Preludes

"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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Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

“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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Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"I Believe"

I believe there is one salvation One doorway that leads to life
One redemption one confession I believe in the name of Jesus Christ

I believe in the crucifixion By His blood I have been set free
I believe in the resurrection Hallelujah His life is death's defeat

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome

The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

I believe in the hope of heaven He's preparing a place for me
Far beyond what hearts imagine Ears have heard or eyes have seen

I believe that day is coming He's returning to claim His bride
Light the altar keep it burning See the Lamb who rose a roaring Lion

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome

The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

No I'll never be ashamed Of the gospel of Jesus Christ
How could I ever walk away From the One who saved my life

No I'll never be ashamed Of the gospel of Jesus Christ
How could I ever walk away From the One who saved my life

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome

The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

All praise to God our Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome

The King who was and is and evermore will be

In Jesus' mighty name I believe
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

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First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-24

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. ¹⁷ "As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹ And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? ²⁰ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²² I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-10

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

"Reckless Love"

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me

You have been so so kind to me

And O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

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Message

"The I's Have It"

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 week 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 present and received in, with, and under 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. Children and those who do not subscribe to these statements are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and should indicate this by keeping their hand folded.

Distribution 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

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.

C Amen.

Sending Song

“Glorious Day (Passion)”

I was buried beneath my shame. Who could carry that kind of weight?
It was my tomb 'til I met You.

I was breathing but not alive. All my failures I tried to hide.
It was my tomb 'til I met You.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!
You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!

Now Your mercy has saved my soul. Now Your freedom is all that I know.
The old made new, Jesus, when I met You.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!
You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!

I needed rescue. My sin was heavy, but chains break at the weight of Your glory.
I needed shelter. I was an orphan. Now You call me a citizen of Heaven.
When I was broken, You were my healing;
now Your love is the air that I'm breathing.
I have a future. My eyes are open,

'Cause when You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!
You called my name, and I ran out of that grave!

Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!

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