



## 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)

5:00 - Contemporary



***September 20, 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.

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'*

## **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Prelude**

### **"Called Me Higher"**

I could just sit I could just sit  
And wait for all Your goodness Hope to feel Your presence  
And I could just stay I could just stay  
Right where I am and hope to feel You Hope to feel something again  
I could hold on I could hold on To who I am  
And never let You Change me from the inside  
I could be safe oh I could be safe  
Here in Your arms and never leave home Never let these walls down  
But You have called me higher You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord  
You have called me higher You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord  
Where You lead me Where You lead me Lord  
I could hold on I could hold on To who I am  
and never let You Change me from the inside  
I could be safe oh I could be safe  
Here in Your arms and never leave home Never let these walls down  
But You have called me higher You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord  
You have called me higher You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord where You lead me  
I will be Yours oh I will be Yours for all my life  
I will be Yours oh I will be Yours for all my life  
I will be Yours oh I will be Yours for all my life  
So let Your mercy I will be Yours Lord  
And I will be Yours for all my life So let Your mercy

Light the path before me. 'Cause You have called me higher,  
You have called me deeper, and I'll go where You will lead me, Lord.  
'Cause You have called me higher, You have called me deeper,  
And I'll go where you will lead me, Lord.

'Cause You have called me higher, You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord

'Cause You have called me higher, You have called me deeper  
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord

Where You lead me. Where You lead me Lord

Where you lead me Where You lead me Lord

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

### **Opening Song**

### **"Open Up The Heavens"**

Oo oo oo oo oo

We've waited for this day We're gathered in Your Name

Calling out to You

Your glory like a fire awakening desire

Will burn our hearts with truth

You're the reason we're here You're the reason we're singing

Open up the heavens we want to see You

Open up the floodgates a mighty river

Flowing from Your heart

Filling every part of our praise

Oo oo oo oo oo

Your presence in this place Your glory on our face

We're looking to the sky

Descending like a cloud You're standing with us now

Lord unveil our eyes

You're the reason we're here You're the reason we're singing

Open up the heavens we want to see You

Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise

Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise

Show us show us Your glory Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord

Show us show us Your glory Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord  
Oo oo oo oo oo

Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise

Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise  
Oo oo oo oo

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## **Confession and Forgiveness**

### **Song of Praise**

### **“Goodness Of God”**

I love You Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.  
All my days I've been held in Your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire.  
In darkest night, You are close like no other.  
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend.  
I have lived in the goodness of God.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.  
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now;  
I give You everything.  
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.  
I will sing of the goodness of God.

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## First Reading

Ephesians 4:7, 11-14

<sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.  
<sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

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

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

## Gospel Reading

Luke 16:10-15

<sup>10</sup> "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And

if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." <sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

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

**G** 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 Offering

## "The Tale of the Tape"

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## 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.**

## 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.

**G** Amen.

## Sending Song

## “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

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