



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



September 27, 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

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'*

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

"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

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

One Minute of Silence to Prepare Our Hearts

Invocation

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

G Amen.

Opening Song

"Holy Forever"

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb
Your name is the highest Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all
And the angels cry Holy All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy Holy forever
If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed

Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

And the angels cry Holy All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy Holy forever
Hear Your people sing Holy To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy Holy forever

Your name is the highest Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry Holy All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy Holy forever
You will always be Holy Holy forever

Brian Johnson, Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7201044 © 2022 Brian and Jenn Publishing;
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2801469

Opening Sentences

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
- C** **to God my exceeding joy.**
- P** Put not your trust in princes, in whom there is no salvation.
- C** **Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God.**

Confession and Absolution

- P** The First Commandment is first because *"we should fear, love, and trust in God above all things."* Let us in true repentance and good faith direct the fear, love, and trust of our hearts and minds to the King of ages, as Timothy describes Him: "the immortal, invisible, and only true God".
- C** **Merciful God, the good fight of faith is fierce, the warfare between our love for You and the temptations of the world around us is long, even never-ending. We confess we have not loved You above all things, we are afraid at many times, and there is nothing and no one on earth**

worthy of our trust. In You, O Lord, we put our trust. In Your grace and forgiveness, let us never be ashamed. Deliver us in Your righteousness for the sake of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son.

P We praise and thank God Who tells us in Psalm 125: *"Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever."* By your Baptism into Christ, God has pledged the forgiveness of all your sins and promised the eternal life to which you were called. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

Song of Praise

"Jesus Does"

Who tells the sun to rise every morning
Colors the sky with the shades of His glory
Wakes us with mercy and love Jesus does

Who holds the orphan comforts the widow
Cries for injustice feels every sorrow
Carries the pain of His children Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Who understands the heart of the sinner
Showers His grace over all our mistakes
Washes us clean with His blood Jesus does

Who sings the song of sweet forgiveness
Who stole the keys to hell and the grave
Who has the power to save Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us

When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Oh what a Friend Oh what a Savior
He's always been good He's always been faithful
He came to my rescue When I needed Him most
And saved my soul

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
That's what Jesus does

CCLI Song # 7205247 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Kyle Briskin | Martin Cash | Scott Cash © 2022 Angie Feel
Good Songs We The Kingdom Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together..

C: Lord God, King of kings and Lord of lords, You give us, Your people, strength to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness. Support us in the good fight of the faith that we may take hold of the eternal life to which You have called us; through Jesus Christ, the blessed and only sovereign, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Amos 6:1-7

"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the first of the nations, to whom the

house of Israel comes! ² Pass over to Calneh, and see, and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory, ³ O you who put far away the day of disaster and bring near the seat of violence? ⁴ "Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, ⁶ who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. ¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴ to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷ As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who

richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:19-31

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' ²⁷ And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' ³⁰ And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message Song

"10,000 Reasons" (Bless the Lord)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.

Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come;

still my soul will sing Your praise unending ...

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Sing like never before O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name, worship Your holy name

Message

"The Object of Our Love"

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.



Service of the Sacrament

- 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.**

Proper Preface

- 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

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 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 Hymn

“Amazing Grace” (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I’ve been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.

And like a flood, His mercy rains unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I’ve been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.

And like a flood, His mercy rains unending love, amazing grace.

My chains are gone, I’ve been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.

And like a flood, His mercy rains unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.

But God, who called me here below will be forever mine, will be forever mine.

You are forever mine.

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray together ...

G **Lord Jesus Christ, we give thanks to You for taking hold of us to support us in our life of faith in order that we may take hold of You and the eternal life You have won for us. Come then, Lord, and help Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood, and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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 T give you peace.

G **Amen.**

Sending Song

"Jesus Saves"

Hope is here Shout the news to ev'ryone
It's a new day peace has come Jesus saves
Mercy triumphs at the cross
Love has come to rescue us Jesus saves

Hope is here What a joyful noise we'll make
As we join in heaven's song
To let all the world known That Jesus saves
Raise a shout to let all the world know That Jesus saves

Free at last Every debt has been repaid
Broken hearts can be remade Jesus saves
Sing above the storms of life
Sing it through the darkest night Jesus saves

Free at last What a joyful noise we'll make
As we join in heaven's song
To let all the world know That Jesus saves
Raise a shout to let all the world know That Jesus saves

You save You heal restore reveal Your Father's heart to us
You rose to raise us from the grave Your Spirit lives in us
Sing it out To let all the world know That Jesus saves
Raise a shout to let all the world know That Jesus saves
Sing it out To let all the world know That Jesus saves
Raise a shout to let all the world know That Jesus saves

Nick Herbert, Tim Hughes CCLI Song #5322950 © 2008 Thankyou Music
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License #2801469

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4.
Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

