

St. John Lutheran Church

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

0 - Traditional



November 2, 2025

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional 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

Mobile: 989-992-6030

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com

Compelled by the Love of Christ to Joyfully 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'

All Saint's Sunday Prelude

Divine Service One (pp 151ff) "Heaven Song"

You wrote a letter and You signed Your name
I read every word of it page by page
You said that You'd be coming coming for me soon
Oh my God I'll be ready for You

I want to run on greener pastures
I want to dance on higher hills
I want to drink from sweeter waters
In the misty morning chill
And my soul is getting restless
For the place where I belong
I can't wait to join the angels and sing
My Heaven song

I hear Your voice and I catch my breath
Well done my child enter in and rest
Tears of joy roll down my cheek
It's beautiful beyond my wildest dreams

I want to run on greener pastures
I want to dance on higher hills
I want to drink from sweeter waters
In the misty morning chill
And my soul is getting restless
For the place where I belong
I can't wait to join the angels and sing
I want to run on greener pastures
I want to dance on higher hills
I want to drink from sweeter waters
In the misty morning chill

And my soul is getting restless

For the place where I belong
I can't wait to join the angels and sing.

No I can't wait to hear the angels and sing My Heaven song

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Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song "We Sing for All the Unsung Saints" LSB 678

We sing for all the unsung saints, That countless, nameless throng,
Who kept the faith and passed it on
With hope steadfast and strong
Through all the daily griefs and joys
No chronicles record,
Forgetful of their lack of fame,
But mindful of their Lord.

Though uninscribed with date or place, With title, rank, or name,
As living stones their stories join
To form a hallowed frame
Around the myst'ry in their midst:
The Lamb once sacrificed,
The Love that wrested life from death,
The wounded, risen Christ.

So we take heart from unknown saints Bereft of earthly fame,
Those faithful ones who have received
A more enduring name:
For they reveal true blessing comes
When we our pride efface
And offer back our lives to be
The vessels of God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1944
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Invocation LSB 151

- In the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Forgiveness

- L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **B** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination

- **L** Most merciful God,
- we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them 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.

Service of the Word

- The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me;
- to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!
- **L** The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth
- from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- L Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
- **G** God shines forth.
- Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
- and perform your vows to the Most High,
- **L** and call upon me in the day of trouble;
- **1** will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy - Sung

LSB 152

- **L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- **G** Amen.

Hymn of Praise Sung

LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **L** Let us pray together...
- O Lord, stir up the hearts of Your faithful people to welcome and joyfully receive Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, that He may find in us a fit dwelling place; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

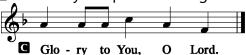
Alleluia Sung LSB 156

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fifth chapter.



- ¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons^[a] of God.
- ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
 - **L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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 \times of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Message Song

"For All the Saints" LSB 677 vs 1-3, 7&8

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold, Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old And win with them the victor's crown of gold!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of Glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Message

"A Good Mourning"

COMMEMORATION OF THE REDEEMED CHILDREN OF GOD

Today, with God's children throughout the Christian Church, we remember all those who remain God's children for eternity. We especially note this day those who have gone to the church triumphant during the days of this last year.

Jerry Barr September 14, 1939 – October 30, 2024 **Nancy Walter April 8, 1947 - November 2, 2024 Gary Knoll** February 4, 1952 - November 17, 2024 William DeGroot February 6, 1949 – November 24, 2024 **Eunice Wager** July 26, 1928 – December 4, 2024 Sheila Arnold July 13, 1968 - December 8, 2024 **Elaine Engel April 21, 1931 – January 23, 2025** John Sommer November 5, 1929 – January 25, 2025 James Mueller August 15, 1946 - January 30, 2025 **Jeff Lowery** August 3, 1958 – February 8, 2025 **Barbara Duwe** July 27, 1937 - February 12, 2025 Frederick Kleinert August 21, 1948 – February 15, 2025 **Alice Mandley** April 21, 1942 - April 1, 2025 **Karen Huff** August 24, 1954 – August 20, 2025 Helen Gretzinger June 29, 1924 - September 28, 2025

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

- Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You;
- P through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **G** Amen.

Commemoration Song

"Hymn of Heaven"

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets
To look upon the one who bled to save me
And walk with Him for all eternity

There will be a day When all will bow before Him
There will be a day When death will be no more
Standing face to face With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation
The songs of faith We sang through doubt and fear
In the end we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears

There will be a day When all will bow before Him
There will be a day When death will be no more
Standing face to face With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

And on that day we join the resurrection And stand beside the heroes of the faith With one voice a thousand generations Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain Forever He shall reign

There will be a day When all will bow before Him There will be a day When death will be no more

Standing face to face With He who died and rose again Holy holy is the Lord

So let it be today We shout the hymn of Heaven With angels and the Saints We raise a mighty roar Glory to our God Who gave us life beyond the grave Holy holy is the Lord Holy holy is the Lord

CCLI Song # 7168994 Bill Johnson | Brian Johnson | Chris Davenport | Phil Wickham
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Offering

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Offering Song - Sung

LSB 159

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

- P The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **We lift them to the Lord.**
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and proper ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord – (Sung)

LSB 161

Holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

LSB 162

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

The Peace of the Lord

LSB 163

- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Lamb of God - Sung

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

"Come Jesus Come"

Sometimes I fall to my knees and pray Come Jesus come let today be the day Sometimes I feel like I'm gonna break But I'm holding on to a hope that won't fade

Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come

There'll be no war and there'll be no chains
When Jesus comes let today be the day
He'll come for the weak And the strong just the same
And all will believe in the power of His name

Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come

One day He'll come and we'll stand face to face Come and lay it all down 'cause it might be today The time is right now there's no need to wait Your past will be washed by rivers of grace

Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long For the day You return to heal every hurt

And right every wrong We need You right now Come and turn this around Deep down I know this world isn't home Come Jesus come Come Jesus come

Bryan Fowler, Hank Bentley, Stephen McWhirter, Tara McWhirter CCLI Song #7154136
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Post-Communion Song Sung

LSB 164

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Blessing LSB 166

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.



Closing Song

"Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" LSB 655

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done. Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone; Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.

> O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Sermon Notes