



## 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



***January 17, 2026***

# 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  
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'*

## **A Time of Preparation**

**Prelude**

**"Praise"**

**(SHOUT)** *Let everything ... that has breath ... Praise the Lord ... Praise the  
Lord*

I'll praise in the valley Praise on the mountain  
I'll praise when I'm sure Praise when I'm doubting  
I'll praise when outnumbered Praise when surrounded  
'Cause praise is the water My enemies drown in

As long as I'm breathing I've got a reason to  
Praise the Lord oh my soul Praise the Lord oh my soul

I'll praise when I feel it And I'll praise when I don't  
I'll praise 'cause I know You're still in control  
'Cause my praise is a weapon It's more than a sound  
My praise is the shout That brings Jericho down

As long as I'm breathing I've got a reason to  
Praise the Lord oh my soul Praise the Lord oh my soul  
I won't be quiet My God is alive How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign Praise 'cause You reign  
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave  
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful Praise 'cause You're true  
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign Praise 'cause You reign  
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave  
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful Praise 'cause You're true  
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You

Praise the Lord oh my soul Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul Praise the Lord oh my soul

I won't be quiet My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

**(SHOUT) Let everything ... that has breath ... Praise the Lord ... Praise the Lord**

**Let everything ... that has breath ... Praise the Lord ... Praise the Lord**

CCLI Song #7213077 For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com  
CCLI License #2801469

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

### **Opening Song**

### **“Here I Am to Worship”**

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,  
Opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore You,  
Hope of a life spent with You.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,  
Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth you created,  
All for love's sake became poor.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

### **Song of Praise**

### **"King of Kings"**

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light,  
'till from Heaven You came running. There was mercy in Your eyes.  
To fulfil the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word  
from a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,  
to redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross.  
For even in Your suffering, You saw to the other side.  
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath  
'till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death.  
And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe,  
for the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame.  
Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel shall not faint.  
By His blood and in His Name, in His freedom I am free,  
for the love of Jesus Christ Who has resurrected me.

Praise the Father, praise the Son. Praise the Spirit, three in one.  
God of Glory, majesty, praise forever to the King of Kings.

**Praise forever to the King of Kings.**

CCLI Song # 7127647 Brooke Ligertwood | Jason Ingram | Scott Ligertwood © 2019 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Fellow Ships Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) For use solely with the SongSelect®.  
Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 2801469

## First Reading

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— <sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

John 1:6-9, 29-34

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son 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.

CCLI Song # 7046448 Adam Kersh | Brandon Coker | Heath Balltzglier | Paul Taylor Smith © 2015 Seems Like Music.  
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)  
CCLI License # 2801469

## Message

## “Light Reveals”

## 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.**

## Blessing

**℟** 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.

**☩ Amen.**

## Sending Song

## “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.

CCLI Song # 7117726 Ben Fielding | Brian Johnson | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jenn Johnson © 2018 Alletrop 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**