



## St. John Lutheran Church

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***February 1, 2026***

**9:00 - Traditional**

# 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*

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***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 hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

And crown Him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem

And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,

Whom David Lord did call,

The God incarnate, man divine,

And crown Him Lord of all.

The God incarnate, man divine,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,

On this terrestrial ball

To Him all majesty ascribe

And crown Him Lord of all.

To Him all majesty ascribe

And crown Him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng

We at His feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song

And crown Him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song

And crown Him Lord of all.

Text (sts. 1–5): Edward Perronet, 1726–92, alt.; (sts. 6–7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.

Text: Public domain

**L** In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** 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.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**L** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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

**L** Most merciful God,

**C** **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.**

**L** 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

**L** For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

**C** **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**L** Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

**C** **nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

**L** but his delight is in the law of the Lord,

**C** **and on his law he meditates day and night.**

**L** He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.

**C** **In all that he does, he prospers.**

**L** The wicked are not so,  
**C** **but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**  
**L** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
**C** **nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**  
**C** **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.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**L** 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.**  
**L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise *Sung*

LSB 155

**C** **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.  
**C** **And also with you.**  
**L** Let us pray together...

**C** Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia Sung

LSB 156

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

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

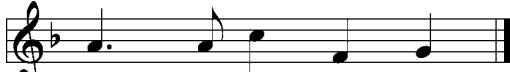
**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

- 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 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.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** 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.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Message Song**

### ***"In The Cross of Christ I Glory"* LSB 427**

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.  
  
When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
  
When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.  
  
Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

### **Message**

### ***"Light Brings Comfort and Hope"***

### **Offering**

*Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.*



## Offering Song - *Sung*

LSB 159

**C** 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.

**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.**

**P** 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

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

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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

**C** **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

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

▣ **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 Song**

## **"How Great Thou Art" LSB 801**

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; **Refrain.**

**ref**      Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
                  How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **Refrain.**

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin; **Refrain.**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" **Refrain.**

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## Post-Communion Song *Sung*

LSB 164

**C** 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

**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

## Blessing

LSB 166

**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.



## Closing Song

## "Lift High the Cross" LSB 837 vs 1,2,4

**ref** Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. **Refrain**

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. **Refrain**

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## Sermon Notes