



St. John Lutheran Church

2888 W Houghton
Lake Dr
Houghton Lake,
MI 48629
989-366-5164



April 3, 2026 – 5:00 pm

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.

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'

Good Friday Theme: If anybody had a reason to be spiteful, with large amounts of animosity and resentment, it was Job. But he prayed for his enemies. So did Jesus. And, by God's grace, so will we!

Preludes

"Thank You Jesus For The Blood"

I was a wretch I remember who I was
I was lost I was blind I was running out of time
Sin separated the breach was far too wide
But from the far side of the chasm
You had me in Your sight

So You made a way across the great divide
Left behind Heaven's throne to build it here inside
There at the cross You paid the debt I owed
Broke my chains freed my soul
For the first time I had hope

Thank You Jesus for the blood applied
Thank You Jesus it has washed me white
Thank You Jesus You have saved my life
Brought me from the darkness into glorious light

You took my place laid inside my tomb of sin
You were buried for three days
But then You walked right out again
And now death has no sting and life has no end
For I have been transformed by the blood of the Lamb

Thank You Jesus for the blood applied
Thank You Jesus it has washed me white
Thank You Jesus You have saved my life
Brought me from the darkness into glorious light

There is nothing stronger Than the wonder working power
Of the blood the blood
That calls us sons and daughters We are ransomed by our Father
Through the blood the blood

There is nothing stronger Than the wonder working power
Of the blood the blood
That calls us sons and daughters We are ransomed by our Father
Through the blood the blood

Thank You Jesus for the blood applied
Thank You Jesus it has washed me white
Thank You Jesus You have saved my life
Brought me from the darkness into glorious light
Glory to His name Glory to His Name
There to my heart was the blood applied
Glory to His name

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“God Who Bleeds”

Oh my soul Who could ever know How deep my sins go
Oh my soul All the gold On the earth could never pay
For the debt that I have made On my soul

Now I see just how great my need In His hands and in His feet
Lamb of God oh my soul shall sing All glory to the God Who bleeds

Oh what love Knew I'd never have enough
So He chose to pay in blood
Oh what love I'm in awe Every earthly gain is lost
At the wonder of the cross Oh what love

Now I see just how great my need In His hands and in His feet
Lamb of God oh my soul shall sing All glory to the God Who bleeds

See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be
Glory to the God Who bleeds
See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be

Glory to the God Who bleeds

Now I see just how great my need In His hands and in His feet
Lamb of God oh my soul shall sing
All glory to the God Who bleeds
All glory to the God Who bleeds

Benji Cowart, Cara Berg, Jon Gruen, Matt Preston CCLI Song #7226510

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Welcome

Opening Song

“Man Of Sorrows”

Man of sorrows, Lamb of God, by His own betrayed.
The sin of man and wrath of God has been on Jesus laid.
Silent as He stood accused, beaten, mocked, and scorned.
Bowing to the Father's will, He took a crown of thorns.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.

Sent of heaven, God's own Son to purchase and redeem.
And reconcile the very ones Who nailed Him to that tree.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full
By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled.
Now, the curse of sin has no hold on me.
Whom the Son sets free, oh is free indeed.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.
Praise and honor unto Thee.

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Invocation

LSB 203

P 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.

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

C Create in me.

P Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

C Create in me a clean heart.

P For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

C Create in me a clean heart, O God.

P Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit.

P Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

P O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Dear Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to reverently behold the agony of your rejection, the pain of your condemnation, and the horror of your crucifixion.

C Bring us to the places you walked and to the people you encountered on that Friday so long ago.

P Stay with us, Lord, as we witness your suffering and listen to your last words of love.

C As we approach Calvary let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against your holy commandments.

P Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking and doing.

C We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.

P We have passed by the hungry, the poor and the oppressed.

C O God, we have tried to hide from you and from one another.

P We confess our fatal attractions that enslave us and the failed relationships that haunt us...

C We cannot plead the strength of our temptations or the frailty of our nature or place the blame on other people.

P We can only say, "For the sake of Jesus, God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

+ A moment of silent reflection +

P Through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ and by his command, I announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Song of Praise

“Man Of Sorrows”

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full
By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled.
Now, the curse of sin has no hold on me.
Whom the Son sets free, oh is free indeed.

Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where Your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, hallelujah, praise and honor unto Thee.
Praise and honor unto Thee.

Service of the Word

P In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C in Your righteousness deliver me!

P Incline Your ear to me; rescue me speedily!

C Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!

P For You are my rock and my fortress;

C and for Your name's sake You lead me and guide me;

P You take me out of the net they have hidden for me,

C for You are my refuge.

P In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C in Your righteousness deliver me!

P Into Your hand I commit my spirit;

C You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

P Blessed be the LORD,

C for He has wondrously shown His steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged city.

P I had said in my alarm, “I am cut off from Your sight.”

C But You heard the voice of my pleas for mercy when I cried to You for help.

P In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C in Your righteousness deliver me!

P Suffering Savior,

C have mercy upon us.

P Crucified Christ,

C have mercy upon us.

P Merciful Messiah,

C grant us Your peace.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together...

C **Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

First Reading

Job 42:7-9

⁷After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: "My anger burns against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. ⁸Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and offer up a burnt offering for yourselves. And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has." ⁹So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29-32

²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:32-47

³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³ And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

⁴⁴ It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Message Song

“Lamb of God”

Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **Refrain**

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Message

“Eye Sight or I Spite”

Prayer Of The Church

- P** Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, You gather us together at the foot of Your Son’s cross that we may join with the eyewitnesses of His death and behold His all-sufficient sacrifice for our redemption.
- C** **Help us to know the real life that comes to us because of the wonderful exchange Jesus offered to us at the cross.**
- P** Lead us to see that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary.
- C** **He was forsaken by You, dear Father, so that we might never be forsaken. He died so that we may live.**
- P** Lord Jesus, grant on this Friday we call “good” that the promises of Your Word may be received by us all with a living faith.
- C** **Encourage our hearts and minds as we trust that all You accomplished at Calvary was done for our salvation.**
- P** Holy Spirit, You unite us by Baptism to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Guide us by Your grace to know the power of sharing in His death so that, with Him, we may partake in His resurrection.

- C** All glory, honor, and praise be to You, O God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—now and forever. Amen.
- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and in the words He has taught us: *LSB 209*
- 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.**

Blessing

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

Closing Song (Praise Team Only) “Lead Me To The Cross”

Saviour I come quiet my soul Remember redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled For my ransom

Ev'rything I once held dear
I count it all as loss

Lead me to the cross Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself I belong to You
Oh lead me lead me to the cross

Brooke Ligertwood CCLI Song #4785828
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We depart in silent confidence, trusting that the light of Easter will soon scatter the darkness of Good Friday.

