



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



April 11, 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.

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

E-mail: 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'*

Second Sunday of Easter

Preludes

"Great Things"

Come let us worship our King Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things

See what our Savior has done See how His love overcomes
He has done great things He has done great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things

We dance in Your freedom awake and alive

O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high

O God You have done great things

You've been faithful through every storm You'll be faithful forevermore

You have done great things

And I know You will do it again For Your promise is yes and amen

You will do great things God You do great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things

We dance in Your freedom awake and alive

O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high

O God You have done great things

Hallelujah God above it all Hallelujah God unshakable

Hallelujah You have done great things

Hallelujah God above it all Hallelujah God unshakable

Hallelujah You have done great things

You've done great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things
You have done great things
O God You do great things

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Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

“Living Hope”

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written Jesus Christ my living hope
Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope
Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope
Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope
Jesus Christ my living hope Oh God You are my living hope

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Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"Evidence"

All throughout my history, Your faithfulness has walked beside me.
The winter storms made way for spring. In every season, from where I'm standing
I see the evidence of Your goodness all over my life, all over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment all over my life, all over my life.

Help me remember when I'm weak, fear may come but fear will leave.
You lead my heart to victory. You are my strength and You always will be.
I see the evidence of Your goodness all over my life, all over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment all over my life, all over my life.

See the cross the empty grave; the evidence is endless.
All my sin rolled away because of You oh Jesus.
See the cross the empty grave; the evidence is endless.
All my sin rolled away because of You, oh, Jesus, oh.

I see the evidence of Your goodness all over my life, all over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment all over my life, all over my life, yeah.

I see the evidence of Your goodness all over my life, all over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment all over my life, all over my life.

Why should I fear? The evidence is here.
Why should I fear? Oh, the evidence is here.

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First Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in

his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 **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.

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Message

"I'd Like to Change My Answer"

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.**

Sacrament

The Words of Our Lord

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

“What A Beautiful Name”

You were the Word at the beginning, One with God the Lord Most High.
Your hidden glory in creation, Now revealed in You our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is!

What a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus Christ, my King!

What a beautiful Name it is, Nothing compares to this!

What a beautiful Name it is The Name of Jesus!

You didn't want heaven without us. Jesus, You brought heaven down.
My sin was great, Your love was greater, What could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is!

What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of Jesus Christ, my King!

What a wonderful Name it is, Nothing compares to this!

What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus!

What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus!

Death could not hold You, The veil tore before You.

You silence the boast of sin and grave.

The heavens are roaring The praise of Your glory,

For You are raised to life again!

You have no rival, You have no equal.

Now and forever God, You reign!

Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory,

Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is!

What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus Christ my King!

What a powerful Name it is, Nothing can stand against.

What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus!

What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus!

What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus!

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 T give you peace.

☒ 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

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