



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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May 9, 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

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Joyfully Live,
Learn, Share, and Serve'***

5:00 - Contemporary

*Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of
Christian faith in our community, to all generations,
wherever they may be'*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Preludes

"Way Maker"

You are here, moving in our midst; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, working in this place; I worship You, I worship You.

You are Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,

Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.

You are here, touching ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, healing ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, turning lives around; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, mending ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,

Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are. That is who You are.

That is who You are. That is who You are. That is who You are.

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,

Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.

Even when I don't see it, You're working. Even when I don't feel it, You're working.

You never stop, You never stop working. You never stop, You never stop working.

Even when I don't see it, You're working. Even when I don't feel it, You're working.

You never stop, You never stop working. You never stop, You never stop working.

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,

Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are. That is who You are.

That is who You are. That is who You are. That is who You are.

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,

Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.

That is who You are. That is who You are.

That is who You are. That is who You are.

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

"As For Me"

Your love oh Lord is strength to my soul
Hope for tomorrow it won't let go
Your presence is the joy of my life
To You I lift my eyes

As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
We will sing of Your love forevermore
As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
Serve the Lord

Your word alone a lamp to my feet
A light to my path as You're leading me
Your ways oh Lord are higher than mine
To You I lift my eyes

As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
We will sing of Your love forevermore
As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
Serve the Lord

Open up every door Write it on every wall
Sing it in every room
Open up every door Write it on every wall
Sing it in every room
Open up every door Write it on every wall
Sing it in every room
Open up every door Write it on every wall
Sing it in every room

As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
We will sing of Your love forevermore
As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
Serve the Lord

As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
We will sing of Your love forevermore
As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
Serve the Lord

Open up every door Write it on every wall
Sing it in every room

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

“Great Are You Lord”

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing, “Great are You, Lord!”
And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing, “Great are You, Lord!”

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

First Reading

Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with

those who happened to be there.¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?"²⁰ For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean."²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,²⁸ for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring."²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of

truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

☒ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

📣 **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

"Run to The Father"

I've carried a burden for too long on my own.

I wasn't created to bear it alone.

I hear Your invitation to let it all go.

I see it now. I'm laying it down. And I know that I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.

I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.

My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.

So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh

You saw my condition, had a plan from the start.

Your Son for redemption: the price for my heart.

I don't have a context for that kind of love.

I don't understand, I can't comprehend. All I know is I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.

I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.

My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.

So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh

Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh

My heart has been in Your sights long before my first breath.

Running into Your arms is running to life from death.

I feel this rush deep in my chest. Your mercy is calling out.
Just as I am, You pull me in, and I know I need You now

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.

I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.

My heart found a surgeon, my soul found a friend.

So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh
Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh Again and again.

Message

"I'd Like to Change My Approach"

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

"Just As I Am"

Just as I am without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
 And that Thou bidst me come to Thee
 O Lamb of God I come I come

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot
 To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot
 O Lamb of God I come I come

I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
 I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled
 I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
 And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God
 Just as I am

Just as I am I would be lost But mercy and grace my freedom bought
 And now to glory in Your cross O Lamb of God I come I come
 I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
 I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled
 I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
 And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God
 Just as I am

I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God
Just as I am

Blessing

- 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 T give you peace.

G Amen.

Sending Song

“Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly”

It all comes down to this What you require of me
Love my neighbor as myself And You above all things

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It all comes down to this To be Your hands and feet
Good news to all the world The truth will set us free

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven
It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven

Years from now we'll see The fruit our hands have sown
faith just like a seed The only way it grows

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

Acknowledgments

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