



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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7:00 - Contemporary



July 18, 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'*

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

A Time of Preparation

Preludes

"It Really Is (Amazing Grace)"

Amazing grace How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost But now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Singing Hallelujah There's no chains on me
Thank You Jesus You have set me free
You welcomed me in Called me by name
Was dead in my sin
Now I'm dancing on that grave
Hallelujah it really is amazing grace

'Twas grace that taught My heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did That grace appear
The hour I first believed

Singing Hallelujah There's no chains on me
Thank You Jesus You have set me free
You welcomed me in Called me by name
Was dead in my sin
Now I'm dancing on that grave
Hallelujah it really is amazing grace

I'll testify Of what He did He gave me life I'm born again
My heart is free My soul is saved It really is amazing grace
I'll testify Of what He did He gave me life I'm born again
My heart is free My soul is saved It really is amazing grace

It really is it really is It really is amazing grace

It really is It really is
Sing Hallelujah Hallelujah There's no chains on me
Thank You Jesus You have set me free
You welcomed me in Called me by name
Was dead in my sin Now I'm dancing on that grave
Hallelujah it really is amazing grace
It really is It really is amazing grace It really is It really is
It really is amazing grace

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call to Worship

Opening Song

"The King Is In The Room"

Come open the doors and make way
The King is in the room The King is in the room
Expectant for strongholds to break 'Cause we know what You can do
We know what You can do

We're gonna see lives changed Souls saved
Broken hearts made new
The King is in the room

Lord we enthrone You upon our praise
The King is in the room
There's freedom and life anywhere You reign
Jesus we bow only to You We're laying down all of our crowns
The King is in the room The King is in the room

Come see all the captives run free He's tearing down the walls
He's tearing down the walls
There's grave shaking power when we sing The Name above them all
Your Name above them all The King is in the room

Lord we enthrone You upon our praise
The King is in the room There's freedom and life anywhere You reign
Jesus we bow only to You We're laying down all of our crowns
The King is in the room

Fear has to flee Shame has to leave Before the King Before the King
Chains have to break Dry bones awake Prepare the way Oh
Fear has to flee Shame has to leave Before the King Before the King
Chains have to break Dry bones awake Prepare the way The King is in the room
Lord we enthrone You upon our praise The King is in the room
There's freedom and life anywhere You reign
Jesus we bow only to You We're laying down all of our crowns
The King is in the room
The King is in the room
The King is in the room

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"Trust In God"

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
He's been my fourth man in the fire Time after time
Born of His Spirit Washed in His blood
And what He did for me on Calvary Is more than enough
I trust in God My Savior The One who will never fail
He will never fail
I trust in God My Savior The One who will never fail
He will never fail
Perfect submission All is at rest I know the author of tomorrow
Has ordered my steps So this is my story And this is my song
I'm praising my risen King and Savior All the day long
I trust in God My Savior The One who will never fail
He will never fail
I trust in God My Savior The One who will never fail
He will never fail
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered

I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
That's why I trust Him That's why I trust Him
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
That's why I trust Him That's why I trust In God

My Savior The One who will never fail He will never fail
I trust in God My Savior The One who will never fail
He will never fail

First Reading

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds^[a] among the wheat and went away.

²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And the servants^[b] of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

[L] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[G] Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Message 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

Message

"Groaning Therapy"

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

"Instrumental"

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.

C Amen.

Sending Song

“The Plans”

When I am anxious When I am afraid
I take it to God I call on His Name
If the mover of mountains Is listening to me
Why should I worry Why should I fear anything

For I know the plans He has for me
Yes I know the plans He has for me For my good
To give me a hope and a future

When I am waiting For His promise to come
Sometimes He's silent But I'm never alone
He walks in the valley And He quiets the storm
He stands in the fire So why should I fear anymore

For I know the plans He has for me
Yes I know the plans He has for me For my good
To give me a hope and a future
For I know the plans He has for me
Yes I know He's working everything For my good
To give me a hope and a future

All my life All I've seen
Your endless love Surrounding me
With every breath I will be found by You

If I set sail Or spread my wings
And find myself On the farthest sea
You're waiting there I will be found by You
I will be found by You

For I know the plans He has for me
Yes I know the plans He has for me For my good

To give me a hope and a future
For I know the plans He has for me
Yes I know He's working everything For my good
To give me a hope and a future

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Acknowledgments

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