



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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7:00 - Contemporary



August 29, 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.

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'

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Preludes

A Time of Preparation "Raise A Hallelujah"

I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies.

I raise a hallelujah louder than the unbelief.

I raise a hallelujah my weapon is a melody.

I raise a hallelujah Heaven comes to fight for me.

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm.

Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar.

Up from the ashes hope will arise. Death is defeated; the King is alive.

I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me.

I raise a hallelujah I will watch the darkness flee.

I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery.

I raise a hallelujah fear you lost your hold on me.

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm.

Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar.

Up from the ashes hope will arise. Death is defeated; the King is alive.

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)

Sing a little louder in the presence of my enemies.

Sing a little louder, louder than the unbelief.

Sing a little louder my weapon is a melody.

Sing a little louder; Heaven comes to fight for me

Sing a little louder.

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm.

Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar.

Up from the ashes hope will arise. Death is defeated; the King is alive.

I raise a hallelujah. I raise a hallelujah.

I raise a hallelujah. I raise a hallelujah.

“Speak O Lord”

Speak, O Lord as we come to You,
To receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth plant it deep in us,
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness.
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail.
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord and renew our minds,
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises.
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call to Worship

Opening Song

“Graves Into Gardens”

I searched the World but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love
Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain Is the God of the valley
There's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again
Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You
Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You
You turn mourning to dancing You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory You're the only one who can
You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways You're the only one who can
You're the only one who can
Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing
Nothing is better than You
You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways You're the only one who can
You're the only one who can
You're the only one who can

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"Praise You Anywhere"

Sometimes you've gotta dance through the darkness
Sing through the fire Praise when it don't make sense
Sometimes you've gotta stare down the giant
Worship from the lion's den
Sometimes you've gotta shout it from the mountain
Louder in the valley Trusting that He's gonna get you there
Sometimes you've gotta welcome the wonder
Wait for the answer
Worship with your hands in the air I'll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise

Sometimes you've gotta praise in the prison
Cry out to heaven Shout it 'til the doors swing wide
Sometimes you've gotta stand on your shackles
Brave in the battle Worship with your hands held high
I'll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise

Faithful all my life Blessings day and night
Countless reasons why I'll praise You anywhere
Every promise kept Goodness every step
Each and every breath I'll praise You anywhere
Faithful all my life Blessings day and night
Countless reasons why I'll praise You anywhere
Every promise kept Goodness every step
Each and every breath I'll praise You anywhere

Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
Praise Give Him praise Give Him praise In the highest
He is worthy Yes He is worthy of all of the praise
... I'll praise You anywhere

First Reading

Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will

repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

“I Will Follow”

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay.
When You move I'll move. I will follow. Oh oh oh

All Your ways are good. All Your ways are sure.
I will trust in You alone. Higher than my sight.
High above my life. I will trust in You alone.

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay.
When You move I'll move. I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve.

If this life I lose, I will follow You, Yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

Light into the world, Light into my life
I will live for You alone. You're the One I seek,
Knowing I will find All I need in You alone. In You alone.

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay.
When You move I'll move. I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow You, Yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

In You there's life everlasting. In You there's freedom for my soul.
In You there's joy unending joy; And I will follow.

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay.
When You move I'll move. I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow.

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve;
If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah.
I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.
I will follow You, yeah.

Message

“Back Seat Driver”

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.

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 ☩ 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 know 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

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Raise a shout to let all the world know That Jesus saves

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