



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
2888 W Houghton
Lake Dr
Houghton Lake, MI
48629
989-366-5164
www.stjohnhl.com
office@stjohnhl.com

9:00 - Traditional



September 20, 2026

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.

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.

We encourage you to stay after worship. Please introduce yourself to new people, catch up with old friends and make new friends.

May God bless your worship with us today,

Paul Kruse, Pastor

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com
matt@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'*

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service Three (pp 184ff)

Prelude

"Gratitude"

All my words fall short I got nothing new
How could I express All my gratitude
I could sing these songs As I often do
But every song must end And You never do

So I throw up my hands And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah
And I know it's not much But I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing Hallelujah hallelujah

I've got one response I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide I will worship You

So I throw up my hands And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah
And I know it's not much But I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing Hallelujah hallelujah

Come on my soul oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord

Come on my soul oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord

Come on my soul oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord

So I throw up my hands And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah
And I know it's not much But I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing Hallelujah hallelujah

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song

“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

Invocation

LSB 184

L 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.

Confession and Forgiveness

- L** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- G** **who made heaven and earth.**
- L** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- G** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination

- L** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- G** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- L** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.
- G** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit (Entrance)

- L** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
- G** **and call on the name of the Lord.**
- L** What shall I render to the Lord
- G** **for all his benefits to me?**
- L** I will lift up the cup of salvation
- G** **and call on the name of the Lord.**
- L** Precious in the sight of the Lord
- G** **is the death of his saints.**

L O Lord, I am your servant;

C I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

Gloria be to the Father *(Sung a cappella)*

LSB 186

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy) *(Sung a cappella)*

LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria In Excelsis (Glory in the Highest) *(Sung a cappella)*

LSB 187

L Glory be to God on High,

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

L Let us pray together...

C Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading

Philippians 1:19-30

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I

C Thanks be to God.

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Matthew 20:1-16

☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Page | 5

you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first last."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Message Song

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.
The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.
You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.
And on that day, when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come;
still my soul will sing Your praise unending ...
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.
Sing like never before O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name, worship Your holy name.

Message

“Worth Every Minute”

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Offering Song – (Sung a cappella)

LSB 192

- ☐ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

- ☐** The Lord be with you.
☐ And with thy spirit.

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and proper ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus (Holy) *(Sung a cappella)*

LSB 195

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray: LSB 196
- 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.**



The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini (Peace of the Lord)

LSB 197

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) *(Sung a cappella)*

LSB 198

- C** **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have**

mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

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 Hymn

"Revelation Song"

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on Heaven's mercy seat
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on Heaven's mercy seat

Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory And power be to You the only wise King
Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings

You are my ev'rything And I will adore You
 Filled with wonder awestruck wonder At the mention of Your name
 Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
 Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was and is and is to come
 With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings
 You are my ev'rything And I will adore You

Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was and is and is to come
 With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings
 You are my ev'rything And I will adore You

Nunc Dimittis (Now Dismiss) *(Sung) LSB 199*

☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

☐ Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

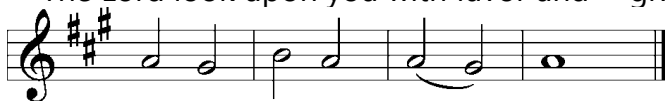


☐ A - men.

Benediction (Blessing)

LSB 202

☐ 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.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Song

"I Believe"

I believe there is one salvation One doorway that leads to life
One redemption one confession I believe in the name of Jesus Christ
I believe in the crucifixion By His blood I have been set free
I believe in the resurrection Hallelujah His life is death's defeat

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome
The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

I believe in the hope of heaven He's preparing a place for me
Far beyond what hearts imagine Ears have heard or eyes have seen
I believe that day is coming He's returning to claim His bride
Light the altar keep it burning See the Lamb who rose a roaring Lion

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome
The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

No I'll never be ashamed Of the gospel of Jesus Christ
How could I ever walk away From the One who saved my life
No I'll never be ashamed Of the gospel of Jesus Christ
How could I ever walk away From the One who saved my life

All praise to God the Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome
The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

All praise to God our Father All praise to Christ the Son
All praise to the Holy Spirit Our God has overcome
The King who was and is and evermore will be
In Jesus' mighty name I believe
In Jesus' mighty name I believe

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One and Three from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All Hymns from the Lutheran Service Book are used by permission and printed under the authority of LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100011308.

All song texts published with permission from Song Select License # 2801469