

St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



November 21, 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 .

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

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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'

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Prelude **"We Praise You"**

Let praise be a weapon that silences the enemy
Let praise be a weapon that conquers all anxiety
Let it rise let praise arise

We sing Your name in the dark And it changes ev'rything
We sing with all we are and we claim Your victory
Let it rise let praise arise

We'll see you break down ev'ry wall We'll watch the giants fall
For fear cannot survive when we praise You
The God of breakthrough's on our side Forever lift Him high
With all creation cry God we praise You Oh we praise You oh

Let faith be the song That overcomes the raging sea
Let faith be the song That calms the storm inside of me
Let it rise let faith arise

We'll see you break down ev'ry wall We'll watch the giants fall
For fear cannot survive when we praise You
The God of breakthrough's on our side Forever lift Him high
With all creation cry God we praise You

Oh we praise You oh we praise You Oh we praise You oh we praise You
This is what living looks like This is what freedom feels like
This is what Heaven sounds like We praise You We praise You

This is what living looks like This is what freedom feels like
This is what Heaven sounds like We praise You We praise You

We'll see you break down ev'ry wall We'll watch the giants fall
For fear cannot survive when we praise You The God of breakthrough's on our side
Forever lift You high
With all creation cry God we praise You

Oh we praise You oh we praise You Oh we praise You oh give Him all your praise

Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song "Reckless Love"

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

And O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me

There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God yeah

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise "O Praise The Name (Anastasis)"

I cast my mind to Calvary
where Jesus bled and died for me.
I see His wounds, His hands His feet.
My Savior on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears,
they laid Him down in Joseph's tomb.
The entrance sealed by heavy stone.
Messiah still and all alone.

O praise the Name of the Lord our God.
O praise His Name forevermore.
For endless days we will sing Your praise.
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

Then on the third at break of dawn,
The Son of Heaven rose again.
O trampled death, where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.

O praise the Name of the Lord our God.
O praise His Name forevermore.
For endless days we will sing Your praise.
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

He shall return in robes of white,
The blazing sun shall pierce the night.

And I will rise among the saints,
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

O praise the Name of the Lord our God.
O praise His Name forevermore.
For endless days we will sing Your praise.
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God. Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. **12** As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. **13** And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. **14** I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. **15** I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. **16** I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

20 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. **21** Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, **22** I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. **23** And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. **24** And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who
have fallen asleep. **21** For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the
resurrection of the dead. **22** For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be
made alive. **23** But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming
those who belong to Christ. **24** Then comes the end, when he delivers the
kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and
power. **25** For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **26** The
last enemy to be destroyed is death. **27** For "God has put all things in subjection
under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that
he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. **28** When all things are
subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all
things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:31-26

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he
will sit on his glorious throne. **32** Before him will be gathered all the nations, and
he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep
from the goats. **33** And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the
left. **34** Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by
my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the
world. **35** For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me
drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, **36** I was naked and you clothed
me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' **37** Then
the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and
feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? **38** And when did we see you a stranger
and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? **39** And when did we see you sick or
in prison and visit you?' **40** And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as
you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' **41** "Then he
will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire
prepared for the devil and his angels. **42** For I was hungry and you gave me no
food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not
welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did
not visit me.' **44** Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you

hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' **45** Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' **46** And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **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.

Message "It's in the Fine Print"

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

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. 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

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 "Lead On Good Shepherd"

Well I've been turned 'round But I've never been lost
Seen the water get troubled But we walked across
When my knees were shaking You held my hand
Turning my problems To a promised land

Lead on Good Shepherd I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter Than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley But You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd lead on

Seen some mighty deep canyons That You brought me through
Seen some mighty big mountains That just up and moved
Glory glory hallelujah Yeah that's my song
Walking with my Father Into the great unknown

Lead on Good Shepherd I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter Than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley But You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd lead on

Step by step day by day Lead me on Lord I pray
Road gets dark walk by faith Lead on Good Shepherd
Step by step day by day Lead me on Lord I pray
Road gets dark walk by faith Lead on Good Shepherd

Lead on Good Shepherd I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter Than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley But You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd lead on

Step by step day by day Lead me on Lord I pray
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Sermon Notes