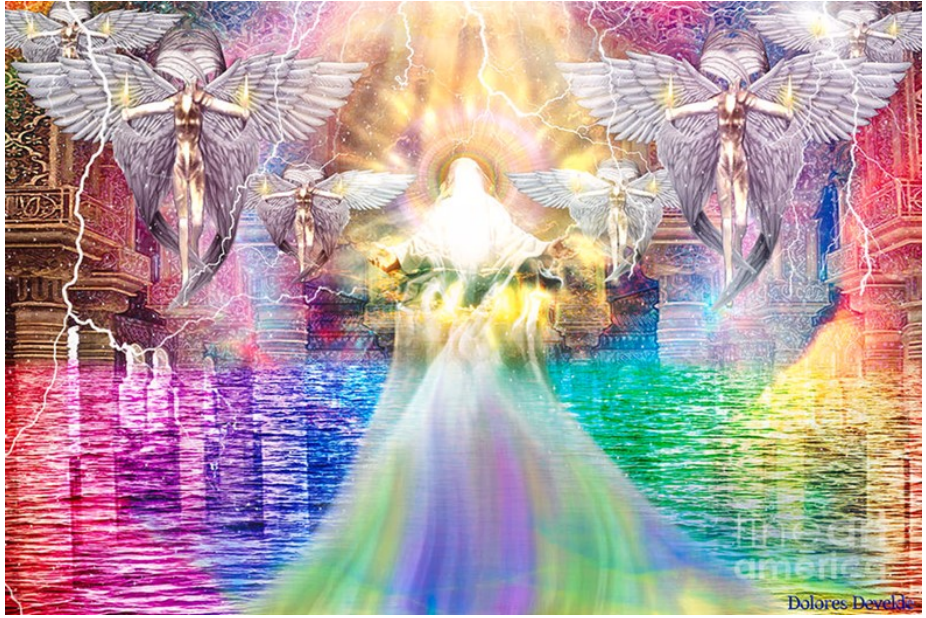




## St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake, MI  
48629  
989-366-5164  
[www.stjohnhl.com](http://www.stjohnhl.com)  
[office@stjohnhl.com](mailto:office@stjohnhl.com)

5:00 - Contemporary



***December 14, 2024***

# 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*

E-mail: [paul@stjohnhl.com](mailto:paul@stjohnhl.com)

Mobile: 989-992-6030

***Compelled by the Love of Christ to 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'*

## **Third Sunday in Advent**

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Prelude**

### **"A Thousand Hallelujahs"**

Who else would rocks cry out to worship  
Whose glory taught the stars to shine  
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing  
But this joy is mine

**Chorus** With a thousand hallelujahs  
We magnify Your name  
You alone deserve the glory  
The honor and the praise  
Lord Jesus this song is forever Yours  
A thousand hallelujahs  
And a thousand more

Who else would die for our redemption  
Whose resurrection means I'll rise  
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done  
But I have eternity to try

**Bridge** Praise to the Lord  
To the Lamb  
To the King of heaven  
Praise for He rose  
Now He reigns  
We will sing forever **Chorus**

## **Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship**

### **Opening Song**

### **"Spirit Lead Me"**

This is my worship this is my offering  
In every moment I withhold nothing

I'm learning to trust You even when I can't see it  
And even in suffering I have to believe it

**Chorus 1** If You say it's wrong then I'll say no  
If You say release I'm letting go  
If You're in it with me I'll begin  
And when You say to jump I'm diving in  
If You say be still then I will wait  
If You say to trust I will obey  
I don't wanna follow my own way  
I'm done chasing feelings  
Spirit lead me

It felt like a burden but once I could grasp it  
You took me further further than I was asking  
And simply to see You it's worth it all  
My life is an altar let Your fire fall

**Chorus 2** If You say it's wrong then I'll say no  
If You say release I'm letting go  
If You're in it with me I'll begin  
And when You say to jump I'm diving in  
If You say be still then I will wait  
If You say to trust I will obey  
Teach me how to follow in Your way  
I'm done chasing feelings  
Spirit lead me

#### Bridge 1

When all hope is gone and Your Word is all I've got  
I have to believe  
You still bring water from the rocks  
To satisfy my thirst to love me at my worst  
And even when I don't remember  
You remind me of my worth

I don't trust my ways I'm trading in my thoughts  
Have laid down everything  
'Cause You're all that I want  
I've landed on my knees  
This is the cup You have for me  
And even when it don't make sense  
I'm gonna let Your Spirit lead  
I'm gonna let Your Spirit lead  
I'm gonna let Your Spirit lead  
I wanna let Your Spirit lead yeah

**Bridge 2** Spirit lead me Spirit lead me  
Spirit lead me Spirit lead me

If You say it's wrong then I'll say no  
If You say release I'm letting go  
If You're in it with me I'll begin  
And when You say to jump I'm diving in  
If You say be still then I will wait  
If You say to trust I will obey  
You're the only Truth the Life the Way  
I'm done chasing feelings  
Spirit lead me  
Spirit lead me Spirit lead me

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

### **Song of Praise**

### **“The Christmas Offering”**

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star  
While angels sang to lowly shepherds  
Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar  
Hoping to find the child from Heaven  
Falling on their knees  
They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace

**Chorus 1** I bring an offering of worship to my King

No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing  
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due  
Oh Lord I bring an offering to You  
I bring an offering to You

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love  
There is no shadow in Your presence  
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne  
Before the Holy One of Heaven  
It's only by Your blood it's only through Your mercy  
Lord I come

**Chorus 2** I bring an offering of worship to my King  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing  
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due  
Oh Lord I bring an offering to You  
(Oh Lord I bring and offering to You)  
We bring an offering to You oh

## First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-17

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. <sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup> The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be

made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 7:18-28

<sup>18</sup> The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup> calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>20</sup> And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" <sup>21</sup> In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup> And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." <sup>24</sup> When John's messengers had gone, Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup> What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup> This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" <sup>28</sup> I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Message Song**

### **"I Speak Jesus"**

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus  
Over ev'ry heart and ev'ry mind  
'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence  
I speak Jesus

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus  
'Til ev'ry dark addiction starts to break  
Declaring there is hope and there is freedom  
I speak Jesus

**Chorus** ('Cause) Your Name is power Your Name is healing  
Your Name is life Break ev'ry stronghold  
Shine through the shadows  
Burn like a fire

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus  
Over fear and all anxiety  
To ev'ry soul held captive by depression  
I speak Jesus

Shout Jesus from the mountains  
Jesus in the streets  
Jesus in the darkness over ev'ry enemy  
Jesus for my fam'ly  
I speak the holy Name Jesus

**Repeat Verse 1**

## Message

### 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

**P** 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**

## **“How Great Thou Art”**

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made  
I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art

And when I think of God His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in  
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And lead me home what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow with humble adoration  
And then proclaim my God how great Thou art

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art

### **Acknowledgments**

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