



St. John Lutheran Church

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

New Year's Eve



December 31, 2024

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our New Year's Eve Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us tonight and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Tonight'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 and be sure to fill out the communion card located in your pew.

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 Live,
Learn, Share, and Serve*



As We Gather

God's Enduring Love

The movement from one year to the next provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the year past and look forward to the coming year. As we reflect on the past, many of us will remember particular joys or sorrows. Most of us will have had many ordinary days as well. There have been times we have forgiven others and times we have been forgiven ourselves. In the midst of it all was God's enduring love for us in Jesus. As we look forward to the coming year, we face unknowns. As one familiar prayer expresses, we face this new year "not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us." In the coming year too, God's enduring love will be present with us no matter what. For nothing "in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." With God's enduring love behind us and ahead of us, we enter the new year as people called to love one another and our neighbors in ways that reflect the enduring love of God for us in Jesus.

Preparation and Prelude

"He Shall Reign Forevermore"

In the bleak mid-winter All creation groans
For a world in darkness Frozen like a stone
Light is breaking In a stable for a throne
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
If I were a wise man I would travel far
If I were a shepherd I would do my part
But poor as I am I will give to Him my heart
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born

The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Here within a manger lies the One Who made the starry skies
This baby born for sacrifice Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears The Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years Christ the Messiah

He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

CCLI Song # 7050416 Chris Tomlin | Matt Maher © 2015 S. D. G. Publishing
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song

“Great Things”

Come let us worship our King Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Savior has done See how His love overcomes
He has done great things He has done great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things

You've been faithful through every storm You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things God You do great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things

Hallelujah God above it all Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things
Hallelujah God above it all Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things
You've done great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things

You have done great things
O God You do great things

Jonas Myrin, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7111321 © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; Son of the Lion; Phil Wickham Music;
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2801469

Invocation

P 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.

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C **the light no darkness can overcome.**

P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

C **and the day is almost over.**

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C **and illumine Your Church.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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

P Most merciful God,

C We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Song of Praise

“Great Are You Lord”

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.

And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.

And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing, "Great are You, Lord!"
And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing, "Great are You, Lord!"

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.

CCLI Song # 6460220 David Leonard | Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan
© 2012 For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 2801469

First Reading

Psalm 90:1-12

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. ² Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" ⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. ⁵ You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: ⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. ⁷ For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. ⁸ You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. ⁹ For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. ¹⁰ The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. ¹¹ Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? ¹² So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of

Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:35-40

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁵ "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! ³⁹ But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Song

"Glorious Day" (Living He Loved Me)

One day when Heaven was filled with His praises
One day when sin was as black as could be
Jesus came forth to be born of a Virgin
Dwelt among men, my example is He.
The Word became flesh and the light shined among us
His glory revealed

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day.

One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain.
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree.
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected,
Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He.
The hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree
And took the nails for me.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day.

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer.
One day the stone rolled away from the door.
Then He arose; over death He had conquered.
Now He's ascended, my Lord evermore.
Death could not hold Him,
The grave could not keep Him from rising again.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day. Glorious day.

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming.
One day the skies with His glories will shine.
Wonderful day, my beloved one bringing.
My Savior Jesus is mine.

Living He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away.
Rising He justified freely forever. One day He's coming;
oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day. Glorious day, oh, glorious day.

Reflections and Anticipations

“Made For More”

I know who I am 'cause I know who You are
The cross of salvation was only the start
Now I am chosen free and forgiven
I have a future and it's worth the living
'Cause I wasn't made to be tending a grave
I was called by name Born and raised back to life again
I was made for more
So why would I make a bed in my shame
When a fountain of grace is running my way I know I am Yours
And I was made for more

I know who I am 'cause I know who You are
The cross of salvation was only the start
Now I am chosen free and forgiven
I have a future and it's worth the living
'Cause I wasn't made to be tending a grave
I was called by name Born and raised back to life again
I was made for more
So why would I make a bed in my shame
When a fountain of grace is running my way I know I am Yours
And I was made for more

Hallelujah You called out my name So I'll sing out Your praise
Hallelujah You buried my past I'm not going back
Hallelujah You called out my name So I'll sing out Your praise
Hallelujah You buried my past I'm not going back
I wasn't made to be tending a grave
I was called by name Born and raised back to life again
I was made for more
So why would I make a bed in my shame
When a fountain of grace is running my way I know I am Yours
And I was made for more

I wasn't made to be tending a grave
I was called by name Born and raised back to life again
I was made for more

Blake Wiggins, Jessie Early, Jonathan Smith, Josh Baldwin CCLI Song #7207758

© Last War Songs; Maverick City Publishing; Glory Ghost Publishing; Capitol CMG Paragon; Jessie Parker Early Music; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Bethel Music Publishing For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2801469

"Jesus Does"

Who tells the sun to rise every morning
Colors the sky with the shades of His glory
Wakes us with mercy and love Jesus does

Who holds the orphan comforts the widow
Cries for injustice feels every sorrow
Carries the pain of His children Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Who understands the heart of the sinner
Showers His grace over all our mistakes
Washes us clean with His blood Jesus does

Who sings the song of sweet forgiveness
Who stole the keys to hell and the grave
Who has the power to save Jesus does

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
'Cause that's what Jesus does

Oh what a Friend Oh what a Savior
He's always been good He's always been faithful

He came to my rescue When I needed Him most
And saved my soul

So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
So we sing Praise to the Father who gave us the Son
Praise to the Spirit who's living in us
When I was a sinner He saved me from who I was
That's what Jesus does

CCLI Song # 7205247 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Kyle Briskin | Martin Cash | Scott Cash © 2022 Angie Feel
Good Songs We The Kingdom Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2801469

Prayer

P Let us pray. ... Lord God, You have done marvelous things in the sight of all people. Most marvelous of all is Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whom You have made salvation known. As we reflect the year past, help us to forgive others, to learn from our errors, and to not dwell on our past sins. As we look forward to the coming year, keep us in Your steadfast love and faithfulness, so that our lives show forth Your goodness to the ends of the earth, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

P For the Church around the world, that we might collaborate with one another to be faithful witnesses to the love of Christ, that differences be overcome during the coming year, and that all people look not only to their own needs, but also to the needs of others, we pray to the Lord:

C Lord in your mercy.

P For all governments that they bless their citizens with justice, freedom, accountability, and care for those who cannot care for themselves, that

leaders serve with integrity and compassion so that all people may thrive, that peace overcome warfare, that those in the armed forces find Christ to be their hope and peace, and that our opponents instead become our friends, we pray to the Lord:

C Lord in your mercy.

P For those who serve to keep us safe and help us in times of need, that they carry out their tasks for the good of all, and that this new year brings peace and prosperity to all in our community according to God's will, we pray to the Lord:

C Lord in your mercy.

P For those with poor health, those who mourn, and those who are lonely, that they experience the presence of Christ in their lives, that our families love, nurture, forgive, and embrace one another, we pray to the Lord:

C Lord in your mercy.

P We commend to the Lord the year past, trusting in Jesus to forgive our sins and the Holy Spirit to empower us to change in the year ahead. We look forward to the coming year as a time of grace, to grow in our faith in Christ and our love for God and for our neighbors. Trusting in Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever, let all God's people say:

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C 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 Sunday 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 given and received in and with 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.



If you prefer to receive a gluten-free wafer for communion, please place your hand over your heart as you kneel

Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the tray for those members who prefer it due to matters of health or conscience.



Communion Song

"Behold"

Behold the King has come Divinity incarnate
Creator of the world breathing our air
Behold what light has come And the dark cannot contain it
The Savior of the world is finally here
O come let us adore Him Come let us adore Him
For He alone is worthy Christ the Lord
Behold the Father's love Beyond all comprehension
He gave His only Son to die in our place
Go and see that empty tomb He's not there for He is risen
Every heart prepare Him room Jesus Christ the King of Heaven
O come let us adore Him Come let us adore Him
For He alone is worthy Christ the Lord
We give You all the glory we give You all the glory
We give You all the glory Christ the Lord

We give You all the glory we give You all the glory
We give You all the glory Christ the Lord

We praise Your name forever We praise Your name forever
We praise Your name forever Christ the Lord

O come let us adore Him Come let us adore Him
For He alone is worthy Christ the Lord

O come let us adore Him Come let us adore Him
For He alone is worthy Christ the Lord

Christ the Lord He is Christ the Lord

CCLI Song # 7204354

Dallas Jenkins | Phil Wickham | Steven Furtick © Music by Elevation Worship Publishing; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs;
Remaining portion is unaffiliated

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](https://www.ccli.com/terms-of-use). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 2801469

Prayer

P Let us pray... Gracious Lord, we give You thanks for the year now past, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive. The year is now past, and we commit it to You. We entrust to You the new year and rest in Your peace, for You are our help, and You neither slumber nor sleep. Hear us for the sake of Your name.

G Amen.

P Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping

G that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

G Amen

Sending Song

“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

Brandon Lake, Brian Johnson, Matt Redman, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7130961

© 2019 Brandon Lake Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.

All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2801469

