



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



January 11, 2025

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 .

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'***

Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they may be'

First Sunday after Epiphany

Preludes

"Firm Foundation (He Won't)"

Christ is my firm foundation The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus 'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now ...

He won't He won't

I've still got joy in chaos I've got peace that makes no sense
So I won't be going under I'm not held by my own strength
'Cause I've built my life on Jesus He's never let me down
He's faithful in every season So why would He fail now ...

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

Christ is my firm foundation The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus 'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now ...

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

Rain came and wind blew But my house was built on You
I'm safe with You I'm going to make it through
Rain came and wind blew But my house was built on You
I'm safe with You I'm going to make it through

Yeah I'm going to make it through 'Cause I'm standing strong on You
Yeah I'm going to make it through 'Cause my house is built on You

Christ is my firm foundation The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus 'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now ... He won't

Austin Davis, Chandler Moore, Cody Carnes CCLI Song #7188203 © 2021 For Humans Publishing

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Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

“Run to The Father”

I've carried a burden for too long on my own.
I wasn't created to bear it alone.
I hear Your invitation to let it all go.
I see it now. I'm laying it down. And I know that I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh

You saw my condition, had a plan from the start.
Your Son for redemption: the price for my heart.
I don't have a context for that kind of love.
I don't understand, I can't comprehend. All I know is I need You.

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh
Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh

My heart has been in Your sights long before my first breath.
Running into Your arms is running to life from death.
I feel this rush deep in my chest. Your mercy is calling out.
Just as I am, You pull me in, and I know I need You now

I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, No reason to wait.
My heart found a surgeon, my soul found a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again. Oh oh
Again and again and again and again. Oh oh oh Again and again.

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"Great I Am"

I wanna be close close to Your side
So Heaven is real and death is a lie
I wanna hear voices of angels above
Singing as one

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

I wanna be near near to Your heart
Loving the world hating the dark
I wanna see dry bones living again
Singing as one

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

The mountains shake before You The demons run and flee
At the mention of Your name King of majesty
There is no pow'r in hell or any who can stand
Before the power and the Presence of the great I Am
The great I Am The great I Am The great I Am
The great I Am The great I Am

Hallelujah holy holy God Almighty great I Am
Who is worthy none beside Thee God Almighty great I Am

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First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the

Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:17-20

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

“Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly”

It all comes down to this What you require of me
Love my neighbor as myself And You above all things

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It all comes down to this To be Your hands and feet
Good news to all the world The truth will set us free

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven
It's beauty for ashes It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer The Kingdom of heaven

Years from now we'll see The fruit our hands have sown
faith just like a seed The only way it grows

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly With You God

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Message

“For Your Own Good”

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.**

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 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.

Distribution Song

"Only A Holy God"

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him The One and the Only

Cry out sing holy Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God
What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him The One and the Only
Cry out sing holy Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God Only my Holy God

Come and behold Him The One and the Only
Cry out sing holy Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

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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.
- G** Amen.

Sending Song

“New Creation”

I thought I knew what I was talking about
When I testified of your great love
Well I was a soul on fire there was no doubt
Bible believing saved and washed in the blood
But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes

That I could know in my soul how amazing was grace

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy
You turned my old song into a symphony
And with your spirit living inside of me
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation

And now I know what you were talking about
Went from my head into my heart
When I was broken at the bottom I found
You're my healer and redeemer
Jesus that's who you are

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy
You turned my old song into a symphony
And with your spirit living inside of me
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation
Oh oh. Oh oh.

But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes
That I could know in my soul how amazing was grace

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy
You turned my old song into a symphony
And with your spirit living inside of me
I'm a new creation

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy
You turned my old song into a symphony
And with your spirit living inside of me
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation
Oh oh. Oh oh

And with your spirit living inside of me
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation

Love the



heart, and
SOUL, and

MIND Matt. 22:37

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Acknowledgments

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