



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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5:00 - Contemporary



March 8, 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

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***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'*

The First Sunday in Lent

A Time of Preparation

Preludes

"Whom Shall I Fear"

You hear me when I call You are my morning song
Though darkness fills the night It cannot hide the light
Whom shall I fear

You crush the enemy underneath my feet
You are my sword and shield Though troubles linger still
Whom shall I fear

I know Who goes before me I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
The God of angel armies is always by my side

My strength is in Your name For You alone can save
You will deliver me Yours is the victory
Whom shall I fear Whom shall I fear

I know Who goes before me I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
The God of angel armies is always by my side

And nothing formed against me shall stand
You hold the whole world in Your hands
I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful You are faithful

Nothing formed against me shall stand
You hold the whole world in Your hands
I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful You are faithful You are faithful

I know Who goes before me
I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
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Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship

Opening Song

“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

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Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

“Lord I Need You”

Lord I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart, You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are.

Where You are, Lord I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need You.
You're my one defense, my righteousness. Oh God how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need You.

First Reading

Psalm 91:1-13

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.²I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." ³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.⁵You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. ⁷A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.⁸You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.⁹Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.¹²On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

¹And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" ⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and

said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,"¹¹ and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

¹² And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

"Your Love Defends Me"

You are my joy; You are my song.
You are the Well, the One I'm drawing from.
You are my Refuge my whole life long. Where else would I go?

Surely my God is the strength of my soul.
Your love defends me, Your love defends me.
And when I feel like I'm all alone,
Your love defends me, Your love defends me.

Day after day, night after night,
I will remember You're with me in this fight.
Although the battle, it rages on, the war is already won.
I know the war is already won.

Surely my God is the strength of my soul.
Your love defends me. Your love defends me.
And when I feel like I'm all alone,
Your love defends me, Your love defends me.

We sing, "Hallelujah, You're my portion, my salvation. Hallelujah."

Surely my God is the strength of my soul.
Your love defends me. Your love defends me.
And when I feel like I'm all alone,
Your love defends me, Your love defends me.

Surely my God is the strength of my soul.
Your love defends me. Your love defends me.
And when I feel like I'm all alone,
Your love defends me, Your love defends me.

Message

"Our Defense"

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

"Come Jesus Come"

Sometimes I fall to my knees and pray
Come Jesus come let today be the day
Sometimes I feel like I'm gonna break
But I'm holding on to a hope that won't fade
Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come
There'll be no war and there'll be no chains
When Jesus comes let today be the day
He'll come for the weak And the strong just the same
And all will believe in the power of His name
Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come
One day He'll come and we'll stand face to face
Come and lay it all down 'cause it might be today
The time is right now there's no need to wait
Your past will be washed by rivers of grace

Come Jesus come We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come
Come Jesus come Come Jesus come

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Blessing

- 📖 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.

📖 Amen.

Sending Song

“Open Up the Heavens”

Oo oo oo oo oo

We've waited for this day We're gathered in Your Name Calling out to You
Your glory like a fire awakening desire
Will burn our hearts with truth

You're the reason we're here You're the reason we're singing

Open up the heavens we want to see You Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart Filling every part of our praise

Oo oo oo oo oo

Your presence in this place Your glory on our face We're looking to the sky
Descending like a cloud You're standing with us now Lord unveil our eyes

You're the reason we're here You're the reason we're singing

Open up the heavens we want to see You Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart Filling every part of our praise

Open up the heavens we want to see You Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart Filling every part of our praise

Show us show us Your glory Show us show us Your power
Show us show us Your glory Lord

Show us show us Your glory Show us show us Your power
Show us show us Your glory Lord
Oo oo oo oo oo

Open up the heavens we want to see You Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart Filling every part of our praise

Open up the heavens we want to see You Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart Filling every part of our praise

Oo oo oo oo

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