



St. John's Lutheran Church
August 7, 2022

Welcome to St. John's

Enjoy

We feel blessed that you're here. We want you to feel comfortable in worship. Participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable. To help out, everything for our worship is projected on the screens up front and printed here in the service folder.

You and your kids are welcome

We enjoy having you and your kids in worship. And yes, that means that we don't even mind if kids want to be heard in worship in their own special way. Special Children's messages are offered on non-communion Sunday's. If they are comfortable, they are invited to come to the front of the church for a special message. If you do need a quiet place to calm a child, a nursery room is available immediately to the left as you exit the sanctuary. There are also changing stations in each bathroom.

Fill out a Connection Card

We'd love to know you were here and help you take the next step. There are Connection Cards inserted in the worship folders, or they can be completed online. Text "Connect" to 651-401-1400, scan the QR code, or visit www.StJohnsLutheran.com/connection-card to complete the card online.



Today's Worship: Focused Living Properly Values Heavenly Treasure

Just as it is easy for us to overvalue the things of this world, we also face the temptation of undervaluing the treasure we have in heaven. This is often seen in the things we worry about. Jesus focuses our hearts and minds on the heavenly treasure God has promised us. If God cares about our eternity, he most certainly will take care of us in this life that is only passing away.

Order of Worship

Welcome to St. John's

Opening Praise: His Mercy is More vs 1,2

CW21 - 579



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

Please stand.

We ask God's Blessing

- L** The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

- L** How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!. My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD.
- C** **My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**

- L** Better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere;
- C** **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live comfortably in the home of the wicked.**

Our Honest Confession; God's Gracious Forgiveness

- L** Dearly loved people of God, let us draw near with true hearts – sorry for opposing God's will and disregarding his commands – and confess our sins to him.
- C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to you that we are by nature unclean and have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed.**

- L** We run for refuge to your infinite and undeserved love, praying for your forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ.
- C** **Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love. Cleanse us from our sin.**

- L** You have given your only Son to die for us, and so for his sake, grant us forgiveness for all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of your and of your will and true obedience to your Word,
- C** **so that by your grace we may come to finally live with you as your family in the life everlasting. Amen.**

L You've acknowledged your sin and it was because of that sin that Jesus came into this world. God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins for Jesus' sake. To all who believe in his name, God gives the power and right to live as his children – the children of God, and that is what we are!

C **Whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved!**

Our Response of Praise

All (♪) **What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.**

**Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!**

-CW21 579, vs. 3

Prayer of the Day

L Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Be seated

A Reading from God's Word: Genesis 15:1-6

In faith, Abraham held on to all the LORD's gracious promises

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward.”

² But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Gospel Acclamation – *Luke 12:32*

L Alleluia. Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

C Alleluia.

The Gospel: Luke 12:22-34

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?”

²⁷ “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set

your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Hymn of the Day: I’m But a Stranger Here

Christian Worship 417 vs 1-3

Today’s Message based on God’s Word from: Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

God’s gift of faith allows US to see where our greatest treasure is to be found

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Message Notes: *Things for me to remember this week...*

Our Response: I'm But a Stranger Here

Christian Worship 417, vs. 4

All (♪) Therefore I murmur not; Heav'n is my home.
Whate'er my earthly lot, Heav'n is my home.
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord's right hand.
Heav'n is my fatherland; Heav'n is my home.

Our Thank-Offering

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” - Colossians 3:17

Our offerings are both an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church’s work. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute. If you’d like to leave an offering, you may place it in the designated location in the back of the sanctuary or use one of the electronic means listed below.

Ways to Give Electronically

Choose one of 3 Simple, Safe Options for Offering Thanks



- Text “give” to 651-401-1400
- Go to www.StJohnsLutheran.com/give
- Scan the QR code

Stand

Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

- C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament*

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

L Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

L Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

Words of Institution

(Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11:24,25)

L Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

* *In the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Jesus supernaturally provides his very body and blood together with the bread and wine. In doing so, God offers you personal and tangible assurance that your sins are forgiven. Receive with joy the very price paid to rescue your soul!*

O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

A note to our guests: The Bible tells us that those who take Communion together are to:

1. Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29),
2. Examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and
3. Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Cor. 10:17).

For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of our congregation or a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) join us for Holy Communion. If you are interested in learning more about becoming part of our fellowship, please speak to the pastor after the service.

Distribution Hymns

I Know My Faith Is Founded

Christian Worship 403

Oh, for a Faith that Will Not Shrink

Christian Worship 405

Our Prayer of Thanks

- L** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

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 on you with favor and (+) give you peace.
- C** **Amen!**

Closing Hymn: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Christian Worship 382

CCLI license #2963929 and CCS license #8000

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St. John's Evangelical