



# St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Second Sunday after Christmas**

**January 5, 2025**

**10:45 a.m. Worship**



**TO VIEW THE SERVICE WHILE IT IS GOING ON LIVE ...** go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/sjlmidland/> Since this is a PUBLIC PAGE, you do not need to have a personal Facebook account in order to view the livestream.

*The video of the service will be available for viewing on Facebook following the service so others can view it later.*

**NOTE:** Announcements and Prayers can now be found online by clicking on the “Church” tab and then going to “Church”

# Preparation for Worship and Welcome

## ♪ “Here I Am to Worship”

Words and Music by Tim Hughes  
©2000 Thankyou Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing)

---

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus: Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor. (*Chorus*)

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross. (*Repeat and Chorus 2x*)

## Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

P The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.  
C **God of grace, You have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of Your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Fill us with Your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach Your Word to the nations and tell of Your glory shining in the face**

**of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our light forever. Amen.**

P This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;

C **But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. Amen.**

## Introit

*Ps. 147:1,5,11-12; antiphon: John 1:14*

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

**But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

## Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 30:15-17*

For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." But you were unwilling, and you said, "No! We will flee upon horses"; therefore you shall flee away; and, "We will ride upon swift steeds"; therefore your pursuers shall be swift. A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Romans 8:26-39*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 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? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 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. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 12:35-40*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, 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. 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. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! 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. 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.**

## **Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the  
Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand  
of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and  
the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Children’s Message**

Pastor Josh Parsons

# ♪ “Light of the World”

Words and Music by Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan and Paul Mabury  
©2014 CentricSongs | See You At The Pub | Oceans Away Music | So Essential Tunes | Annie and Clyde Music

---

The world waits for a miracle,  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel.  
A child prays for peace on earth,  
And she’s calling out from a sea of hurt.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel.

And can you hear the angels singing:

Chorus: Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry, the Light of the world is here.

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother,  
A baby’s cry is the sound of love come down.  
Come down, Emmanuel. Oh.  
He is the song for the suffering.  
He is Messiah. The Prince of Peace has come,  
He has come; Emmanuel, oh.

Chorus: Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry to the Light of the world.

Bridge: For all who wait, for all who hunger,  
For all who’ve prayed, for all who wonder,  
Behold your King, behold Messiah.  
Emmanuel. Emmanuel.

Chorus: Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry to the Light of the world.  
Glo—ry to the Light of the world.

Bridge: Behold your King, behold Messiah.  
Emmanuel. Emmanuel.

Ending: The world waits for a miracle,  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Sermon**

Chaplain Eric Gledhill

**Offering**

# Prayer of the Church

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.

## Communion Preparation

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Dear Lord Jesus, You know me fully. Even as I have openly  
confessed my sinfulness and trust Your forgiveness, I know that my  
weakness remains. I resolve to do better and to make use of the  
time that You have given me, but I do not trust my own resolve. I  
trust in Your power. You invite me to this holy meal so that I might  
know that Your forgiveness is real and that it is for me. As I receive  
Your own true body and blood, I am made a partaker in Your  
covenant of life and mercy. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for this gift of  
Your great love. Amen.

## The Words of Institution

### "Come As You Are"

Words and Music by David Crowder, Matt Maher and Ben Glover

©2014 Ariose Music | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | Valley Of Songs Music | worshiptogether.com songs

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been.  
Come, broken-hearted, let rescue begin.  
Come find your mercy. O sinner, come kneel;  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal,  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

Chorus: (So) Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.  
All who are broken lift up your face.  
O wanderer, come home;  
You're not too far.  
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,  
Come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless  
And all those who've strayed:  
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.

There's rest for the weary,  
Rest that endures,  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure. (*Chorus*)

Come as you are  
Fall in His arms  
Come as you are

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal (*Chorus*)

Come as you are  
Come as you are  
Come as you are

## “Cornerstone”

---

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, Edward Mote and William Batchelder Bradbury  
©2011 Hillsong MP Songs | Hillsong Music Publishing Australia | Hillsong Music Publishing UK

My hope is built on nothing less,  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' name. (*repeat*)

Chorus: Christ alone. Cornerstone.  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.  
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus: Christ alone. Cornerstone.  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.  
(*1<sup>st</sup> time only*) He is Lord. Lord of all. (*repeat Chorus*)

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone.  
Faultless to stand before the throne.



## Benediction

- P The Lord bless thee and keep thee.  
The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious to thee.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and T give thee peace.
- C **Amen.**

## Announcements

### Blessing and Dismissal

- P May you be captivated by the mystery of the Lord and trust Him to lead you, to guide you, and to instruct you this week.
- C **Amen.**
- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

### ♪ “Arise Shine”

---

Words and Music by Chris O’Brien and Margaret Davis  
©1996 Universal Music—Brentwood Benson Publishing | Curb Word Music

Arise, shine, for your light has come.  
Arise, shine, for your light has come.  
Arise, shine, for your light has come.  
Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Nations will come and kings will bow  
As the glory of God shines on you.  
Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice,  
See the King of kings, the Lord of lords.  
See the Prince of Peace shine on you.

---

### Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.  
Songs used with permission CCLI License #1367966