

St. Johns Lutheran Church



AS WE GATHER

Ever had those days that felt like weeks or those weeks that felt like days? Those minutes that felt like hours, or the hours that felt like minutes? Time is a fickle thing on this earth, as we are bound by it yet our perspective of it is ever changing. Our Scripture Readings today all deal with time. As God deemed it time for Nineveh to have the opportunity to repent and know His grace, He came to Jonah a second time. In the Epistle, Paul reminds us time is short, and the physical world is passing away. In the Gospel, Jesus would begin His earthly ministry and call His disciples, echoing the words of John the Baptist, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand” (Mark 1:15). Though to the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a day, we live each day knowing that all time is in His hands. Until He calls His people to glory, we rejoice for the time to gather where His Spirit is, be blessed by His Word of Law and Gospel, rejoice in mercy and forgiveness, and make use of the time given to be witnesses to others.

RINGING OF THE BELLS WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We’re glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

PREPARATION

**What is the world to me
With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone,
Lord Jesus, are my Treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
My soul's delight shalt be;
You are my peace, my rest.
What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks to be praised
And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects
That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone.
What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth
And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content
Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good,
Content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth.
What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me!
My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all,
My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare:
What is the world to me!**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Jonah 3:2, 10; 1*

Corinthians 7:29, 31; Mark 1:15, 17

Hearing the Word of God, we are called to confess our sin, trusting in the one true God who is faithful and just and who will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for meditation.

O Lord,

we have been reluctant to go bring Your truth and grace to all people. For this we seek Your forgiveness.

We have not used our time wisely. For this we seek Your forgiveness.

We have sometimes not heeded your call to follow You, we have instead sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. For this we seek Your forgiveness.

Jesus proclaimed to the people, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Though we deserve His present and eternal punishment, God has relented by sending His Son to bear our sin and to be our Savior.

Christ has taken our punishment on the cross, paid the price of our sins through His perfect life and sacrificial death, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

WORD

KYRIE *LSB 152*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST *LSB 154*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks,

we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father;

receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Dear Lord, heavenly Father, though not deserved, You showed mercy to the city of Nineveh through their repentance and You continue to show mercy to us.

Continue to grant us the gift of a bold and confident faith in You, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jonah 3:1–5, 10*

¹Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . .
¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 62; antiphon: v. 8*

⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart be * fore him;

God is a refuge * for us.

**¹For God alone my soul waits in * silence;
from him comes my sal * vation.**

²He only is my rock and my salvation, my * fortress;
I shall not be greatly * shaken.

**³How long will all of you attack a man to * batter him,
like a leaning wall, a * tottering fence?**

⁴They only plan to thrust him down from his high position. They
take pleasure in * falsehood.

They bless with their mouths, but inwardly * they curse.

**⁵For God alone, O my soul, wait in * silence,
for my hope is * from him.**

⁶He only is my rock and my salvation, my * fortress;
I shall not be * shaken.

**⁷On God rests my salvation and my * glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge * is God.**

⁹Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate
are a de * lusion;

in the balances they go up; they are together
lighter * than a breath.

**¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on * robbery;
if riches increase, set not your * heart on them.**

¹¹Once God has spoken; twice have I * heard this:
that power belongs to God, ¹²and that to you, O Lord,
belongs * steadfast love.

**For you will render * to a man
according * to his work.**

**Glory be to the Father and * to the Son
and to the Holy * Spirit;**

**as it was in the be * ginning,
is now, and will be forever. * Amen.**

⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your
heart be * fore him;

God is a refuge * for us.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 7:29–31*

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Mark 1:15*

Alleluia. The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:14–20*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Christ, Our True and Only Light” *LSB* 839

**O Christ, our true and only light,
Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice
And in Your fold with us rejoice.**

**Fill with the radiance of Your grace
The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.**

**O gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
In you find peace and heav'nly rest.**

**Shine on the darkened and the cold;
Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart;
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,**

**That they with us may evermore
Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n
By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.**

SERMON

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

**I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation
and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now
in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you,
O Jerusalem.**

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Executive Council

President: Jonathan Schmidt

Vice President: Patrick Benwell

Secretary: Kim Karner

Treasurer: Ruth Evers

Members at Large: Terry Hartz; Debbie Schmidt

Board of Trustees: Joe Benwell (Chair)

Board of Education: Sandy Gerber and Al Bohannon (Co-Chairs)

Board of Social Ministry: Karen Vineyard (Chair)

Cindy Gieger

Debbie Schmidt

Board of Evangelism: Melba Fanger (Chair)

Joan Potvin

Patti Benwell

Karl Frerichs

Sue Hampel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Isaiah 60:1, adapted*

In this season of Epiphany where the light shines on our Savior, manifested as the Word made flesh, continue to reveal to us through His Word the mercy and grace found in Jesus Christ alone.

We pray, Arise and shine,

for our light has come.

Lord, grant to us a confident and bold faith to live as Your witnesses to the ends of the earth beginning in our homes, our church, the Nepali congregation and community, and among all our neighbors in this world. Arise and shine,

for our light has come.

Soften the hearts of the hard-hearted and open the minds of the close-minded that all may come to repentance and know You as the one true God who sent His Son into this world to redeem the world. Arise and shine,

for our light has come.

As the present world is passing away and time is short, we see the brokenness and results of sin in our daily lives. For those who struggle in body, mind, or spirit, affirm to them Your promises of peace in Your time as Christ has overcome the world. In Your good time, come and make all things new. Arise and shine,

for our light has come.

As Jesus called His disciples to become fishers of men, they responded immediately to drop their nets and follow. Give us such an urgency to also hear and heed the call and to follow in faith where Christ leads. Arise and shine,

for our light has come.

As You still come to us in our time of need, equip us for the continued journey through our days that we remain firm in faith and bear fruit that will last until You call us home. Arise and shine,
for our light has come.

Additional petitions may be added.

Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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 ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN

Listen, God Is Calling

LSB 833

Refrain

**Listen, listen, God is calling Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness, Comfort, and joy.**

**Jesus gave His mandate: Share the good news
That He came to save us And set us free.**

Refrain

**Let none be forgotten Throughout the world.
In the triune name of God Go and baptize.**

Refrain

**Help us to be faithful, Standing steadfast,
Walking in Your precepts, Led by Your Word.**

Refrain

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elder	Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday/Communion: 22/22

Nepalese Attendance: 64

Offering: \$1,478.00

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available for pickup in the Narthex.

LHSA HISTORY St. Johns has been gifted a book from the Lutheran High School Association that documents the history of Lutheran North and Lutheran South. If you are interested in looking at this, you may check the book out and take it home for a week. The book can be found in front of the office window.

MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE Hope Ev. Lutheran Church in St. Louis invites you to join them on Sunday, January 21st at 3pm for Organ Vespers for the Transfiguration. Join St. Louis organist Justin Knabach as he leads the congregation and presents musical meditations. Justin serves as organist and music director at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in St. Louis. Hope Ev. Lutheran is located at 5218 Neosho St. in St. Louis, MO. Visit hopelutheranstl.org for more information.

E2 CONFERENCE is a conference designed to equip and encourage leaders, congregations, and their ministries. The conference is on February 3rd from 9am-12:15pm at St. Johns Arnold Lutheran Church. Everyone is invited to attend and light refreshments and coffee will be served.

MEN'S RETREAT will be February 2nd-3rd at Camp Wartburg. It starts at 6pm on the 2nd and finishes at 2:30pm on the 3rd. It is \$65 per person and the theme is "Blessed is the Man".

DISTRICT YOUTH GATHERING will be April 5th-7th at the Lake of the Ozarks. It costs \$115 per person. If you are interested, contact the church office.

SAUSAGE DINNER Salem wanted to invite us and our friends to join them for their ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SAUSAGE DINNER, hosted by Salem Men's Club on Sunday, February 4, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. It all takes place in the cafeteria of Salem Lutheran School, 5025 Lakewood Ave., Affton, MO 63123. More information is available

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –Bohannon Family for strength during the upcoming trial for Tamarris; **Eunice & Family** as they mourn Steve Bain’s death; **Marsha Jackson’s Sister** who is in a coma; **Jan Trosper** for healing from endometrial cancer; **Ruth Trauth** for adapting to her new assisted living situation; **Pastor Lempe’s** health and **Mt. Olive’s** congregation; **For our boiler system** that it may work properly; **Confirmation Class** that the Gospel be confirmed in their hearts; **Our Vicars** (Nabin & Ratna); **Momentum Academy, Compass Staff & Volunteers**; **Our Field-Worker** Adane Erjabo; **Missionaries** Zach Barz and Jerry Mays;

Shut Ins – Bobbie Kepford, Ethelmae Leuther, and Ruth Trauth

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

January 21 – January 28

Sunday	9:00am Worship 9:00am Mount Olive 10:30am Bible Study / Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship 1:00pm Steve Bain Memorial 2:00pm Luncheon
Monday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6pm</u> Ladies Exercise
Tuesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6pm</u> Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>3:45pm</u> Compass Chapel
Thursday	8am-12pm Office Open 2pm Ridgewood Bible Study 3pm-6pm Compass
Friday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>8am</u> Bible Study 12pm Nepali Mother’s Prayer Service 2pm-6pm Compass 6:30pm Faith Oakville Small Group
Saturday	<u>8:30am</u> Food Pantry / <u>2pm</u> Vicar Meeting 5:30pm Young Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:00am Joint Worship w/ Communion 9:00am Mount Olive 10:30am Bible Study 12:30pm African Worship