

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Pastor Snow

Liturgist: Pastor Barry

Pianist: Linda DeRocher

Choir: Messengers of Praise,
directed by Dr. Rolf

Piano Duet: Aliyah and Nathan Messer

Soloist: Kaylee Koepsell

November 23, 2025 8:00/9:30/10:45am

Last Sunday of the Church Year

AS WE GATHER

There is a phrase familiar to both preschoolers and powerbrokers. When they see that someone else has something they want, they declare, "That's mine!" seizing either toys or territory for themselves. This phrase is not unfamiliar to our God either. But where humans are motivated by selfishness, the Lord acts out of love. He claims you as His own because He loves you and He wants you to be with Him for eternity. You are His treasured possession! He will never leave you behind like a toddler may accidentally abandon her teddy bear, or neglect you like a king would treat those who supported his rival. When the Lord says, "You are Mine," you have His pledge of enduring faithfulness, today and unto eternity!

PRELUDE (9:30)

"Ascribe to the Lord"

Dan R. Edwards

PRELUDE (10:45)

"God is So Good"

arr. Robert D. Vandall

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN "Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"

LSB 812

Come, let us join our cheerful songs

Jesus is worthy to receive

With angels round the throne;

Honor and pow'r divine;

Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,

And blessings more than we can give

But all their joys are one.

Be, Lord, forever Thine.

"Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry,

Let all creation join in one

"To be exalted thus!"

To bless the sacred name

"Worthy the Lamb," our lips reply,

Of Him who sits upon the throne

"For He was slain for us!"

And to adore the Lamb.

BAPTISM (8:00)

Collins Odie Achtenberg is the daughter of Tyler and Hailee Achtenberg.
Collins' sponsors are Josh and Krystal Wille.

BAPTISM (9:30)

Hudson Morgan Busker is the son of Adam and Hailey Busker.
Hudson's sponsors are Alex and Jenna Busker.

BAPTISM (10:45)

Hollis Craig Jeurissen is the son of Darren and Anna Jeurissen.
Hollis' sponsors are Nathan and Karsyn Kohls, and Nathan Jeurissen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24; Psalm 22:27; Isaiah 43:1*

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

Now thus says the LORD, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are Mine."

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Colossians 1:13–14*

The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness

and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Almighty God and King,

we confess that we have broken trust with You. We have doubted Your goodness, neglected Your ways, and sought to satisfy our sinful nature. We do not think, speak, or act like Your treasured possession. We bring before You our faults and failures, honestly and humbly recognizing that we deserve to be cast out of Your kingdom. Have mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Spare us from Your wrath, deliver us from death and darkness, and cleanse us from sin, that we serve You in righteousness, innocence, and blessedness now and always. Amen.

On His cross, Jesus Christ, your Savior, was crowned with shame and given unto death for You. His blood pays the price Your sins deserve. Now crowned with glory, the risen and reigning Christ lives to declare sins forgiven. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE (8:00)

“Ascribe to the Lord”

Dan R. Edwards

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:13–18

“Your words have been hard against me, says the Lord. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evil-doers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’” Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name. “They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

EPISTLE

Colossians 1:13–20

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:00)

“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”

**arr. Max
Sinzheimer**

**SPECIAL MUSIC (9:30/10:45) “A Thousand Hallelujahs” Ligertwood, Wickham,
Ligertwood**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 23:27–43

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?” Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns" LSB 532

The Head that once was crowned with thorns	To them the cross, with all its shame,
Is crowned with glory now;	With all its grace, is giv'n;
A royal diadem adorns	Their name an everlasting name,
The mighty Victor's brow.	Their joy the joy of heav'n.

The highest place that heav'n affords
Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords,
And heav'n's eternal Light;

They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The myst'ry of His love.

The Joy of all who dwell above,
The Joy of all below
To whom He manifests His love
And grants His name to know.

The cross He bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

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OFFERING

Musical Offering (8:00)

“God is So Good”

arr. Robert D. Vandall

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As those delivered to the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us confidently approach His throne of grace with our prayers and intercessions, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

“Jesus, Remember Me”

LSB 767

Sing Twice

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

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King of all creation, the whole earth is full of Your glory, and we are awed by Your creative majesty. Deepen our appreciation of Your care and keeping and dedicate us as faithful stewards of Your earthly gifts. For the sake of Your kingdom,
love us and lead us, O King.

King of love, You devote Yourself to Your people and never fail to keep Your commitments. Bless those who have committed themselves to one another in Christian marriage that their relationships might be reflections of Your heart. For the sake of Your kingdom,
touch us and teach us, O King.

King of kindness and grace, who attends to our hurts of body and soul, show compassion to all who are facing sorrow, sickness, or adversity, embracing them in Your tender care, especially . . . For the sake of Your kingdom,
hear us and heal us, O King.

King of Your church, You uphold all those who serve in Your name. Grant holy satisfaction to those who volunteer their time and offer their gifts to our congregation. Raise up others to serve and prevent us from stealing Your glory for ourselves. For the sake of Your kingdom,
prepare us and protect us, O King.

King of justice, You rule Your world with wisdom and faithfulness. Give those chosen as our earthly authorities patience, perspective, and a heart that pursues Your will, that we might be led into peaceable prosperity. For the sake of Your kingdom,
defend us and direct us, O King.

King of all kings, You have authority over all things. Allow us to see Your authority as a blessing, that we might recognize Your preeminence in our lives and rest in Your merciful rule, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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

CLOSING HYMN

“Lift High the Cross”

LSB 837, vv. 1 and 6

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

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SENDING

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH ST. JOHN’S TODAY! If this is your first time at St. John’s, we encourage you to fill out a CONNECTCard located on the Welcome Desk. We want an opportunity to get to know you.

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes: 8:00 Evelyn Kloos/10:45 Eva Medvedev

Elders: 8:00 Pete Siedelman/9:30 Brian Honebrink/10:45 Paul Dolan

Usher Team: 8:00 Jeff Rasmussen/9:30 Mark Young/10:45 Craig Pauling

Welcome Team: 8:00 Gayle Degler, Evan Sutherland/9:30 Jenny McCarty/
10:45 Ben Peterson

Tech Crew: 8:00 Hunter Krueger, Nolan & Claire Buesgens/9:30 Jon Mierow/
10:45 Bennett McGlothlin

Coffee Hour: 9:30 Zabel Family

UPCOMING WEEK	
Monday, November 24	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, November 25	School Grandparents Day
Wednesday, November 26	No School – Thanksgiving Break
	Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7:00pm
Thursday, November 27	No School – Thanksgiving Break
	Thanksgiving Day Worship 9:30am
Friday, November 28	No School – Thanksgiving Break
	AA 6:30pm
Sunday, November 30	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am

Celebrating Anniversaries

11/23 Nyles and Tracy Schwardt

11/26 Taras and Jessica Medvedev

11/27 Paul and Delores Beussman

11/28 Pastor Greg and Connie Snow

11/29 Catherine Guth Gray and Jeff Gray

11/29 Dallas and Karen Schmidt

Celebrating Birthdays

11/24
Nicole Lenzen
11/26
Karen Duff
Orville Folkerts
Kara McCormick
Daniel Vosika
Malachi Syrette
Noella Scheidt
Izzy Hildebrandt

11/27
Kelly Otto
Lily Griffin
11/28
Logan DeBoer
Paul DeRocher
Mitch Kirchoff
Wendy Schlueter
Matt Geuther
Tim Hildebrandt

11/29
Christine Dysterheft
Joel Landskroener
Hadley Schmitz
Brian Tucker
Christina Krueger
Karen Stephan
Chloe Garner

Expectant Moms

Izzy King
Nicole Stockey
Kourtney Vipond

Jessica Lewis
Nicole Thuente

Katelyn Olson
Amy Peterson

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Bernie Gnan
Holly Walters
Maddy Bushard
Bill Noll

Donna Kloos
Norm Glock
Jen Angell
Marilyn Lenzen

Jolene Berg
Joann Mueller
Gary Anderson
Jack Boman

Ongoing Prayers

Carol Affeldt
John Barney
Merlin Bentz
Jimann Campbell
Julie Carver
Marguerite Craighead
Sunny Deis
Anita Doss

Sid & Merna Fjelstad
Dennis Gaarder
Bernie Gnan
Hilde Grev
Ruth Harms
Eugene Henke
Carol Jones
Len Kallsen

Gretchen Laubach
Melinda Meuwissen
Gina Niesche
Steve Pond
Austin Rannow
Val Schlefsky
Cliff Waller
Ruth Ziegler

In Sympathy

Dante Langmade and family upon the passing of his father, Andrew Clover.
Penny Eastlund and family upon the passing of her cousin, Angel Benes.
Cathie DeMaris and family upon the passing of her husband, Bob DeMaris.

Advent and Christmas at St. John's

Sundays in Advent

November 30, December 7, 14, & 21
8:00am, 9:30am, & 10:45am

December 7 (Advent Choral Vespers)
6:30pm

Midweek Advent Worship

December 3, 10, & 17
4:15pm & 6:30pm

No Advent meals due
to renovation

Christmas Services

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
Worship with Communion
2:00pm, 4:00pm, & 10:00pm (candlelight)

December 25 (Christmas Day)
Worship with Communion
9:30am

New Year's Eve Service

December 31
Worship with Communion
5:00pm

Sunday School & Day School Christmas Services & Programs

Kindergarten & Younger Sunday School Service
Sunday, December 7 at 10:45am

Time to Grow Christmas Program
Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm

1st – 6th Grade Sunday School Service
Sunday, December 14 at 11:00am

K – 8th Grade Christmas Service
Thursday, December 18 at 6:30pm

Advent Choral Vespers – Sunday, December 7, 6:30pm

Join church and school choirs for a special service featuring Advent and Christmas carols, scripture readings, and choral music.
A reception will follow the service.