

New Year, Same Promises  
**“God’s Promise of Blessing”**

January 29, 2023

**As We Gather**

Sometimes our lives don’t look blessed. Sometimes we don’t feel blessed. Sometimes we try to do right, to follow Jesus, and things don’t seem to go the way we had hoped. In the Beatitudes, Jesus speaks words of blessing upon His followers for such times. When we feel the poverty of our spirits, when we are mourning, when the world seems to pass us by, when we feel our unrighteousness, Jesus speaks grace. For when we have Him, we have the Kingdom of heaven and all of its blessings.

**Welcome**

**+ Gathering +**

**“Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings” LSB 782**

1 Gracious God, You send great blessings  
New each morning all our days.  
For Your mercies never ending,  
For Your love we offer praise.  
Lord, we pray that we, Your people  
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings  
May bring glory to Your name.

2 By Your Word you formed creation  
Filled with creatures large and small;  
As we tend that endless treasure  
May our care encircle all.  
Lord, we pray that we, Your people  
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings  
May bring glory to Your name.

3 In His earthly life, our Savior  
Knew the care of faithful friends;  
May our deeds of dedication  
Offer love that never ends.  
Lord, we pray that we, Your people  
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings  
May bring glory to Your name.

4 Heav’nly Father, may our caring  
Bear the imprint of Your grace,  
With the Son and Holy Spirit,  
Praise be Yours in ev’ry place!  
Lord, we pray that we, Your people  
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings  
May bring glory to Your name.

**Invocation**

**Confession and Absolution**

## **“Blessed Be Your Name”**

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out  
I'll turn back to praise  
And when the darkness closes in  
Lord still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out  
I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

## **Prayer**

### **Children's Church**

## **+ Service of the Word +**

### **First Reading: Micah 6:1-8**

Listen to what the LORD says:

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;  
let the hills hear what you have to say.

<sup>2</sup>“Hear, you mountains, the LORD's accusation;  
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the LORD has a case against his people;  
he is lodging a charge against Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“My people, what have I done to you?  
How have I burdened you? Answer me.

<sup>4</sup>I brought you up out of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the land of slavery.

I sent Moses to lead you,  
also Aaron and Miriam.  
<sup>5</sup> My people, remember  
what Balak king of Moab plotted  
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.  
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow down before the exalted God?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?  
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?  
<sup>8</sup> He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the LORD require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom

from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Holy Gospel:            Matthew 5:1-12**

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them.

He said:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You O Christ!**

**The Apostles 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.**

**Sermon**

**“God’s Promise of Blessing”**

**Offering**

**“Build My Life”**

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever  
    breathe  
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever  
    breathe  
We live for You  
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me  
    who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

**Prayers**

*Please add your prayer requests to the live chat*

**Thanksgivings**

**Pastor:** O Lord, we praise You.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Petitions**

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**St. John’s People and Families**

Penni, Haley, & Jacob Cremen  
Betty Grant  
Dick & Marilyn Lemin  
Pastor Mike & Teresa Schmid  
Ali, Sally, Cameron, Christopher, & Charles Vaziri  
Jason, Rebecca, Colin, & Hannah Croft  
Eric and Zoe Ewig  
Gantry, Tracy, & Graeden Griffin  
Tyler, Tiffany, Ezzie, Kimber, & Maren Marcotte  
Ashlyn and Maverick Webber

**The 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.**

## Benediction

### “Son of God, Eternal Savior” LSB 842

1 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
Hallows all our human race,  
You our Head, who, throned in glory,  
For Your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with Your love and pity,  
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,  
So may we for others live.  
Freely have Your gifts been granted;  
Freely may Your servants give.  
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,  
Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of Your bounty  
Held in solemn trust will be.

3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of Love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion,  
Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling,  
By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

4 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
Hallows all our human race:  
By Your praying, by Your willing,  
That Your people should be one,  
Grant, O grant our hope’s fruition;  
Here on earth Your will be done.

### Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John’s (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

### Memory Verse for This Week

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

*Matthew 5:3*

## Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Kevin Mathison
Lay Readers	Matthew Wahlers, Susan Clark
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technician	Bill Clark
Streaming Technician	Martin Meissenhalter
Worship Preparation Team	Marlen Virkus, Ruth Peterson
Ushers	Christy Wood
Projection Technician	Brian Schoenfeld
Children's Church	Debbie Kirkpatrick, Pam Watkins
Worship Band	Thane Knutson, Steve & Judi Rock, Heidi Newman

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