

Did God Really Say?

## **“God Wants You To Be True To Yourself”**

October 8, 2023

### **As We Gather**

God wants us to live authentic lives, doesn't He? He doesn't want us to live a life that we don't think we were made for, right? But the truth is that our lives are most authentic and genuine when we are living in accord with His will, not our own. This week, we look at one of the chief themes of our age, and how in Christ, we have something better.

### **Welcome**

**+ Gathering +**

### **“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” LSB 909**

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ, our head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of the Lord and precious,  
Binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion's help forever  
And our confidence alone.

3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faithful  
All the gifts they ask to gain;  
What they gain from You, forever  
With the blessed to retain;  
And hereafter in Your glory  
Evermore with You to reign.

2 To this temple, where we call You,  
Come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;  
Come with all Your lovingkindness,  
Hear Your people as they pray;  
And Your fullest benediction  
Shed within these walls today.

### **(Please rise)**

4 Praise and honor to the Father,  
Praise and honor to the Son,  
Praise and honor to the Spirit,  
Ever three and ever one:  
One in might and one in glory  
While unending ages run!

### **Invocation**

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

### **Confession and Absolution**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

### **"Lord Have Mercy"**

Leader: In peace we pray to You Lord

People: **Lord have mercy**

Leader: For Your peace and presence, love and mercy for all, we pray to You Lord

People: **Lord have mercy**

Leader: For Your reign in the whole world, for Your life in our lives, and Your presence with us now, we pray to You Lord

People: **Lord have mercy**

Leader: For all of Your people who gather to lift You praise, we pray to You Lord

People: **Lord have mercy**

Leader: Help us and heal us, save us and bless us now

People: **Amen**

### **"Glory to God"**

Glory to God in the highest  
And peace to His people on earth  
Glory to God in the highest  
And peace to His people on earth

Lord God You are our King  
Almighty God and Father  
We worship Your name we give You our thanks  
We praise You for Your great glory

Lord Jesus Christ only Son of the Father

Saving Lord Lamb of God  
You take away all the sins of the world  
Have mercy on us  
You reign at the right hand of the Father on high  
Receive our prayer

For You alone are the Holy One  
You alone are the Lord  
You alone are the Savior our Lord Jesus Christ  
And we worship and lift You praise  
With the Father above and Your Spirit of love

## Prayer

## Children's Church

### + Service of the Word +

#### First Reading: Psalm 1

Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,

<sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.

<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.

<sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

#### Second Reading: Philippians 3:1-14

Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you. <sup>2</sup> Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. <sup>3</sup> For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— <sup>4</sup> though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

<sup>7</sup> But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. <sup>10</sup> I want

to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

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

### **Holy Gospel: Luke 9:18-26**

Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say I am?”

<sup>19</sup> They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.”

<sup>20</sup> “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Peter answered, “God’s Messiah.”

<sup>21</sup> Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. <sup>22</sup> And he said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.”

<sup>23</sup> Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? <sup>26</sup> Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*  
**Praise to You O Christ!**

### **The 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.**

**Sermon**

**“God Wants You To Be True To Yourself”**

**Offering**

**Musical Offering**

**“Worthy to Be Praised”**

***Sanctuary Choir***

*Arr. By Byron Smith*

*Soloists Sarah Kramer and Kaia Blackwood*

Holy, holy, holy praise our God Almighty,  
worthy and holy Lord eternally.

Praise the Lord in the highest,  
Praise His holy name.  
Let all things that haveth a breathe just praise The  
Lord.

I believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Ghost.

I will sing. I will shout.  
He's worthy to be praised... to be praised

Praise the Lord in the highest,  
Praise His holy name.  
Let all things that haveth a breathe just praise The  
Lord.

I believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Ghost.

I will sing. I will shout.  
He's worthy to be praised... to be praised

We have come into the house of the Lord  
to praise His holy name  
to give glory, honor,  
And adore His son who's life He gave  
let the trumpets sounds  
Let the rocks resound  
Our sinful souls He saved.

I will sing I will shout He's worthy to be praised...  
to be praised.

Raise your voices high and sing to the Lord  
He's worthy to be praised  
Shout hosanna high to God for His ever-lasting  
grace.  
Let the trumpets sound let the rocks  
Resound, our great full voices raise!

I will sing I will shout  
He's worthy to be praised... to be praised

Praise the Lord in the highest,  
Praise His holy name.  
Let all things that haveth a breathe just praise The  
Lord.

I believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Ghost.

I will sing. I will shout.  
He's worthy to be praised... to be praised

Praise ye oh-oh praise ye the lord oh let every  
Voice sing out that He's worthy, worthy to be  
praised

He's worthy to be praised, to be praised  
Sing and shout Hosanna praise His holy name  
Lets all praise Him in the highest  
Lets all praise the Lord  
Worthy He is worthy my God is worthy

I believe in the Father, the Son,  
And the Holy Ghost. I will sing I will shout.  
He's worthy to be praised... to be praised.

## Prayers

*Please add your prayer requests to the 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

Bill and Linda Cornils  
David, Lucy, Benjamin, & Sarah Franklin  
Randy & Mary Kosanke  
Alex, Justine, Brody, Elaina, & Blake Rollin  
Tiffany Tucker, Victoria & Alexander Christie  
Stephen, Tiffany, & Haines Barber  
Micah, Wendy, & Chase Flynn  
David, Katie, Henry, & Charlotte Lawrence  
Christopher, Michelle, & Micah Marusich  
David, Amy, & Anabelle Zurowski

## + The Service of Holy Communion +

### Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord, Lord God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest

**Pastor:** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In these last days, You have poured out Your Holy Spirit on Your Church that Your sons and daughters might proclaim the wonders of Your salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people that, faithfully eating and drinking the body and blood of Your Son, we may go forth to proclaim His salvation to the ends of the earth.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor:** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**People:** **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.**

### **Words of Institution**

**Pastor:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)**

Lamb of God  
You take away the sin of the world  
Have mercy on us

Lamb of God  
You take away the sin of the world  
Have mercy on us

Lamb of God  
You take away the sin of the world  
Grant us peace

## **Communion**

**Pastor:** Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**People:** **Amen.** *(Take and eat)*

**Pastor:** Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**People:** **Amen.**  
*(Take and drink)*

### **“Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior” LSB 640**

1. Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, Thee,  
Who in Thy Sacrament art pleased to be;  
Both flesh and spirit in Thy presence fail,  
Yet here Thy presence we devoutly hail.
2. In this memorial of Thy death, O Lord,  
Thou dost Thy body and Thy blood afford:  
O may our souls forever feed on Thee,  
And Thou, O Christ, forever precious be.
3. Thou, like the pelican to feed her brood,  
Didst pierce Thyself to give us living food;  
Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win  
Forgiveness for our world and all its sin.
4. Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God:  
Cleanse us, unclean, with Thy most cleansing  
blood;  
Increase our faith and love, that we may know  
The hope and peace which from Thy presence  
flow.
5. O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,  
May what we thirst for soon our portion be:  
To gaze on Thee unveiled and see Thee face to  
face,  
The vision of Thy glory, and Thy grace. Amen.

### **“God Loved the World So That He Gave” LSB 571**

God loved the world so that He gave  
His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,  
Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone  
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

God would not have the sinner die,  
His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares  
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.  
Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives all sins which you have done;

And, justified by Jesus' blood,  
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth Your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves Your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

#### **Please rise**

Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!



### **Communion Blessing**

**Pastor:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

**People:** **Amen.**

**+ Sending +**

### **Prayer**

### **Benediction**

#### **“Christ is our Cornerstone” LSB 912**

1 Christ is our cornerstone,  
On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone  
The courts of heav'n are filled.  
On His great love  
Our hopes we place  
Of present grace  
And joys above.

2 Here may we gain from heav'n  
The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv'n,  
Be with us evermore

Until that day  
When all the blest  
To endless rest  
Are called away.

3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise  
These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise  
The Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim  
In joyful song,  
Both loud and long,  
That glorious name.

### **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

Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.

Luke 9:23

### Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Reader	Susan Clark
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Communion Assistants	Gerry Schneider, Dove Bain, Bob Klein, Rebecca Vitkus
Sound Technician	Brian Schoenfeld
Streaming Technician	Joel Wahlers
Projection Tech	Dawn Wahlers
Worship Preparation Team	Marlen Virkus, Ruth Peterson
Ushers	Gary & Marlen Virkus
Children's Church	Nina Montes, Joy Dahl