

# "No Other Gods"

March 3, 2024

## As We Gather

Who is your God? Or should we say "What" is your God? Simply put, your God is whatever is most important to you, where you turn for comfort in distress, and where you turn to receive all good things. Where have I placed my highest allegiance? Not just what I might claim with my words, but that which is revealed in my decisions, my allocation of time, and the inclinations of my heart.

Today we consider the Lord's giving on the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai. But it has been said that breaking any of the commandments involves breaking the first, and that if only we could keep the first perfectly, the rest would be superfluous. So we focus today on the first commandment, "You shall have no other Gods." What does that mean for our lives today?

## Welcome

## + Gathering +

### "God is For Us"

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night

We will walk the Valley with you by our side

You will go before us, You will lead the way

We have found a refuge, only You can save

### Chorus

Sing with joy now; our God is for us

The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress

Raise your voice now, no love is greater

Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Even when I stumble, even when I fall

Even when I turn back, still Your love is sure

You will not abandon, You will not for - sake

You will cheer me onward

with never-ending grace **Chorus**

Neither height nor depth can separate us

Hell and death will not defeat us

He who gave His Son to free us

Holds me in His love **(Sing twice)**

Sing with joy now; our God is for us

The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress

Raise your voice now, no love is greater

Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

**(Repeat)**

## Invocation

P In the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## Baptism of Charlotte, Noelle, and Amelia Holdsworth

## Musical Offering

*Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Choir*

## Prayer

## Children's Church

+ Service of the Word +

**First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17**

And God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup> “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>3</sup> “You shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup> “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup> “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup> “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup> “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> “You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> “You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> “You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup> “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Psalms 19 (Read responsively)**

**Reader:** The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

**People:** **Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.**

**Reader:** They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

**People:** **Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.  
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

**Reader:** It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**People:** **It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

Reader: The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

People: **The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.**

Reader: The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.

People: **They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.**

Reader: By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

People: **But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.**

Reader: Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

People: **May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

All: **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.**

### **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: John 2:13-22**

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup> The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

<sup>20</sup> They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You O Christ!**

### **Sermon**

### **"Fearing and Loving God"**

### **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 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

Mike, Judy, & Andrew Biggs

Andres Melinda, & Xander Herrera, Tyler & Adleigh Koen

Bill & Colette Hjerpe

Jason, Deidre & Daniel Newton

Todd, Natalie, Samantha, & Patrick Yoder

Melissa and Amelia Burmester

Andrew, Lauren, & Adaline Hanson

Greg, Stacy, Jack, & Emma James

Troy, Katy, & Rylee O'Brien

Jae, Amber, & Emma Steward

## Benediction

### "God of Grace and God of Glory" LSB 850

1 God of grace and God of glory,  
On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

3 Cure Your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving You whom we adore,  
Serving You whom we adore.

## 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

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

**Romans 3:21-22a**

### Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Reader	Sarah Kramer
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technician	
Streaming Technician	Joel Wahlers
Projector Tech	Dawn Wahlers
Worship Preparation Team	Midge & Gerry Schneider, Ron Irwin, Jan Newton, & Sophie Frey
Children's Church Leaders	Sarah Santora, Debbie Kirkpatrick, Pam Watkins
Ushers	Gary & Marlen Virkus
Worship Band	Pastor Mike, Judi Rock, Andy Schweiger, Chris Newman, Sal Pagano, Scott Ondek

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