

"Looking in the Right Place"

March 10, 2024

As We Gather

Where am I looking for hope and happiness in life? Where do I turn for my comfort and security? If I am looking to the things and experiences I accumulate, I'm ultimately going to find myself complaining like the Israelites. Instead we are drawn to look to our Savior.

Welcome

+ Gathering +

"God Loved the World So That He Gave" LSB 571

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

"Goodness of God"

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night

You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God
(Chorus)

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me **(Chorus x 2)**

I will sing of the goodness of God

Prayer

Children's Church

+ Service of the Word +

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 107 (Read Responsively)

Reader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

People: Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

Reader: those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

People: Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.

Reader: They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.

People: Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

Reader: He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.

People: Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,

Reader: for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

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: Ephesians 2:1-10

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

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

“Looking in the Right Place”

Offering

Musical Offering

“O, My God, Bestow Thy Tender Mercy”

Sanctuary Choir

Giovanni Batista Pergolesi

Arr. Hal H. Hopson

O, my God, bestow Thy tender mercy.
Blot out my transgressions;
Cleanse my sin.
O God, bestow Thy tender love.
Restore me, forgive me, uphold me;
From all my sins,
O hide Thy face.

O, my God, bestow Thy tender mercy;
Cleanse my sin.
Restore the joy;
Forgive me, uphold me,
O God, hear me.

O, my God, bestow Thy tender mercy.
Blot out my transgressions;
Cleanse my sin.
O God, bestow Thy tender love.
Restore me, forgive me, uphold me;

I cry to Thee.
Hear Thou my prayer.
Cast me not away.
Take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Open Thou my lips,
My mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

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

Dean Bledsoe, Lori Hunt, & Hunter Bledsoe

Richard & Karen Dalen

Samuel Hoff

Mike & Jan Newton

Dana & Christine Zanone

Ricardo, Brandie, & Nelo Caires

Ben, Rachel, Noelle, & Ian Hardisty

Bradley, Denise, & Preston Jameson

James, Karen, & Schuyler Oterreau

Ryan, Meghan, & Jack Stewart

+ 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.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

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

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.**

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

“King of Love”

The King of Love my Shepherd is
Whose goodness faileth never
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever
And He is mine forever

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth

Never failing Ruler of my heart
Everlasting Lover of my soul
On the mountain high or in the valley low
The King of Love my Shepherd is
The King of Love my Shepherd is

Lost and foolish off I strayed
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me
In death's dark veil I fear no ill
With Thee dear Lord beside me
Thy rod and staff my comfort still
Thy cross before to guide me

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never
Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise
Within Your house forever
Within Your house forever

“What Wondrous Love Is This” LSB 543

1 What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for
my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down,
sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for
my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul!

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will
sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll
sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And through eternity I'll sing on.

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

"Oceans"

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves

When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

(Sing 3 Times)

Spirit lead me where my trust is without
borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever
wander

And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior

And I will call upon Your name
And Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine

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

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

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Serving in Worship Today

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Rev. Michael A. Schmid

Lay Reader

Ruth Peterson

Communion Assistants

Mike Newton, Paula Schweiger

Dove Bain, Ron Johnson

Organist

Erin Blackwood

Sound Technician

Andy Schweiger

Streaming Technician

Joshua Wright

Projector Tech

Brian Schoenfeld

Worship Preparation Team

Betsy Gewirz, Bob & Doris Klein

Children's Church Leaders

Nina Montes, Tyler & Michelle Roberts

Ushers

Bob & Lisa De Young

Worship Band

Thane Knutson, Judy & Steve Rock, Chris & Heidi Newman