

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Woodbury, Minnesota

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 | 7:00 PM

ONLINE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 | FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## RINGING OF THE BELL | WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now” [LSB 902], vs. 1–3



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O ho - ly,



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and  
ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.

Public domain

## INVOCATION | OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

People: **to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**

Pastor: to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

People: **and Your faithfulness by night.**

Pastor: The Most High God gathers us to praise His name and declare His love together!

## CONFESSION | ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our prayers before You.

*+ In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord, seeking His cleansing forgiveness +*

Pastor: Most merciful Father,

People: **we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the remission You promise to Your repentant children. Amen.**

Pastor: "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." God the Father has taken your sins and laid them upon our humble Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Christ's sacrifice, God does not count your sins against you. He has taken them away! He remembers them no more! He preserves and delivers you as His child forever! As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

### HYMN OF PRAISE

"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" [LSB 902], vs. 4

4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly  
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed  
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

<sup>7</sup> "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup> When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup> But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:1-10

<sup>1</sup> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup> For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. <sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

“Jesus Loves Me” with “Oh, How He Loves You and Me” [Grace Larson, soloist]  
Public Domain

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 7:24–29

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 7th chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup>But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash. <sup>28</sup>When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, <sup>29</sup>because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## SERMON

“Hearing and Doing” Matthew 7:24–29

[Sermon series from Matthew - The Best of the Best: The Sermon on the Mount]

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**ALL:** 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.**

## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

[online at <https://stjohnwoodbury.org/give> ~ or ~  
via U.S. mail to SJLC, 1975 St. Johns Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129]

## THE PRAYERS

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For these concerns and for every unspoken prayer that is on our hearts and minds, that our gracious God would hear and answer us,

People: **Father, we depend on You for everything. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL:** 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.**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION | COMMUNION** [in-person only]

### COMMUNION DISMISSAL

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

People: **Amen.**

## BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

## SEND—OFF PRAYER

**ALL:** Knowing that the time is drawing near, may I by Your Spirit's prompting, support the mission and ministry of my church with my personal witness, my earnest prayers and my sacrificial gifts. Grant that through me, many may be saved from the kingdom of darkness for the kingdom of Your Light, through Jesus Christ, Your Son and our Lord. Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” [LSB 576], vs. 1, 2 & 4



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than  
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I  
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
rest on His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
may I then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Public domain

## ANNOUNCEMENTS | DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Thanks to Grace Larson for providing special music and to Heather Larson for leading the hymns today!**

AND HE SAID, "MY PRESENCE SHALL GO WITH YOU,  
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST."

HAVE A RESTFUL LABOR DAY WEEKEND



Lord, on this Labor Day, we thank you for  
the blessing of work.

We ask for strength to complete each day.

We ask for rest when we are weary.

We ask Your guidance for everyone  
seeking employment.

And we ask that You be with those faces  
we may never see but who work tirelessly  
each day for the good of us all.

Amen.

### ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

1975 St. Johns Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129

Phone: 651-436-6621



[stjohn@stjohnwoodbury.org](mailto:stjohn@stjohnwoodbury.org)

[www.stjohnwoodbury.org](http://www.stjohnwoodbury.org)

[pastor@stjohnwoodbury.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnwoodbury.org)



*We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation*