



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.



Welcome to Worship!

Over the past few weeks, we've seen Jesus appear on the scene at the very beginning of his ministry. It didn't take long for large crowds to start following Jesus. So he taught what it meant to be one of these followers in what we now know as the Sermon on the Mount. Over the next several weeks, we'll hear our Savior's sermon too.

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with a series of blessings—but his listeners must have been surprised at what he called blessed. The world praises the strong and the self-sufficient, and instead Jesus calls blessed what others would see as weak or stupid. In the Beatitudes, Jesus drives home this crucial point: the weaker you are, the more ready you are to rely on God's strength. The more difficult your present circumstances, the likelier you are to yearn for future reward. In each of today's readings, we are reminded that we have no real strength or wisdom of our own. Thankfully, God's strength is enough to give the kingdom of heaven to the humble and poor in spirit—to us.

Worship Notes

It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders and assisted listening devices—please ask one of our ushers. Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area. Small children can be taken into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed during the worship service. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.

During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or located online at www.sjtosa.org/Connect). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

State of the Parish Presentation

This morning, we take a break from our "Knowing Jesus Better" Bible study for the State of the Parish presentation. God continues to pour out his blessings on St. John's, and it's our privilege to reflect on those blessings each year on our Mission & Ministry Sunday. Please join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to reflect on the good that happened in 2022 and anticipate the good we hope and pray to carry out in 2023.

The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

Mission & Ministry Sunday

January 28 & 29, 2023

The Savior's Sermon: Trust in God's Strength

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Christian Worship 523

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

Amen.

Confession⁺

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

***Confession and absolution:** When we approach our holy Lord in worship, it is appropriate that we confess our sins to him and seek his forgiveness. After the invocation or the dialogue of blessing, the minister leads the congregation into the confession of sins – the daily drowning of our sinful nature. In the absolution, the minister announces forgiveness to the penitent congregation, confidently appealing to the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the basis for forgiveness.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life. **Refrain (stanza 1)**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins. **Refrain (stanza 2)**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood. **Refrain (stanza 3)**

Refrain



1. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,
2. Chri - ste e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,
3. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,



Ky - ri - e. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e -
Chri - ste. Chri - ste e - le - i - son, e -
Ky - ri - e. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e -



le - i - son, Ky - ri - e.
le - i - son, Chri - ste.
le - i - son, Ky - ri - e.

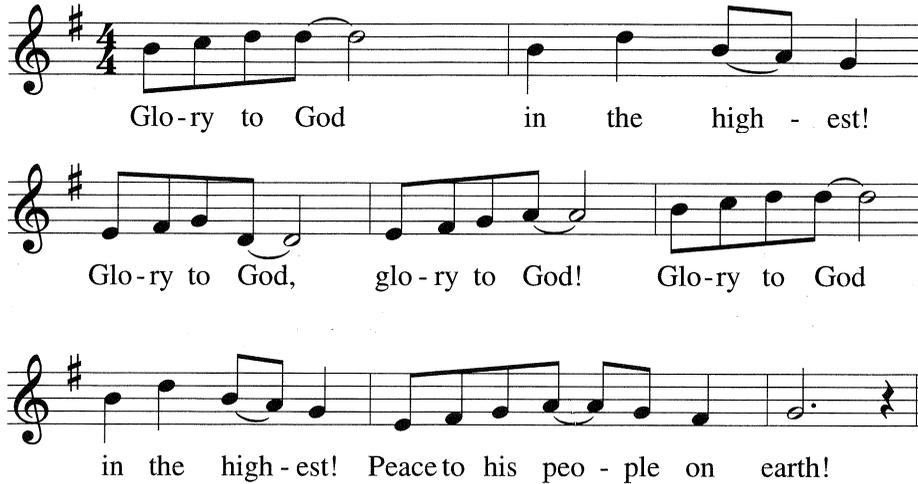
In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrains.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est!

Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God! Glo-ry to God

in the high - est! Peace to his peo - ple on earth!

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. **Refrain (sung twice)**

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:11–13

The LORD promises that those who are humble will not be put to shame.

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,
you who do what he commands.
Seek righteousness, seek humility;
perhaps you will be sheltered
on the day of the LORD's anger.
"On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame
for all the wrongs you have done to me,
because I will remove from you
your arrogant boasters.
Never again will you be haughty
on my holy hill.
But I will leave within you
the meek and humble.
The remnant of Israel
will trust in the name of the LORD.
They will do no wrong;
they will tell no lies.
A deceitful tongue
will not be found in their mouths.
They will eat and lie down
and no one will make them afraid."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1



1 How tru - ly blest are they who shun the
2 But make the law of God their stud - y
3 They like a tree shall thrive with wa - ters
4 The wick - ed are not so! They no such



sin - ners' ways, a - mong their coun - sels
and de - light a - mid the la - bors
near the root. Fresh as the leaf their
bless - ing find. Their hopes shall flee like



nev - er stand, nor take the scorn - ers' place,
of the day and watch - es of the night.
name shall live; their works are heav'n - ly fruit.
emp - ty chaff be - fore the driv - ing wind.

- 5 How will they bear to stand before that judgment seat
where all the saints at Christ's right hand in full assembly meet?
- 6 God knows and he approves the way the righteous go,
but sinners and their works shall meet a dreadful overthrow.

Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

The Corinthians exemplify how God's strength is made perfect in weakness.

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. 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. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. 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. Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

*Jesus shows us the outcome of a life that is lived
trusting in God's strength: a life that is blessed.*

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

He said:

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Anthem (Sunday)

Adult Handbell Choir

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

arranged by Lloyd Larson

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Text: Public domain

Hymn of the Day

Cantor: sts. 1, 2; congregation: sts. 3-5

Blest Are They

Christian Worship 690

Sermon

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:11-13

Think Meekly; Act Boldly

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

Prayer of the Church

Jesus Christ, Lord of glory, you delight in making yourself known to us and others. In love you chose to exercise your greatest strength to serve us in our greatest need. You revealed the brightness of your glory through humble deeds of love.

Bring us to recognize and rejoice in your majesty and your ministry.

You called ordinary men to do extraordinary things as your disciples and apostles. You also call us to confidently follow you, diligently learn from you, and lovingly imitate you.

Equip and empower us to serve as your witnesses and bring the light of your gospel to many throughout the world.

You revealed your glory through mighty signs and wonders. Assure us that you still rule all things in the universe and use them to serve our eternal good.

Give us courage and compassion to relieve the distress of the hurting and to pray for all according to their needs.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

Preserve your truth among us, and by that truth preserve us until you appear in dazzling splendor to bring us to the glory of heaven. Let our anticipation of that heavenly kingdom increase our joy in all aspects of this earthly life.

Hear us, O Light of the Gentiles and the Glory of Israel. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit www.sjtosa.org/offering.



Hymn

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Christian Worship 564

Please stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him (sts. 1, 4)

Christian Worship 619

Announcements

St. John's Spotlight

St. John's Early Learning Center

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Serving at Worship

Preacher	Pastor Eric Schroeder
Presiding Minister	Pastor Joel Leyrer
Lectors	Pastor Joel Schwartz Pastor Joshua Yu
Musicians	Mandy Treder, piano & vocals Paula Rauth, flute Christian Willick, French horn & vocals
Adult Handbell Choir Director	Kristi Meyer

In Our Prayers

- Nolan Duke Mancl, son of Dave & Caley Mancl, who was baptized in a private ceremony on Saturday.
- Family and friends of Vicki Schaller, whom the Lord called to his side on Wednesday, January 25, at the age of 80 and whose Christian Victory service arrangements are pending.

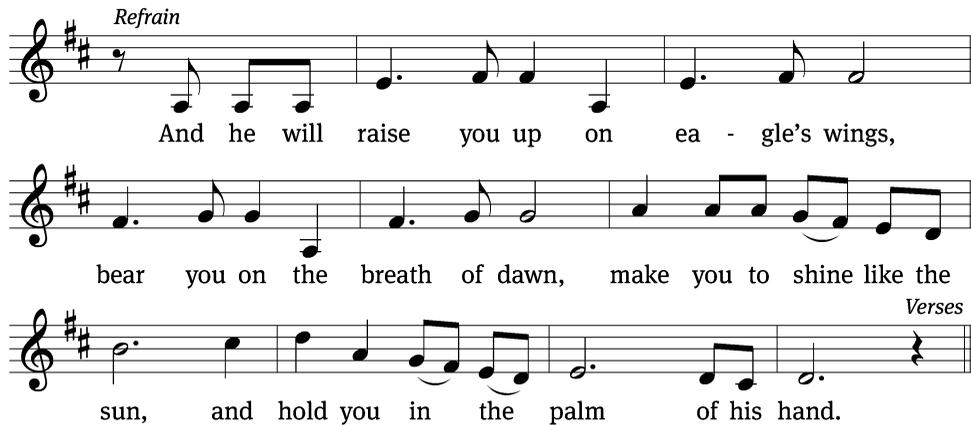
Parents' Preview for February 5

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

On Eagles' Wings (Refrain)

Christian Worship 821

Refrain

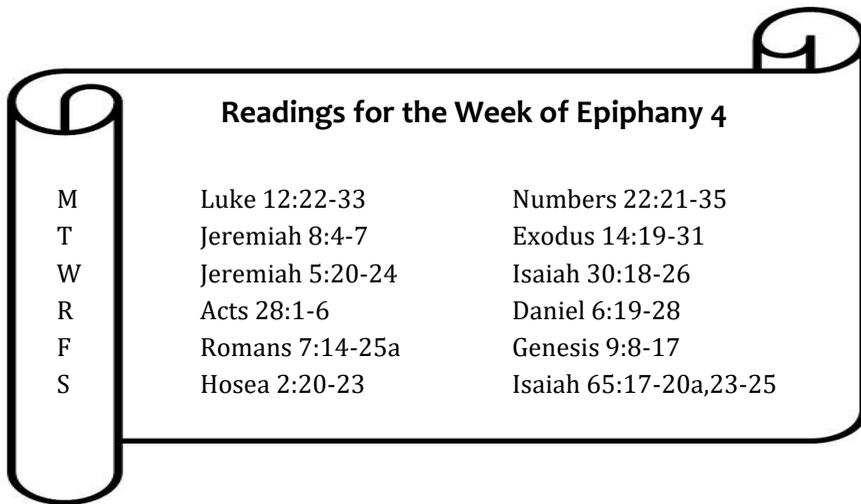


And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the
sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Verses

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of the refrain. The second staff continues the melody for the second line. The third staff is labeled 'Verses' and contains the melody for the third line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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Readings for the Week of Epiphany 4

M	Luke 12:22-33	Numbers 22:21-35
T	Jeremiah 8:4-7	Exodus 14:19-31
W	Jeremiah 5:20-24	Isaiah 30:18-26
R	Acts 28:1-6	Daniel 6:19-28
F	Romans 7:14-25a	Genesis 9:8-17
S	Hosea 2:20-23	Isaiah 65:17-20a,23-25

The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21st century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

Pastors

Pastor Joel Leyrer
joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org

Pastor Eric Schroeder
eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org

Pastor Joel Schwartz
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Chinese Outreach

Pastor

Pastor Joshua Yu
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School Principal

Mr. Dan Markgraf
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School Office

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Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

sjtosa.org