

## Opening Song: Holy is the Lord

[Verse]

We stand and lift up our hands  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength  
We bow down and worship Him now  
How great, how awesome is He  
And together we sing, Everyone sing

[Chorus]

Holy is the Lord God Almighty  
The earth is filled with His glory  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty  
The earth is filled with His glory  
The earth is filled with His glory

[Verse] [Chorus]

[Bridge - Repeat 2x]

It's rising up all around  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown

And together we sing, Everyone sing

[Chorus]

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## Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation

*(Children come to the front of the Church)*

### Children's Message

### Lord's Prayer

*(Children leave for Sunday School)*

## Song of Praise: Holy Spirit

Verse

There's nothing worth more that will ever come close  
No thing can compare, You're our living hope  
Your presence, Lord

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves  
Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone  
Your presence, Lord

Chorus  
Holy Spirit, You are welcome here  
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere  
Your glory God, is what our hearts long for  
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord

Verse

Chorus 2x

Bridge (repeat 3x)  
Let us become more aware of Your presence  
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness

Chorus 2x

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## Epistle Reading

*3 John 5–8*

**A** The Epistle is from 3 John, chapter 1.

<sup>5</sup>Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, <sup>6</sup>who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. <sup>7</sup>For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. <sup>8</sup>Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel Reading

*Matthew 28:18–20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**L** Lord Jesus Christ, You stretched out Your arms of love on the hard wood of the Cross

**C** **that everyone might come within the reach of Your saving embrace.**

**L** So clothe us in Your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love,

**C** **may bring those who do not know You to the knowledge and love of You;**

**L** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

**C** **and forever. Amen.**

### **Sermon: The Mission of God**

#### **Reception of New Members**

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *Yes, I do.*

**P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

**R** *Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**P** Do you hold the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Lutheran Church, drawn from it and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and even to suffer, rather than fall away from it?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

**R** *I will, with the help of God.*

**P** Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are members of the Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, grant that by Your Word and Spirit these brothers and sisters may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** The grace of our ☩ Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**C** **Amen.**

*The new members return to their places.*

**Prayer of the Church**

## Offering

*Currently, the offering plate will not be passed. There is a plate in the Narthex for you to place your offering. You may give to God and the work of His Church by mailing them in, but you can also give electronically by using the QR code below.*

## Offering Prayer

**P** Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us in Christ,

**C** **and made us rich in gifts, spiritual and material.**

**P** We offer them back to You, O Father.

**C** **We trust you with everything.**

**P** Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## Confession & Absolution

**P** *God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our selfish desires to live for You. Give us the Holy Spirit, that, attentive to Your Word, we may confess our trespasses, receive Your forgiveness, and then walk in the new life given by Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

*-Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination-*

**P** *Gracious Father, have mercy on us.*

**C** **In Your compassion, forgive us our many sins, known and unknown, wrong things done and good left undone. We are sorry and want now to serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy Name. Amen.**

**P** *Almighty God has had mercy on you and, for the sake of Jesus Christ, whom He sent to die for you, has forgiven † all your sins.*

*Now, living in union with Christ, may He lead you in all good works and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.*

**C** **Amen.**

## Holy Communion

† **Holy Communion** †

### **To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:**

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church.

In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

***It is the gift of Himself!***

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation.

Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church are baptized Christians, committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.

*(We run classes both for young people and adults – everyone welcome.)*

God bless you!

## Preface

**P** *Hallelujah: for the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns! [Rev 19:6-9]*

**C** **Let us rejoice and exult, for the marriage of the Lamb has come,**

**P** *and His bride has made herself ready.*

**C** **Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.**

## Proper Preface

**P** It is good, right, our joy, and our duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. And He will appear on earth again in great glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## The Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

**G** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

### Distribution

#### Distribution Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

*LSB*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

[Chorus]

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

[Chorus – 2x]

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

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### Prayer after Communion

- L** *We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this gift of Christ's body and blood,*  
**C** **and we pray that, by our communion with Him, new life would flow in us,**  
**L** *strengthening our faith in You*  
**C** **and our service toward one another,**  
**L** *enabling us to participate in the mission of our risen Lord*  
**C** **among our neighbors and throughout the world;**  
**L** *through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now*  
**C** **and forever. Amen.**

### Benediction

### Closing Song: Even So Come

*LSB*

#### Verse 1

All of creation, all of the earth,  
Make straight a highway a path for the Lord  
Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint  
Let every nation shout of Your fame  
Jesus is coming soon

### Chorus



Like a bride, waiting for her groom  
We'll be a church ready for You  
Ev'ry heart, longing for our King, we sing

### **Tag**

Even so come, Lord Jesus come  
Even so come, Lord Jesus come

### **Verse 2**

There will be justice, all will be new  
Your name forever, faithful and true  
Jesus is coming soon

### **Chorus + Tag**

### **Bridge (2x)**

So we wait, we wait for You  
God we wait, You're coming soon

### **Chorus (2x)**

### **Tag (2x)**

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