

Invocation

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-7

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C **and my mouth shall declare Your praise.**
- L** Give glory to God, our light and our life.
C **O come, let us worship Him.**
- L** O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
C **Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.**
- L** For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.
C **In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.**
- L** The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.
C **O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.**
- L** For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
C **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.**
- L** Give glory to God, our light and our life.
C **O come, let us worship Him.**

Opening Song: "Here I Am to Worship"

(On-line Worship)

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness.
Opened my eyes let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You.

[Chorus]

So here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth You created.
All for love's sake became poor.

[Chorus]

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

[Repeat]

[Chorus x 2]

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell

down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

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

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Prayer of the Day

- L** You demonstrate Your power in a different way, O God—
- C** **not through treachery or tyranny ... not by making impossible demands or requiring base servitude.**
- L** You demonstrate Your power in a different way, O God—a way that goes against this world's expectations:
- C** **Mercy is the hallmark of Your reign, forgiveness Your kingdom's catchword.**
- L** Give us hearts of forgiveness, O God,
- C** **even as You have washed our hearts clean with Your great forgiveness.**
- L** Give us minds that forget wrongdoing,
- C** **even as You have put our sins out of Your mind.**
- L** Make us a people rich in forgiveness ... generous in mercy.
- C** **For mercy is the hallmark of Your reign.**
- L** Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now,
- C** **and forever. Amen.**

Sermon Hymn: "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace"

(On-line Worship)

- 1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.
- 2 Break down the wall that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.
- 3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.
- 4 Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.
- 5 With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.

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Sermon

Apostles' Creed

- C** **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.**

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. During the outdoor services, an offering box is on a table as you enter the tented area. You may give to God and the work of His Church by mailing them in, but you can also give electronically using the Church App (see "Pushpay button"), or Simply Giving or PayPal.

Offering Prayer

L *Merciful Father,*

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us-
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of Him Who offered Himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Exhortation

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned
against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as
ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us
and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your
holy Name, Amen.**

Absolution

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

☩ Amen

Closing Song: "You Are My King (Amazing Love)"

(On-line Worship)

VERSE

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

CHORUS

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You
(Repeat Verse and Chorus)

BRIDGE

You are my King
You are my King
Jesus You are my King
You are my King

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You *(Repeat)*

In all I do I honor You

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Benediction

LSB 183

P 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.

☩ Amen.

Announcements

Thank you to Deacon Jim Lundgren for preaching the Word of God today.

St. James Lutheran, a Giving People:

ALTAR FLOWERS have been given:

- in honor of our 30th Wedding Anniversary here at STJLC, by Maria and Warren Honnold.
- in memory of husband Bob's third anniversary in heaven from Ellie Heschel.

TO ORDER ALTAR FLOWERS: Call Connie Marohn at 862-7123 after you have signed up for your requested date in the Altar Flower Book in the Narthex. Please use an Altar Guild envelope located in the Narthex to place your check for \$25.00 for *each* Bouquet payable to St. James Lutheran Church Flowers and the wording you wish printed in the bulletin. Place envelope into the offering plate or mail to 230 Second Ave., NY 11780. Envelopes must be received by Monday for the subsequent weekend.

MAILING LIST/HOUSEHOLD INFO. FORM: Please help us to update our database and church mailing list! There are copies of Family Household Information forms in the Narthex. If you've had any changes in

your household over the past few years, please complete a form, put it in the envelope provided and either drop it in with your offering, or mail to 230 Second Ave., NY 11780.

Other Announcements:

GRIEFSHARE: is now meeting at 9:30AM on Wednesdays (**Thursday this week only**) in the Multipurpose Room (formerly Youth Room). The 13-week program is a bereavement support group for those seeking help and encouragement following the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Each session will include an information-packed video featuring leading grief recovery experts, a group discussion about the video content and a workbook for journaling and personal study that reinforces the weekly session topics.

GriefShare is offered free of charge to all members of the community seeking Christ-centered bereavement support and a warm, caring group "oasis" during their long journeys through grief. It is Bible-based and underwritten by a generous grant from St. James Funeral Home. Contact Deacon **Jim Lundgren** (jameslundgren48@gmail.com) or Care Giver **Bonnie Spiegel** (ladybon@optimum.net) for additional information or to register for **GriefShare**. Complete information is available from Jim or Bonnie, or online at www.griefshare.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are looking for people to volunteer to be on our **Tech Team** at STJLC. Our online worship opportunities are going very well, and we need more people to help make them even better! No prior experience is necessary, but people who work well with computers would be ideal team members. You will be trained in all aspects of the position. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email DCE Ryan Howard at ryan@stjlc.com. Thank you!

WORSHIP TIME/PLACE CHANGES:

Beginning this Sunday, **September 13th**,

Sunday worship will return to the Sanctuary:

Sundays at 8:30 am & 10:30 am (*new time!*)

Saturdays at 5:30 pm will continue outdoors, weather permitting.

Holy Communion celebrated at all services.

Masks are required and social distancing will be observed.

We will not be singing indoors at this time.

RED LETTER CHALLENGE:

In many of our Bibles, when we read the words of Jesus (that is, the words that He said while He was here on Earth in the flesh, as recorded in the four Gospels), they are often colored red. The idea for the Red Letter Challenge came from that color. What if we took those words of Jesus - the ones He says in red - and put them into practice? The Red Letter Challenge is unique because it takes Christ's literal words and gives you practical daily challenges based on those words. Do you have what it takes to really follow Jesus and do what He said? We believe you do!

We are going to attempt this challenge together as a Congregation, and we believe Jesus will do great things with us as we take this challenge! **Beginning on September 20th, we will spend 6 weeks putting Jesus's words into practice. Everyone who takes the challenge will have a book that will guide them with individual devotions and challenges over the 6 week period.** We will also be centering our worship services around the challenge, and you will have the opportunity to **meet together in Small Groups with other brothers and sisters who are taking the challenge with you!**

You'll be able to sign up for the challenge and obtain your book at worship over the next few weeks, or by contacting the Church Office. The cost of this challenge is \$20 per person - that pays for the book as well as the 6 week course. It's absolutely worth it! If you have any questions, please email DCE Ryan Howard at ryan@stjlc.com. Let's take on this challenge together!

EAGLE SCOUT FUNDRAISER: Alex Rodriguez, member of our congregation, is holding a Car Wash to raise funds for his Eagle Scout Project. The car wash will be at 570 Middle Country Road (Wendy's parking

lot) from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, 9/19/20 & 9/20/20. Donations will be gladly accepted. Alex thanks you in advance for your support!

PEEK AT THE WEEK

SUNDAY September 13

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
8:30 am (Sanctuary) / 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Worship Service

MONDAY September 14

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room

TUESDAY September 15

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
9-12:00 pm Mom's Group-Youth Room
6:30-8:30 pm AA Multipurpose Room

WEDNESDAY September 16

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
10:30 am Funeral-Sue Fox

THURSDAY September 17

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
9:30-11:30 am GriefShare - Multi-Purpose Room –THIS WEEK ONLY
10-11:00 am –Bible Study- Sanctuary or Parish Hall

FRIDAY September 18

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
8-9:00 am Morning Prayer-Sanctuary

SATURDAY September 19

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
5:30 pm Worship Service (Outdoors, weather permitting)

SUNDAY September 20

5:15-7:45 am AA- Multipurpose Room
8:30 am (Sanctuary) / 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Worship Service

Acknowledgments

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