



# Sunday Worship

## 9 am

### September 13, 2020

#### *Welcome*

***Call to Worship***      “Give to Our God Immortal Praise”! ELW 848  
~ *Laura Stave, accompanied by Patrick Karst*

Give to our God immortal praise!  
Mercy and truth are all his ways.  
Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

God sent his Son with pow'r to save  
from guilt and darkness and the grave.  
Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown;  
the King of kings with glory crown.  
His mercies ever shall endure  
when lords and kings are known no more!

#### ***Confession and Forgiveness***

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Amen.*

*Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

*Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.*

*Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### ***Prayer of the Day***

*Lord God*, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Open our hearts to love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, and forgive others as you have forgiven us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Readings***                      Chris Dale  
Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12

***Gospel Reading***  
Matthew 18:21-35

***Sermon***                              Pastor Jennifer Shaw

***Sermon Hymn***                      “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” ELW 588  
~ *The McGihon Family, accompanied by Patrick Karst*

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.

There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good;  
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.  
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all:  
greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.  
Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word,  
and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

### ***Apostles' Creed***

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Offering**

“Down to the River to Pray” a. Curry  
~ *The McGihon Family, accompanied by Patrick Karst*

*As we continue to provide for the spiritual and physical needs of our community, we are deeply grateful for your financial support. You can give by 1) mailing a check to the church (42695 Washington St, Palm Desert, CA 92211), or 2) giving online through the “Give” button on the top right corner of our website (stjohnslutheran.church).*

*Please give as you feel called and able to do so, and please know that any amount you give is deeply appreciated.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...*

**Words of Institution*****The Lord’s Prayer Sung***

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Communion****Announcements****Benediction**

**Sending Hymn** “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” ELW 551  
~ *Sarah Hagar, accompanied by Patrick Karst*

The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.

We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;  
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

**Dismissal** ~ *Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.*