

# St. John's Christian Church – Welcome to Our Worship of God

## March 22, 2020

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*This order of worship outlines our Pause for Praise radio broadcast that will air at 8:30am Sunday morning. That broadcast is also available on our church website – [stjohnsarchbold.org](http://stjohnsarchbold.org) – and can be listened to at any time. The embedded hyperlinks are added in for people who want to adapt this order for their own personal time of worship.*

### Welcome and Gathering

See Discovery Guide Reading of Tuesday, March 17 – “Things Are Different Now”

<https://scriptureunion.org/dailydiscovery/things-are-different-now/>

### Scripture Reading – John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

### Prayer

Lord God, in the midst of all that is transpiring throughout the whole wide earth, we know you are our refuge and strength. We know you so loved the world that you sent your son Jesus to save the world. In this time of worship, Lord, remind me of your great love, wash away any doubts or concerns, fill me with your peace and grace as we sing praises to your name. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### Worship Music

Listen to “Power of Your Love” by Norm Fether

<http://stjohnsarchbold.org/worship-music/#worship-music>

(Click on the top “play” button for March 22)

Listen to “Think About His Love” by the Chancel Choir

<http://stjohnsarchbold.org/worship-music/#worship-music>

(Click on the second “play” button for March 22)

### Children's Object Lesson

“Feed My Sheep”

A Variation of the Lesson Pastor Erich offers can be found at:

<https://sermons4kids.com/love-in-any-language.html>

## Worship Music

Listen to “Dream Small” by Klaire Kern

<http://stjohnsarchbold.org/worship-music/#worship-music>

(Click on third “play” button for March 22)

## Scripture Reading – 1 John 3:16-20

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. <sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. <sup>19</sup> This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence <sup>20</sup> whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.”

## Lesson – “Lent: Sacrifice”

- Coronavirus – Pandemic – illustrations of living out 1 John 3:16-20
- 1 John 2:26, 28 – stay clear of heresy, but continue to with
- Loving one another – Contrasted to the hatred expressed in 1 John 3:12-15
- Example of Jesus – he sacrificed his life for us, his action matched his words (Matthew 16:21)
  - We need to be prepared to do the same for one another
  - In everyday terms, this means to help meet the needs of people
- We know – perfect tense in Greek – 1) a completed action and 2) continuing results
  - Sacrifice of Jesus on the cross – completed action; his sacrifice offers salvation – continuing results today
- True test of the Christian – loving with words and tongue or loving with actions and truth
  - Parable of the Good Samaritan – Luke 10
  - Agape love – an action, costly, unconditional love
- Find ways to share agape love in these days – be active in and with God’s love

## Worship Music

Listen to “He Never Failed Me Yet” by the Chancel Choir

<http://stjohnsarchbold.org/worship-music/#worship-music>

(Click on the fourth “play” button for March 22)

## Closing Prayer and Benediction

Loving and Compassionate God, in the midst of our days, with many disruptions and changed plans, your word teaches us to respond in love. We don’t want this pandemic, but it’s here – let us make the wisest use of our time – to not just talk about it or complain about it – but help us love through it all – guide us, Lord; increase our trust in you; convict us to love as Jesus loves – in action and in truth. For your glory we pray. Amen.

Philippians 4:7 – And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.