

# St John Church of Christ

January 5, 2020

## Order of Worship

*Worship Leader:* Jerry

*Gathering Song:* No. 238 You  
Are the Song That I Sing

*Welcome:* Tom

*Scripture Reading:* Landon  
Psalm 78:1-4

### Songs

No. 38 Awesome God

No. 76 How Great Thou Art

No. 4 To God Be the Glory

No. 96 I Stand in Awe (Please  
stand for the song and prayer  
to follow)

*Prayer:* Tom

*Song* No. 367 The Scars in the  
Hands of Jesus

*Communion:* Orrin

*assisted by*

Chris, Darrel W., Fred

### Song

*Song:* No. 587 Sing and Be  
Happy

*Lesson:* It All Begins with  
Baptis

Matthew 3:13-17

*Song* No. 918 Out of My Bond-  
age (1st verse)

*Prayer:* Teddy

(CCLI #244012t9)

## What Music Does God Listen to?



Have you ever wondered if God was driving around town, which radio station would He listen to in his car? Talk radio, National Public Radio? Rock, Hip Hop, Country? Classic, Golden Oldies, Christian? I strongly suspect that if He were listening to most of the things I hear on the air, there would be a flurry of lightning strikes in a lot of control rooms across the country.

So, what kind of music does God like? It probably doesn't come from an MP4 player. It probably doesn't come from a guitar or an oboe. Those are only lifeless instruments.

As a grandfather, the sweetest music I have ever heard comes from my grandchildren. Lucy's rendition of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" or little India singing "Jesus Loves Me" are classics in my book - not because they were

of operatic quality - not because studios are rushing to sign contracts with my grandkids - but because they came from the heart of my dear little ones.

Think about it. God has choirs of angels. The sound (pardon the pun) must be angelic. Cherubim and seraphim surround him, but what He truly wants to hear is the "joyful noise" that comes from our hearts. Our music is an expression of our relationship. The "fruit of our lips" is our gift to our loving heavenly Father. Frankly, He probably doesn't care if we sing off-key, mess up the timing, or even hit the right notes. What touches God's heart is what comes from our heart. Here are some great reasons to "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord," (Ephesians 5:19).

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First, because we love our God and our hearts are bursting with joy. The Apostle Paul told the Philippians to “rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4). Joy gives birth to joy. When we sing as God intended, it fills our heart and refreshes our spirit.

Second, what can we give to God that He doesn't already have? The mountains and seas, the stars and the planets and everything in them belong to God. Everything we possess belongs to God, and we are only His trustees. The one thing that we have that truly belongs to us is our heart.

That makes our heart our most precious gift, and in song, we give our hearts to God. Because we love God, we want to give him the very best. Think about it. When you are giving your wife a special present, do you just carelessly toss it on the bed wrapped only in the cheap, plastic shopping bag it came in? Or do take a moment to remove the packaging, loving wrap it in bright paper and tie it together with a beautiful bow?

David refused to offer a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing (2 Samuel 24:24). Likewise, God - our heavenly Father - will be happy with our songs when we give him our very best!



“Sinners are attractive because they are loved; they are not loved because they are attractive.”

– MARTIN LUTHER

## News and Notes

### Wednesday Bible Studies

The New Year has begun! Our Wednesday programs resume this week with an afternoon Bible study at 2:00 P.M., dinner together at 6:30 P.M. and classes at 7:00 P.M.

### The Story of Jesus

During December we focused on the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. Now join us Sunday mornings from now until Easter, April 12th as we tell the rest of the story!

This week we join John the Baptist at the baptism of Christ.

## More About Us

### Meeting Times

- **Sundays**
  - ◇ Leisure Homestead 9:30 A.M.
  - ◇ Bible Study for All Ages 10:00 A.M.
  - ◇ Worship 11:00 A.M.
- **Our regular Wednesday programs resume this Wednesday, January 8TH.**
- **Wednesdays**
  - ◇ Community Bible Study 2:00 P.M.
  - ◇ Dinner & Devo 6:30 P.M.
  - ◇ Bible Classes 7:15 P.M.
- **Every Other Monday**
  - ◇ Ladies' Bible Class 7:00 P.M.

### For Your Prayers

Let's continue praying for Stan and Orvalee! Stan was taken to the hospital in Wichita last Sunday and is preparing to go to the Mayo Clinic next week as the doctors continue to try to help him.

Let's also not forget to pray for our shut-ins! And while you are praying, why not take a moment to give them a call or drop them a card?



Scan this QR code with your Smart Phone to visit our website:  
<https://stjohnchurchofchrist.org>

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Do you have a news item, prayer request, or event to share with us? Call John McKeel (619) 313-7997.

