

Let's Make a Joyful Noise

PSALM 98:4



NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

Table of Contents

Welcome Letter	3
Presidential Proclamation	4
Introduction	5

WORSHIP & DEVOTIONS

Hymns	6
Sunday or Celebration Service	12
Monday: Joyful Noise in Praise	13
Tuesday: Joyful Noise in Worship	14
Wednesday: Joyful Noise in Service	15
Thursday: Joyful Noise in Community	16
Friday: Joyful Noise in Christ Alone	17

Welcome Letter

Dear Lutheran School Families,

Welcome to National Lutheran Schools Week 2026! This week is a cherished opportunity for us to come together as a community of believers across the nation and around the world to celebrate the joy and purpose found in Lutheran education. Our theme, drawn from Psalm 98:4, is a powerful and vibrant call to action: "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!"

Psalm 98 is a psalm of celebration and praise. It invites us to lift our voices in response to the marvelous things God has done — from creation to salvation — and to His constant care in our daily lives. What a fitting focus for a week in which students, teachers, families and congregations join to reflect on the blessings of Lutheran schools. Each school — no matter the size or setting — is part of a beautiful symphony of joyful noise to the Lord.

This week, our students will explore how to make joyful noise in creation, worship, service, community and in Christ alone. They will see that joyful noise is not simply about loud sound, it is about hearts aligned with God's goodness and mouths eager to proclaim His grace. From hymns in chapels to acts of kindness in the classroom, from shared prayers to service projects, our schools will echo with songs of praise.

Lutheran education is built on Christ and centers on the Gospel. That means every subject taught, every relationship nurtured and every celebration held has eternal significance. And so, with joy in our hearts and praise on our lips, we begin this week confident that Jesus is present in every classroom, guiding our students and staff in truth and love.

Let us truly make a joyful noise — not just this week, but every day. May this celebration renew our gratitude, reignite our mission and remind us of the joy we have in the Lord!

IN CHRIST,

Dr. Alan Freeman

Director, LCMS School Ministry

Presidential Proclamation

Whereas, God loves us and sent His Son to be our Savior; and

Whereas, Lutheran schools provide opportunities for teachers and students to teach and hear this Good News of God's love; and

Whereas, The Bible says, "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" (Psalm 98:4); and

Whereas, Psalm 98 invites us to lift our voices in response to the marvelous things God has done and to acknowledge His constant care in our lives; and

Whereas, Making this joyful noise is about having forgiven hearts filled with God's goodness and mouths eager to proclaim His grace; and

Whereas, Lutheran education is built upon Christ and His Gospel, and we are confident in the knowledge that through His Word, Jesus is present in every classroom, guiding students and staff in truth and love; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we use this celebration to renew our gratitude, reignite our mission and remind us of the joy we have in Jesus; and be it finally

Resolved, That Jan. 25–31, 2026, be officially proclaimed as National Lutheran Schools Week in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Introduction

Each day will explore how our voices and lives express joy in the Lord through His creation, worship, acts of service, relationships, and most of all, through Jesus.

- **MONDAY:** Joyful Noise in Praise
- **TUESDAY:** Joyful Noise in Worship
- **WEDNESDAY:** Joyful Noise in Service
- **THURSDAY:** Joyful Noise in Community
- **FRIDAY:** Joyful Noise in Christ Alone

PLANNING YOUR NLSW CELEBRATION

- 1 **Start Early:** Use this guide to schedule daily chapel themes, spirit days and community events.
- 2 **Involve Everyone:** Engage pastors, teachers, church workers (DCEs, deaconesses, DFLMs, DPMs), students, families, alumni and local leaders.
- 3 **Publicize Events:** Share your plans on church and school websites, social media and local press.
- 4 **Celebrate Publicly:** Showcase your school's mission in action through service projects and celebrations.

ACTIVITIES & CELEBRATION IDEAS

- **Spirit Week Themes:** (e.g., Crazy Sock Day, Dress Like a Psalm Day, School Colors Day)
- **Service Projects:** Food drive, card writing, community cleanup
- **Schoolwide Worship:** Invite families and congregations to join worship, either at chapel or at the church's Sunday services.
- **Joy Parade:** A joyful walk with music, posters and praise songs

THANK YOU!

We are grateful for the ministry you lead and the joy you bring to Lutheran education. May the 2026 National Lutheran Schools Week be filled with voices raised in praise to our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Let Us Make a Joyful Noise

A NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK HYMN FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

Based on Psalm 98:4

BY JEFFREY E. BURKART

Sung to: *Weil Ich Jesu Schäflein Bin* ("I am Jesus' Little Lamb" – LSB 740)

- 1 Let us make a joyful noise! *Psalm 98:4*
To our LORD, lift every voice!
Sing a new song to the Father *Psalm 98:1a*
And to Jesus Christ, our brother.
Sing to God the Spirit who
With true faith did us imbue!
- 2 God's right hand and holy arm *Psalm 98:1b*
Keeps us ever from all harm,
For God sent His blest salvation
To all people of each nation. *Psalm 98:3*
Yet, some people do not know
That God's love can to them flow.
- 3 Therefore, let us sing and tell *Psalm 98:4*
Of God's love that we know well.
Tell how God once sent LORD Jesus
To this sinful world to free us
From the crafty Devil's might
Through His Son, who made us right.
- 4 Tell of how Christ Jesus came *Psalm 98:9*
To this world to take our blame
For the sins that we've committed
So, through Him, we'd be acquitted
By His death upon a cross
On which Jesus' life was lost.
- 5 Then tell how LORD Jesus rose
And how He loves us and knows
All our sins and every danger.
To them, Jesus is no stranger.
He came to forgive our sin
So we could new life begin.
- Δ 6 For this Good News, we rejoice;
Hills and rivers raise your voice! *Psalm 98: 8*
Sing a new song to the Father
And to Jesus Christ, our brother.
Sing to God the Spirit who
With true faith did us imbue.

PSALM 98:4

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
² The LORD has made known his
salvation; he has revealed his righ-
teousness in the sight of the nations.
³ He has remembered his steadfast
love and faithfulness to the house of
Israel. All the ends of the earth have
seen the salvation of our God.
⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD,
all the earth; break forth into joyous
song and sing praises!
⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with
the lyre, with the lyre and the sound
of melody!
⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the
horn make a joyful noise before the
King, the LORD!
⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
⁹ before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth. He will judge the
world with righteousness, and the
peoples with equity.

Let Us Make a Joyful Noise
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WEIL ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN
778 877

Lead Sheet

Theme hymn for the 2025-26 National Lutheran Schools Week
For younger children

Let Us Make a Joyful Noise

J. E. B.

Based on Psalm 98:4

Jeffrey E. Burkart



1 Let us make a joy - ful noise! To our Lord, lift ev' - ry voice!
2 God's right hand and ho - ly arm Keeps us ev - er from all harm,
3 There-fore, let us sing and tell Of God's love that we know well.
4 Tell of how Christ Je - sus came To this world to take our blame
5 Then tell how Lord Je - sus rose And how He loves us and knows



Sing a new song to the Fa - ther And to Je - sus Christ, our broth - er.
For God sent His blest sal - va - tion To all peo - ple of each na - tion.
Tell how God once sent Lord Je - sus To this sin - ful world to free us
For the sins that we've com - mit - ted So, through Him, we'd be ac - quit - ted
All our sins and ev' - ry dan - ger. To them, Je - sus is no strang - er.



Sing to God the Spir - it who With true faith did us im - bue!*

Yet, some peo - ple do not know That God's love can to them flow.
From the craft - y De - vil's might Through His Son, who made us right.
By His death up - on a cross On which Je - sus' life was lost.
He came to for - give our sin So we could new life be - gin.

Δ 6 For this Good News, we rejoice;
Hills and rivers raise your voice!
Sing a new song to the Father
And to Jesus Christ, our brother.
Sing to God the Spirit who
With true faith did us imbue.
Amen! Amen! Amen!



A - men! A - men! A - men!

* "Imbue" means to fill, instill, or inspire.

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WEIL ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN
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Musical Score

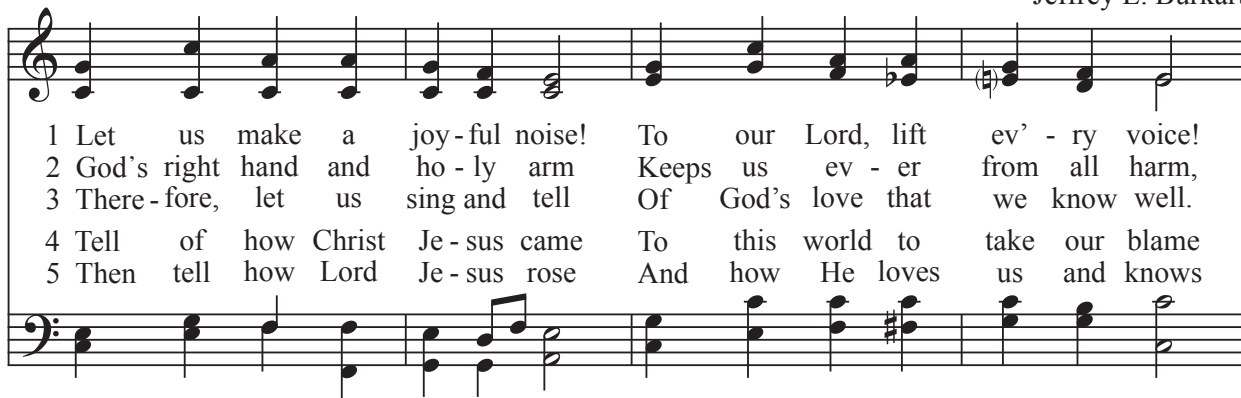
Theme hymn for the 2025-26 National Lutheran Schools Week
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Let Us Make a Joyful Noise

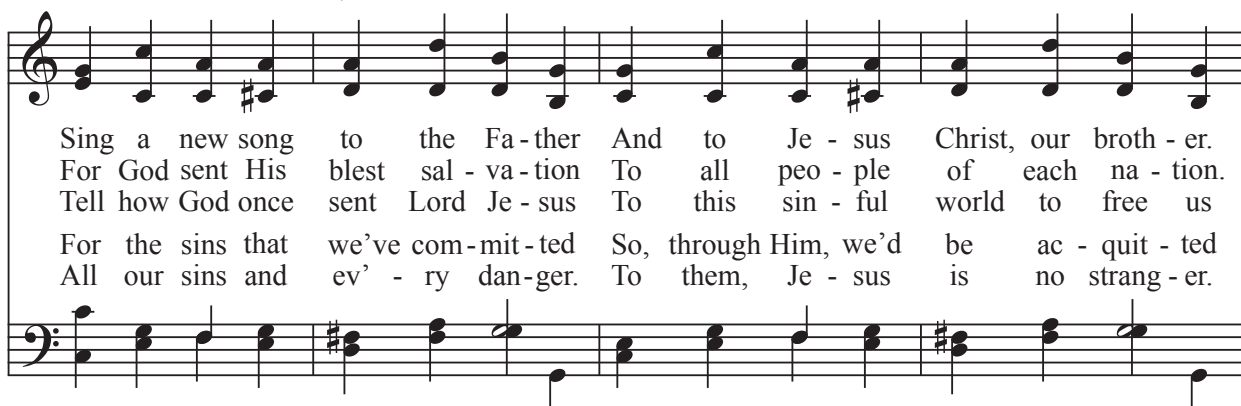
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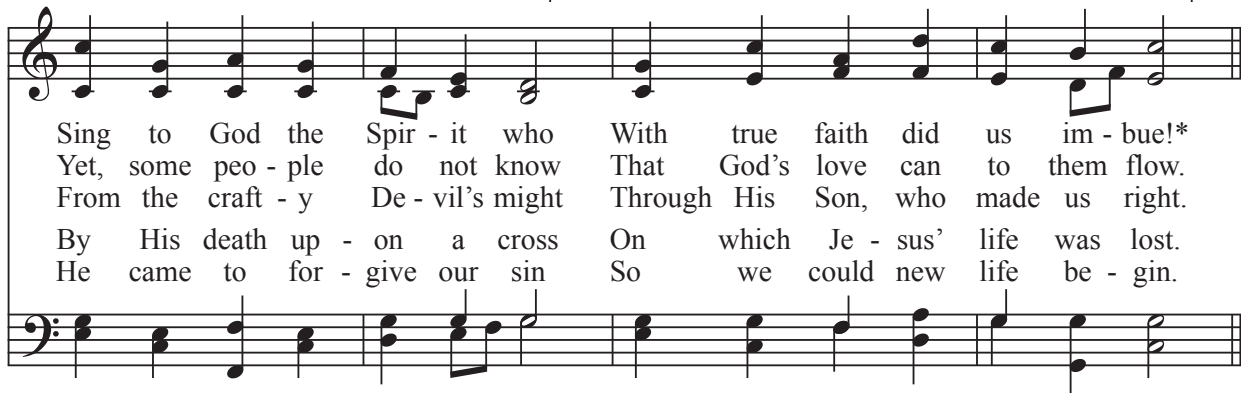
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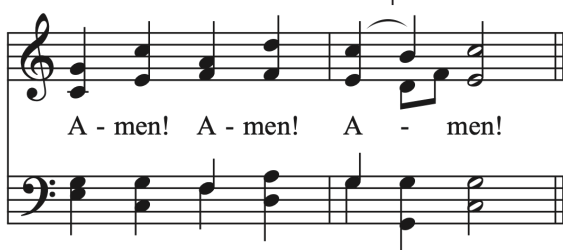
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Sing to God the Spirit who
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Amen! Amen! Amen!



A - men! A - men! A - men!

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WEIL ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN
778 877



Sing! Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD

A NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK HYMN FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Based on Psalm 98:4

BY JEFFREY E. BURKART

- 1 Sing! Make a joyful noise to the LORD;
Break forth in joyous song and praises!
Marvelous things the LORD has now done;
Sing so all the world can here it!
God has made salvation known,
And His righteousness has shown!
- 2 Praises now sing to God the Most High;
Melodies make that soar to heaven!
Trumpets and lyres are bursting with joy;
Seas roar and all those who dwell therein!
Rivers then shall clap their hands;
Hills sing praise throughout the lands!
- 3 Sing to the LORD a new joyous song;
He will judge the world with righteousness.
Shout with a festal joy, faithful throng;
Cast aside all sin and waywardness!
Trust in God who sent His Son
Who, for all, salvation's won!
- 4 God has remembered His steadfast love;
His faithfulness is ours forever.
God sent His Son from heaven above,
Whose love and mercy fails us never.
Jesus came to die and rise
So, in Him, we too arise!
- Δ 5 Make a most joyful noise to the LORD;
Praise sing to Father, Son, and Spirit!
The LORD has done most marvelous things;
Sing so that all the nations cheer it!
Through faith in the One-in-Three
We shall live eternally! Amen!

PSALM 98:4

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
² The LORD has made known his
salvation; he has revealed his right-
eousness in the sight of the nations.
³ He has remembered his steadfast
love and faithfulness to the house of
Israel. All the ends of the earth have
seen the salvation of our God.
⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD,
all the earth; break forth into joyous
song and sing praises!
⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with
the lyre, with the lyre and the sound
of melody!
⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the
horn make a joyful noise before the
King, the LORD!
⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
⁹ before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth. He will judge the
world with righteousness, and the
peoples with equity.

Make a Most Joyful Noise to the LORD
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LORD OF JOY alt.
99 99 77

Lead Sheet

Theme hymn for the 2025-26 National Lutheran Schools Week
For older children and adults

Sing! Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD

Based on Psalm 98:4

J. E. B.

Jeffrey E. Burkart



1 Sing! Make a joy - ful noise to the LORD; Break forth in joy - ous
2 Prais - es now sing to God the Most High; Mel - o - dies make that
3 Sing to the LORD a new joy - ous song; He will judge the world
4 God has re - mem - bered His stead-fast love; His faith - ful - ness is
Δ 5 Make a most joy - ful noise to the LORD; Praise sing to Fa - ther,



song and prais - es! Mar - vel - ous things the LORD has now done;
soar to heav - en! Trum - pets and lyres are burst - ing with joy;
with righ - teous-ness. Shout with a fes - tal joy, faith - ful throng;
ours for - ev - er. God sent His Son from heav - en a - bove,
Son, and Spit - it! The LORD has done most mar - vel - ous things;



Sing so that all the world can hear_ it! God has made sal -
Seas roar and all those who dwell there - in! Riv - ers then shall
Cast a - side all sin and way - ward - ness! Trust in God who
Whose love and mer - cy fails us nev - er. Je - sus came to
Sing so that all the na - tions cheer_ it! Through faith in the



va - tion_ known, And His righ - teous - ness_ has shown!
clap their_ hands; Hills sing praise_ through - out_ the lands!
sent His_ Son Who, for all, sal - va - ion's won!
die and_ rise So, in Him, we too_ a - rise!
One - in - Three We shall live_ e - ter - nal - ly!

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Musical Score

Theme hymn for the 2025-26 National Lutheran Schools Week
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One - in - Three We shall live_ e - ter - nal - ly!

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Sunday or Celebration Service

Worship is our response to God's mercy, as described in Romans 12:1–2: "By the mercies of God ... present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Worship begins with God's actions toward us.

THEME: Let's Make a Joyful Noise!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS: Psalm 98:4 – "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!"

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (LSB 803)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR / CLASS PRESENTATION

A song of praise, such as "This Is the Day" or "Shout to the Lord"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LEADER: Good morning, friends! Have you ever been so excited that you just had to make some noise? Maybe when your team scored a goal or when you saw someone you loved? Today, we're talking about making a joyful noise — not just any noise, but one that praises God!

(Show a musical instrument like a tambourine or kazoo, or just clap hands.)

This is one way we can make a joyful noise. But even if we don't have an instrument, we can praise God with our singing, praying, helping and smiling.

Psalm 98:4 says, "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" That means everyone — young and old — is invited to celebrate God. He made you, He loves you, and He's always with you. That's something worth shouting about!

So let's remember: Every time we sing in chapel, help a friend, or say "Thank You" to God, we're making a joyful noise.

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, thank You for giving us voices and hearts full of joy. Help us to use them to praise You today and every day. In Your name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament: Psalm 98:4–6

Epistle: Colossians 3:16–17

Gospel: Luke 19:37–40

SERMON TOPIC

"Joyful Noise in Christ Alone"

FOCUS: Jesus is the source of our true and lasting joy. Through Him, we have every reason to celebrate — in creation, worship, service, community, and above all, salvation.

ILLUSTRATION: Incorporate student voices and examples from the week's themes.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good" (LSB 819)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Heavenly Father... (Silence for reflection)

P Almighty God ...

C We confess that we have not always lived with joy or gratitude. We have failed to love You and others as we should. Forgive us, renew us, and help us to live in the joy of Your forgiveness. Amen.

P Upon this your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Include special petitions for Lutheran schools, students, teachers, families and communities.

CLOSING HYMN

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (LSB 528)

Joyful Noise in Praise

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 98:4

KEY THOUGHT

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!”

HYMN

“Earth and All the Stars” (LSB 817)

STUDENT DEVOTION

Have you ever been so happy that you couldn’t help but shout or sing? Maybe you won a game, saw someone you missed, or heard great news. Psalm 98:4 reminds us that God wants to hear our joy — and not just quiet joy. He invites the whole world to break into loud, joyful songs to praise Him.

We can make a joyful noise in many ways — singing in chapel, laughing with friends, praying with classmates, helping others, or simply saying “Thank You” to God. It’s not about how loud we are or how well we sing — it’s about how thankful we are in our hearts.

Today, remember that your voice matters to God. Whether it’s through words, actions or songs, let your life be a celebration of His love.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- What’s something that God has given you or that He has done that makes you want to praise Him today?
- What’s one thing that makes you want to praise God today?
- How do you think your school makes a joyful noise to God?
- What does it mean to break forth into joyous song?

THINGS TO PRAY ABOUT

Dear God, thank You for giving me reasons to celebrate. Help me use my voice, my actions and my life to praise You. Thank You for being so good and loving. Amen.

TEACHER DEVOTION

As educators, we encounter noise every day — laughter, questions, movement, and sometimes chaos. But today’s Scripture calls us to notice the joyful noise — the kind that bubbles up from hearts full of grace.

Psalm 98 celebrates God’s mighty works and invites all creation to respond. Lutheran schools are communities where this response happens daily — in devotions, learning, relationships and service. As we begin this week, we are reminded that our calling is not just to educate, but to lead our students in lives of praise.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Find the joy in your classroom noise today. Recognize it as a song of praise to God.

PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the privilege of teaching in a school that lifts You high. Let my words, work and witness be joyful noise to You today. Amen.

Joyful Noise in Worship

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 95:1–2

KEY THOUGHT

Worship is our response to God's goodness and love. Worship is our response to God's mercy, as described in Romans 12:1–2: "By the mercies of God ... present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Worship begins with God's actions toward us.

HYMN

"Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"
(LSB 812)

STUDENT DEVOTION

"Why do we sing in chapel?" That question might pop up when we're tired, distracted or unsure. But Psalm 95:1 reminds us, "Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!"

Worship is more than singing — it's giving our attention and hearts to God. Worship can be quiet and reflective or loud and enthusiastic. It happens in chapel, at home, in the car, or even on the playground when we show love, say prayers or give thanks. Worship is our response to God's mercy, as described in Romans 12:1–2: "By the mercies of God ... present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Worship begins with God's actions toward us.

Worship is a joyful noise because it's our response to who God is. He's the one who made us, saved us and loves us every day. So when we worship, we're saying "Thank You," "I love You," and "You are awesome!"

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- What's your favorite worship song or hymn? Why?
- How can we worship even when we're not at church or chapel?
- What are some ways to make worship part of your whole day?

THINGS TO PRAY ABOUT

Dear God, You are worthy of all our praise. Help me worship You today with my voice, my thoughts and my actions. Let my heart sing for joy because of all You've done. In Jesus' name. Amen.

TEACHER DEVOTION

Worship in the life of a teacher often begins before the school bell rings. It's in the silent prayer during morning coffee, the whispered plea for strength, the praise whispered during a joyful class moment. Worship is more than music; it's a posture of the heart. Worship is our response to God's mercy, as described in Romans 12:1–2: "By the mercies of God ... present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Worship begins with God's actions toward us.

John 4:24 says, "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." As educators in Lutheran schools, we lead not just in teaching facts, but in forming lives of faith. Our role isn't only to supervise chapel — it's to cultivate worship as a way of life.

Let us not lose our wonder for the Triune God we serve. May our classroom routines, staff devotions and even hallway conversations echo praise.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Take time today to recognize the ways your teaching is an act of worship in response to God's mercy.

PRAYER

Father, receive my teaching, serving and guiding today as worship. Let my heart remain centered on You. Let every joyful moment point back to Your grace. Amen.

Joyful Noise in Service

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 4:10

KEY THOUGHT

Serving others is a way we reflect Jesus' love.

HYMN

"Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying" (LSB 826)

STUDENT DEVOTION

Jesus came to serve us — to serve you and to serve me. He sacrificed Himself on the cross, taking our place, so our sins could be forgiven. How do our lives of service respond to the Gospel, the Good News that Jesus has saved us?

"Why do we help others?" It's a question you might have asked when someone handed you a broom, asked you to share, or invited you to do something kind for someone who didn't seem to deserve it. The Bible gives us a beautiful answer: "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 PETER 4:10).

God gave you gifts — special talents, a kind heart, a helping spirit. When you use those gifts to help someone else, you're making a joyful noise that pleases God. Jesus, the Son of God, came to serve — not to be served — and when we follow Him, we do the same.

Sometimes, serving can be hard. It might not get noticed. It might even feel unfair. But every act of service is an opportunity to say, "God, I love You, and I want to show Your love to others."

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- What gifts has God given you?
- How can serving others be a way to praise God?
- Who is someone you could help today — even in a small way?

THINGS TO PRAY ABOUT

Jesus, You came to serve, and You call me to do the same. Help me to notice people who need help and to use my gifts to love them. Let my actions today be a joyful noise to You. Amen.

TEACHER DEVOTION

There are days when service feels invisible. Lessons are prepared, problems are solved, tears are wiped and hearts are quietly tended — and yet, much of it may go unrecognized. But Scripture reminds us: "Through love serve one another" (GAL. 5:13).

Our service as Christian educators is not just classroom management or lesson delivery; it is sacred work. It is service to the Lord as we nurture, guide and equip our students in His name. Each small act — a smile, an encouraging word, a patient pause — echoes the selfless love of Christ.

May we see our calling not just as work, but as worship through service.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Celebrate an unseen act of service today — in yourself or someone else.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You for serving me with Your whole life. Help me to serve others with joy and humility. May my day be filled with quiet echoes of Your love. Amen.

Joyful Noise in Community

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:2

KEY THOUGHT

Our joy increases when we live in harmony with one another.

HYMN

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds” (LSB 649)

God places us into the community of His church, giving us pastors, teachers, brothers and sisters in Christ, and a spiritual family to which we belong forever.

STUDENT DEVOTION

Recognize community as a gift that God has placed us in. We were born into our families, and through Baptism, God has placed you in the community of His church. He has given you pastors, teachers, other families, friends, brothers and sisters in Christ all through your Baptism. Most importantly, through your Baptism, you belong to Christ!

“Who’s in your group?” That’s a question you hear often at school — for projects, games or lunch tables. Being part of a group feels good. God made us for community — to live, learn and laugh with others. Philippians 2:2 says, “Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.”

Our community — our class, school and church — is a gift. But sometimes, it’s hard to get along. People might be annoying or selfish, and it’s tempting to leave others out. But when we love each other like Jesus loves us, we create a beautiful, joyful noise that tells the world we belong to Him.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- How do you feel when you’re included or left out?
- What can you do to help someone feel part of your school family?
- What does it mean to be “in full accord and of one mind” with others?

THINGS TO PRAY ABOUT

Jesus, thank You for giving me a school community. Help me be kind and welcoming. Show me how to include others so that our school makes a joyful noise that honors You. Amen.

TEACHER DEVOTION

School communities are complex, living things — made up of diverse people with unique stories and needs. Romans 12:5 reminds us: “So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

Today is a chance to build up the Body of Christ — to extend grace in meetings, encourage a discouraged colleague, or invite a new parent into the circle. As Lutheran educators, we are called to foster communities where Christ’s love is evident in how we treat one another.

It’s not always easy. But in our unity, we reflect the One who makes us whole.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Think of someone who may feel disconnected today — reach out.

PRAYER

Lord, You make us one Body. Help me to strengthen the community I serve. Let our relationships reflect Your joy and peace. Amen.

Joyful Noise in Christ Alone

SCRIPTURE

Romans 15:13

KEY THOUGHT

Our joy is complete in Jesus, our Savior and King!

HYMN

“Christ Be My Leader” (LSB 861)

STUDENT DEVOTION

Joy in Jesus is different. It never runs out. *Because Jesus has conquered death and the grave, because He rose again, He lives and reigns forever. And that means the joy He gives will never end.* Romans 15:13 says, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

“What makes you happy?” Maybe it’s playing with friends, winning a game, or a favorite meal. But those things don’t last forever. Joy in Jesus is different. It never runs out. Romans 15:13 says, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.”

Jesus gives us joy no matter what’s going on around us. When we’re sad, He comforts us. When we’re scared, He protects us. When we mess up, He forgives us. Our loudest and best joyful noise comes when we remember who Jesus is and all He’s done.

This week has been full of praise — through creation, worship, service and community. Today, we remember that all of that is possible because of Christ alone.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- What are you most thankful for in Jesus?
- How can your life show that your joy comes from Christ?
- How does knowing Jesus change the way you live?

THINGS TO PRAY ABOUT

Jesus, thank You for being my joy. I praise You for Your love, forgiveness and promise to be with me always. Help me live each day with joy that comes from knowing You. Amen.

TEACHER DEVOTION

At the end of a full week, our joy might feel tired — but it’s not gone. That’s because our joy doesn’t come from our schedule, our students or our accomplishments. It comes from Christ alone. Colossians 3:16 urges us: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”

As we reflect on this week, we give thanks for each joyful sound — songs sung, lessons taught, prayers lifted and lives shaped. In all of it, Christ was the center.

We continue our work knowing that in Him, we are complete. In Him, we rejoice. In Him, we rest.

ENCOURAGEMENT

End this week in praise. Name the joys you’ve seen. Rest in Christ’s sufficiency.

PRAYER

Jesus, You are our joy. Thank You for sustaining me and for filling this week with Your presence. Let everything I do point others to You. Amen.



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