

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

May 9, 2021 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC

Welcome to St. John's!

As we begin this new week together,
we'd like to bring a few announcements to your attention:

Join us for Midweek Service of Holy Communion Wednesdays at 12:15 pm in the Chapel.

An Ascension Eve worship service will be held at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. Ascension Day celebrates Christ's ascension to heaven according to the scriptures, and is usually celebrated 40 days after Easter.

GRACES is hosting their 2nd Annual Racing for GRACES to benefit the students of Escuela Integrada, our partner school in Guatemala. Interested in participating in the Salisbury run? Contact Krista Woolly at kwoolly65@gmail.com.

Help us transform our current First Look space into a functional place for our children as we continue to grow our children's ministry program. Stop by the table after worship for more information.

We want to make sure we are keeping you updated with the most relevant information through the best avenues for you! Please complete our communications survey at stjohns-salisbury.org/communicationsurvey

Please sign the graduation books, located outside of worship, BEFORE May 23.

If you are interested in volunteering in the nursery, please contact Stacey Shafer, stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org.



Connect.



Give.

Please be advised: Today's worship service is being live-streamed for our online community. For those who desire not to be part of the video stream, seating is available in the balcony and along the last 2 pews of the sanctuary's main level.



Gathering

You'll notice that our worship follows a simple pattern that has guided the church's worship since the first century — Gather, Word, Meal, Sending — a pattern designed to nourish and strengthen us for the week ahead. Welcome to worship!

Call to Worship

Holy, Holy, Holy
Alex Yost, soloist

Written by Reginald Heber

Prayers of Confession

We make the sign of the cross as a reminder of our baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of mercy, **you sent Jesus Christ to seek and to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected injustice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

God's Promise of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with his light, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Hymn 876

Let the Whole Creation Cry
(See Page 9)

SALZBURG

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie. *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace as we gather for worship. Congregation sings the parts in **bold**.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer

Let us pray. O God, you have showered us with your love. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, our hearts and lives might be changed. Thank you for this time of worship. Use this time to encourage and nourish, binding us together as your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Word

We hear God's word in scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading: Psalm 98

¹O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

⁸Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Word of God. Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

Response

Amazing Grace Will Always Be My Song of Praise

Written by D. Rambo

Alex Yost, Soloist

The Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

Hymn 666

What Wondrous Love Is This
(See Page 10)

WONDROUS LOVE

Apostle’s Creed. Gathered as God’s people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of Intercession. *Each petition ends: Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



Sending

Forgiven and nourished, we are now sent into the world to share God's love.

Benediction

Sending Hymn 880

O God Beyond All Praising
(See Page 11)

THAXTED

Dismissal Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated. During the postlude, ushers will dismiss one row at a time so that good social distancing can be maintained. Thank you for joining us in worship this morning.

Postlude

Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and is reproduced by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies annual license #26999.

Join Us In Prayer For The Following:

CONDOLENCES — Alda Smith and family, on the passing of her sister, Dorothy Clark Wilhelm, on April 18. She was a member of St. Johns but lived in Sacramento California.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS — Melody Moxley, Beth Boger, Linda Phillips, Carol Pomeroy

ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS — Brenda Munday, Betty Denker, Randy Overcash, Dean Safrit, Rachel Safrit, Fran Lawson, Pat Nelson, Tom and Nancy Austin, Marge Fuertinger, Roger Alexander, David Wilson, Phyllis Edwards, Robin Cohen, Richard (Dick) Petherick, Benny Banks, Karen Shelton, Gerald Jones, John Myers, Jane Shuping, Barbara Rufty, Walter Tatum, Jim Rabon, Matt Stahl, Nancy Parrish, Thomas Livesay, Gene Myers, Kent Brown

HOMEBOUND — Anita Foreman, Peggy Taylor, Lois and Paul Carter, Alda Smith, Margaret Ketner, Sonny Allen, Dottie Bedford, Hal Furr, Fran Hoke, Sherry Morgan, Ermine Peeler, Shirley Smith, Peggy Smith

Worship Participants

SONG LEADERS: Bonnie and David Hord, Carol Everhart, Kim Lentz, Karl Kinard, Carol Hair, Norman Sloop, Corrine Mauldin, Randy Overcash, Rosemary Kinard


GUEST MUSICIAN: Alex Yost

READER: Caroline Parrott


SOUND: Mike Agee

VIDEO: Taylor Hutchins


Let the Whole Creation Cry




1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
 2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
 those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song,
 and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - jice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"



Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.

Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.

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O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
 2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
 its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
 but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
 and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
 though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
 we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
 to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
 and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
 and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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Pastoral Ministry

Senior Pastor.....Rhodes Woolly
Pastor for Youth and Discipleship..... Laura Henrik
Visitation.....Wade Rouzer

Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon
Associate Parish MusicianRosemary Kinard
9:27 Interim Worship Leader.....Davis Brown
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins
Director of Music Emeritus.....Karl Kinard, deacon

Program Ministry

Youth..... Laura Henrik
Children.....Stacey Shafer
Adults.....Danny Hines
Senior AdultsDiane Poole
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds)Teresa Stoner
CDC Interim Directors.....Lonna Richardson and Kristy King

Administrative Team

Business Manager Ruth Ann Diehl
Office Manager.....Deborah Cross
Accounting.....Mark Bias
Communications Specialist.....Angel Owens
Facilities Manager.....Jon Koppe
Maintenance.....David Ellenburg

Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*

