

The people of Israel find an unexpected feast in the wilderness. Exodus 16:15

The Season after Pentecost

August 1, 2021 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC

Welcome to St. John's!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

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

- Mark your calendar! Confirmation Sunday is Aug. 15 at 11 am worship.
- Truth Be Told Community performing artists will celebrate the strength and resilience of communities of color during a service of music, dance, and spoken word in the Faith Center on Saturday, August 7 at 11:30 am. Featuring a performance by the NC Poet Laureate, Jaki Shelton Green, *Strength, Hope, Resilience* is part of a two-day series of events surrounding the installation and dedication of a historical marker that commemorates the Salisbury lynchings of 1906 and identifies other forms of racial injustice that continue through today.
- Join Senior Seasons for the Walensian Festival in Valdese, NC, Aug. 13-14. Contact diane@stjohns-salisbury.org to sign up by Aug. 6!
- SAVE THE DATE: God's Work, Our Hands day is Sept. 12!
- Council nominations are due Sept. 15 by 5 pm. https://stjohns-salisbury.org/about/congregation-council-form/



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.



The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God

Prelude

Panis Angelicus Ricky Howsare, Baritone; Kevin Agner, Cellist

The original words for "Panis angelicus" (Latin for "Bread of Angels") were written by Saint Thomas Aquinas. In 1872 César Franck composed this musical setting, which will be sung in the English version today.

Prayers of Confession

Worship begins as we confess our sins. For Luther, confession was a daily discipline, during which we confess those sins that are "known and those left unknown." He encouraged us to begin by making the sign of the cross as a reminder that Christ has freed us from our sin.

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.

Eternal God, the good news of Jesus Christ changes our lives forever. Yet we confess that we are reluctant to live as changed people. We are enslaved to our old ways. We are angry, judgmental, and deceitful. We are hypocritical, prideful, and faithless. We do not love You, nor do we love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, O Lord. Restore to us Your love. Renew in us Your strength. Return us to a life that lives in Your grace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.**

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.**

Prayer

Let us pray. O God, eternal is your goodness. Immeasurable is your love. You place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated



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

Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Bread from heaven

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

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

Response

Give Me Jesus Setting by Lloyd Larson, Arrangement by R. Kinard Ricky Howsare, Soloist; Kevin Agner, Cellist; Chancel Choir

The Holy Gospel: John 6:24-35

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Pastor Laura Henrik

GREENSLEEVES

Hymn 487

What Feast of Love (See Page 10) **Apostles' 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.



Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Preparation of the Lord's Table: Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Please stand

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. ... And join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer followed by 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.

Distribution of Holy Communion. You will be invited forward one row at a time. Please take an empty glass, into which the wine will be poured. Grape juice is available in pre-filled cups. All bread in our communion celebration is gluten-free. Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Communion Hymns 154 Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

496	One Bread, One Body (See page 11)
Instrumental	Ricky Howsare, Pianist

Please stand

Blessing and Prayer



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

Benediction

 Sending Hymn
 542
 O Living Bread From Heaven
 AURELIA

 (See Page 12)
 (See Page 12)
 (See Page 12)

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

Postlude

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

Worship Participants

GUEST MUSICIANS: Kevin Agner, Cellist; Janie Rollins, PianistSOUND: Mike AgeeREADER: Carter WoollyVIDEO: Taylor Hutchins

Altar Flowers

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their 62nd Anniversary by Mimi and Tommy Carlton.

Join Us In Prayer For The Following:

CONDOLENCES — Pastor David Nelson and family on the passing of Mary Ann Nelson on July 19. Her funeral will be held on Aug. 21 at 11 am in the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS — Raymond Coltrain, Sally Taylor, Norman Sloop, Gene Myers, Betty Roof, Eleanor Andrews

ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS — Diane Poole, Rob Durocher, Ruth Ann Diehl, Karen Rogers, Lynn Fior, Carol Pomeroy, Betty Denker, Dean Safrit, Rachel Safrit, Fran Lawson, Nancy Austin, Marge Fuertinger, Roger Alexander, David Wilson, Robin Cohen, John Myers, Barbara Rufty

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

We Praise You, O God



What Feast of Love



One Bread, One Body



O Living Bread from Heaven

