



Ascension of Our Lord

Mother's Day

May 12, 2024 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, NC

2024 St. John's Scholarship Recipients

This year the scholarship committee awarded total funds of \$45,313 to 22 well-deserving applicants! You can find a list of our scholarships and their criteria on the St. John's website.



Kevin Agner - Fesperman, Bailey, Leazer *Scholarships*

Emily Almond - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Ryan Brady - S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Anna Everhart - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Hannah Greene - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Noah Hines - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Morgan Jeter - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Elizabeth Jones - Cline/Safrit *Scholarships*

Ella Jones - B.A. Ketner Jr., Smith *Scholarships*

Chris Kafitz - Lyerly *Scholarship*

Mary Caroline Kaufmann - Bailey, B.A. Ketner Jr., Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Ainslee Lowry - B.A. Ketner Jr., Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Kirstyn Mason - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Connor McCormick - Fesperman, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Caroline Parrott - Fesperman, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Harrison Parrott - Fesperman, Smith *Scholarships*

Grant Shafer - Fesperman, Smith, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Audrey Ward - Fesperman, Smith, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Amelia Wymbys - Fesperman, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Alex Yang - Fesperman, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

Ellen Yang - Fesperman, E.M. Brown, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*

John Yang - Fesperman, Bailey, S. Rierson, Hodges, Smith *Scholarships*



Welcome to St. John's

We're so glad God has brought you here!

Today is Graduation Sunday—Congratulations to the class of 2024! Drew Bitzer, Mary Reese Bowler, Sadie Allen Bowler, and Millie Wymbys.

Women's Ministry VBS Prep Extravaganza—May 16, 6-8 pm—in the ARK. We will be helping Stacey prepare for all the fun and excitement of VBS 2024. Bring a friend and a snack to share!

Christmas Lutheran Church Visit—May 19—Pentecost Sunday— A member of the Christmas Lutheran Church Staff, Raeda Mansour, will be visiting our congregation and Trinity Oaks. Raeda is also the Intergenerational Program Director at Dar al Kalima University, Bethlehem. There will be a Meet and Greet in Peeler Hall between services. Also, there will be a group discussion regarding senior memory care giving at Trinity Oaks from 4:30 pm—6 pm on the 2nd Fl, in the Special Events Room, for those interested.

In Concert—Jun. 2 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. Kevin Agner, Mark Tysinger and String Quartet—The String Quartet will play selected pieces. Kevin Agner and Mark Tysinger will play together on pieces for cello and piano. The String Quartet will also play for our 11 am worship service that Sunday morning.

Altar Flowers— Given to the glory of God in memory of our mothers, Madeline Dameron Goodman and Eloise Schuldt Masters and in honor of our daughters-in-law, Kelly Leonard Goodman and Jessica Eaton Goodman by Franco and Brenda Goodman.

VBS—Registration is now open (3 year olds to current 5th graders). **Jun. 10-14, 9 am—12:15 pm.** Join us as we dive into friendship with God during our "SCUBA"-themed VBS! Use the QR codes below to sign up and access the wishlist. Contact Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org with any questions.



VBS Registration



VBS Wishlist

Worship Navigation

The Congregation is invited to respond where words are in **Bold**.

***** = Please stand as you are able

+ = Face the Cross

+ = You are invited to make the sign of the Cross.

Hymns are found by number in the red worship books located in each pew.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God

Prelude

Adagio for Piano
Davis Brown, Piano

by Davis Brown

Thanksgiving for Baptism*+

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

In procession today are our 2024 high school graduates.

Apostolic Greeting*

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.*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



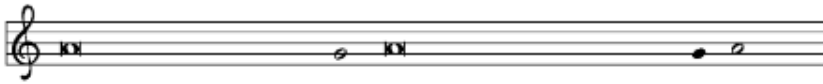
Lord, have mer - cy.



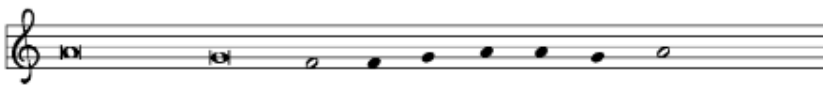
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise*

Christ is Alive

TRURO

Christ is alive! Ascended Lord
 He rules the world His Father made,
 Till, in the end, His love adored
 Shall be to all on earth displayed.

Prayer of the Day*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Welcome and Recognition of the Graduating Class of 2024 and Scholarship Presentation

Music Meditation

A Serenade for Violincello and Piano
 Kevin Agner, Cello and Davis Brown, Piano

by Davis Brown



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

The Gospel Acclamation*

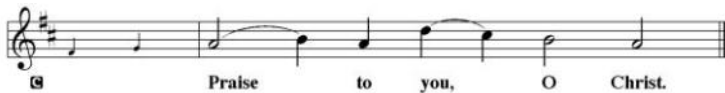




⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor James Demmel

Hymn 655*

Son of God, Eternal Savior

IN BABILONE

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;**

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin

Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ: *We make peace with our sisters and brothers in Christ, sharing the words "Peace be with you."*

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Praise God in His Holiness

by Geoffrey Shaw

Praise God in his holiness: Praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him for his noble acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet; praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances. Praise him upon the strings and pipe.

Praise God in his holiness: Praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!

Offertory Hymn 152

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer*

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession* *Each petition ends: "God of grace, **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*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 854*+

Blessing and Honor

AMERICAN HYMN

Dismissal *

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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

Order of St John's:

Acolytes—Graham Wilson and Luke Yang

Reader: Mitch Siegel

Crucifer—Drew Bitzer

Banner Bearer—Ashley Yang

St. John's Lutheran Church

200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144 | 704.636.3431
stjohns-salisbury.org | To contact a staff member: first name@stjohns-salisbury.org

Pastoral Ministry

Senior Pastor.....Dan Joyner Miller....ext. 2060
Pastor for Congregational CareLori Carter....ext. 2050
Pastor for Youth and OutreachJames Demmel....ext. 2040

Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon....ext. 2080
Interim Contemporary Worship Leaders.....Michael Board and Ondria Witt
Assistant Parish Musician.....Janie Rollins
Bell Choirs.....Kimberly Lentz
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins....ext. 2190
Director of Music *emeritus*.....Karl Kinard Jr., deacon

Program Ministry

Children.....Stacey Shafer....ext. 2020
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds), DirectorGina Phifer....ext. 2120
Child Development Center, Executive Director.....Lea Anne Thomas....ext. 3212

Administrative Team

Church Administrator.....Deborah Cross....ext. 2030
Office Manager.....Vivian Connor....ext. 2000
Bookkeeper.....Mark Bias....ext. 2170
Communications Specialist.....Jodorrian Taylor....ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg....ext. 2070
Custodian.....Brandt Cozad



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