



Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024 | 11 am
St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, North Carolina



Welcome to St. John's!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Serenity Sisters—Tonight from 5:30-7:30 pm at Stacey Shafer's (1102 Stonewyck Dr., in Salisbury). Ages 35-55 are welcome to join us for a time of fellowship. It will be a time of brainstorming ways to connect our faith, family and the busyness our lives bring. Please bring a snack to share.

Gator Reading Club—Tutors needed for Isenberg Elementary School. St. John's church liaison for Isenberg Elementary is Karen Puckett. If interested in this opportunity, please email Karen at karenmcgeepuckett@gmail.com or call her at 704-798-6834.

All Saints Sunday—Nov. 3—Join us at our 11 am worship service as the Christian church throughout the world celebrates All Saints Sunday – a day set aside to remember all the saints who have died in Christ and who now live in the joy of eternal life.

Angel Tree Sponsors—Beginning Nov. 4—Angel Tree tags will be available on the trees in Peeler Hall by the Front Desk and in the Sanctuary narthex. Please list your tag number(s) on the sign up sheet by the tree and take a handout with the details. **Unwrapped Items are due back by Dec. 6** and should be brought to Peeler Hall.

Annual Campaign—Please complete your Pledge card as soon as possible so that we can finalize the 2025 budget and present it to the congregation (stjohns-salisbury.org/annual-campaign). Thank you for your commitment to the mission and ministry of St. John's!

Young Children are always welcome at worship, although a nursery for infants through age 5 is provided in the lower level of the Sanctuary building for your convenience. Please ask an usher to direct you to the nursery.

Altar Flowers—Given to the Glory of God and in honor of our pastors and the support staff who serve our congregation. ~ Anonymous

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.

We begin worship in confession, laying our sins before God. From that place of forgiveness, we can more fully enter into worship and praise.

Prelude

Contrapuntas No. 7
The Reformation Brass

by J.S. Bach

Please stand

Prayers of Confession*+

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

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

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

God's Promise of Forgiveness

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn 504*

A Mighty Fortress

EIN FESTE BURG

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.**

“When I urge you to go to confession, I am simply urging you to be a Christian.” From Luther’s Large Catechism

“A Mighty Fortress”

was written between 1527-1529 by Dr. Martin Luther, a German Reformer, preacher, translator of scripture and prolific writer and composer. It is based on Psalm 46. Although his hymn has often been called “The Battle Hymn of the Reformation,” because of Luther’s break with the Roman church in 1517, it became a hymn of comfort when the fledging church had just experienced the Peasant’s Revolt, inner struggles, the death of Luther’s daughter Elizabeth, and plague outbreak in Wittenberg.

The Kyrie is a centering prayer offered at the beginning of Worship. In it, we ask for God's mercy and peace.

Kyrie*

Setting by Robert J. Durocher, Jr.

(Cantor) Congregation (Cantor)

Voice

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Lord have mer - cy. Chr - i - ste e - le - i - son, Christ have - mer - cy. Christ, have - mer - cy.

6 Congregation 2nd time

Hymn of Praise*

This is the Feast of Victory for Our God

Setting by Robert J. Durocher, Jr.

$\text{♩} = 92$

Voice

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu-ia, al-le-lu - ia!

11 1.Wor - thy is Christ, the - Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

15 Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength, and - hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

19 This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God.

23 This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu-ia, al-le-lu - ia. 2.Sing with - all the

28 peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or,

32 glo - ry and might be to God - and the Lamb for - ev - er, A - men. 3.This is the feast of

36

vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. For the Lamb who was

40

slain be-gins his reign. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le lu ia. Al - le lu ia, al le lu ia.

Prayer of the Day*

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through 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 Announcements



Word

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

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy Jer. 22:16).

The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

*Psalm 46 was
the psalm that
inspired Martin
Luther to write
"A Mighty
Fortress."*

Second Reading: Psalm 46



R. Durocher

¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰**"Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."**

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

Please stand

Gospel Processional*+

God's Word is Our Great Heritage

EIN FESTE BURG

God's word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way: in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last your church may hold it fast
Throughout all generations.

*In the Gospel
Processional, God's
Word is taken into
the midst of the
people, a reminder of
the Reformation cry,
"Sola scriptura" (By
God's Word alone).
Please turn to face
the processional.*

*Jesus speaks
of truth and
freedom as
spiritual
realities
known
through his
word. He
reveals the
truth that
sets people
free from sin.*

The Holy Gospel according to John*

John 8:31-36



³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

Sermon Hymn 654*

The Church's One Foundation
Stanzas 1 and 2—Congregation
Stanza 3—Women
Stanza 4—Men
Stanza 5—Congregation

AURELIA

Nicene Creed* *Gathered as God's people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the 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.**

Prayers of Intercession* *Each petition ends: "God of grace, hear our prayer."*

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Forevermore
St. John's Chancel Choir

by Dan Forrest

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Word of God, the Cornerstone,
Yesterday, today, forever, seated on his heavenly throne.
In this world that God created, broken by the fall of man,
God remains the sure foundation, steadfast and unshakable, forevermore.

O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

God will not forget his promise ever faithful to remain,
Never to forsake or leave us, by our side both night and day.
Our tomorrows hold no secrets that the Father does not know.
We can trust Him, ever working for his glory and our good, forevermore.

Under the shadow of his throne thy saints have dwelt secure.
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Praise the Author of creation, of the world and all it holds.
Word eternal, standing firm our God is God forevermore!

Offertory Hymn* *Congregation stands and sings as ushers bring our gifts and tithes to the altar.*

***O God, Our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home!***

(Choir) Forevermore!



Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offertory Prayer and Blessing of New Communion Chalices*

Let us pray. Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. We also offer to you and ask your blessing upon these new chalices, crafted with loving hands, which we set apart today. May all who receive the cup of blessing be sustained by your grace and power. Receive these things and for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Through the centuries,
The Lord's Supper has
been known as the
Eucharist, a Greek word
that means "to give
thanks." Appropriately,
the first words of our
communion liturgy are
words of thanksgiving.*

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer with Words of Institution*

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.

Invitation to Communion*

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

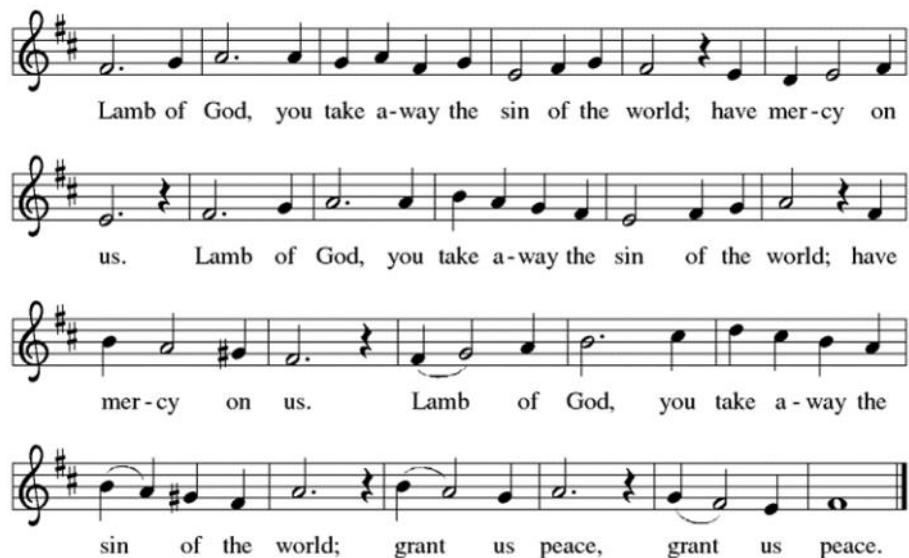
Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion. *All baptized Christians are welcome to receive God's gift of grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. **We will commune by intinction** (dipping the bread into the wine). All stations will be on the nave level. Please follow the directions of the ushers.*

For those with special needs, please note that grape juice as well as non-gluten wafers are available. Those with walking difficulties may receive the bread and wine by sitting in the reserved front pew or by notifying an usher. A pastor will then bring you communion during distribution.

Communion Hymn

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Instrumental Meditation

Selections from the Terpsichore
The Reformation Brass

by Michael Praetorius

Post Communion Blessing*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion*

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Sending

Forgiven and nourished, we are 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.**

*As the cross is carried
out into the world,
we visually and
spiritually follow it,
called and
encouraged to love
and serve the Lord.*

Sending Hymn 756*+

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

MELITA

Dismissal*

Go in peace. God is at work in you!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Die Bankelsangerlieder
The Reformation Brass

Anonymous

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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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
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

Worship Participants

THE REFORMATION BRASS:

Trumpets—Steve Sutton; Luke Boudreault
Horn—Tim Papenbrock
Trombones—Charlie Fisher; Aleksandr Witt
Percussion—Davis Brown

SOUND: Mike Agee

VIDEO: Taylor Hutchins

ACOLYTE: Ashton Williams and Waylen Jarrett

TORCH BEARERS: Noah Young and Balian Witt

CRUCIFER: Luke Yang

BIBLE BEARER

BANNER BEARER: Ashley Yang

ORGANIST FOR CHOIR ANTHEM: Thom Hinson

CANTOR: Eileen Fain

READER: Gerrie Blackwelder

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

