



Youth Sunday

Trust the Journey

Psalm 37:5- "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will act."



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Youth Sunday

February 9, 2025 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, NC



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

*Welcome to worship on this Youth Sunday! Youth ministry at St. John's strives to help our young people grow in their faith. We gather weekly for lessons and fellowship on Sunday evening and attend retreats and trips throughout the year that help our youth have experiences that will form the foundation of their faith journeys. Youth Sunday is an opportunity for our youth to give back to St. John's through their worship leadership and reflect upon the year they have had together. Our theme this year is **"Trust the Journey"** and our theme verse is Psalm 37:5 - "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." Our seniors reflected on how God has been with them in their journey of growing up and are excited to see how God journeys with them in the future. Youth have helped prepare and lead nearly every aspect of the service. Our preachers this year are graduating seniors Ashley Yang (Salisbury High School) and Drew Rabon (East Rowan High School), preaching at 927, and Ella Wilson (Gray Stone Day) and Lilly Dangerfield (Gray Stone Day), preaching at 11 am.*

New Members Classes—Interested in joining St. John's? Classes will be held on **Feb. 12 and 19 starting at 6:15 pm**. Sign up by scanning the QR code here, on our website or contact: james@stjohns-salisbury.org.



Women's Ministry—Join us on **Feb. 13 from 6-8 pm in Ritchie Hall** where we will be tying fleece blankets for the Terrie Hess Child Advocacy Center. Contact Rosalind Hines rhines509@gmail.com or Pastor Lori at lori@stjohns-salisbury.org with any questions.

Birth-2yr old Milestone—**Feb. 22, 10-11:30 am**. Join Mrs. Stacey in the Ark for music, family fun and fellowship! **RSVP by Feb. 18** to stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org.

Altar Flowers—Given to the glory of God and in honor of Janie Rollins by Larry and Marvie Cartner.

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

Meditation on Here I Am Lord

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *+

Aiden Moss, Hope Thomas, Lilly Dangerfield

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."
In ✚ Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING*

Mary Masters Goodman

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.



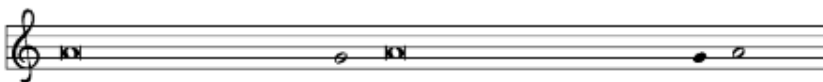
Lord, have mer - cy.



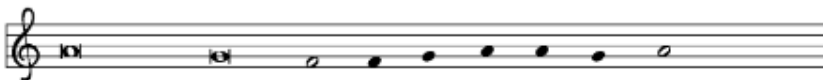
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



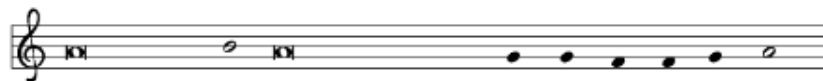
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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*

This is the Feast

from Revelation 5

Refrain
All

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

Anelise Roy

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

Let us pray. Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Please be seated

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor James Demmel, Kaitlyn Losh, Drew Rabon, Finnegan Avery, Aiden Moss



WORD

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

FIRST READING: Psalm 37:1-5

Noah Young

¹Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, ²for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. ³Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. ⁴Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Jeffrey Stephenson

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Kaitlyn Losh, Bella German, Aiden Moss

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

Luke 6:28-35

Gabriel Young



²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Ella Wilson, Lilly Dangerfield

HYMN *

Bless Now, O God, the Journey
(The Church's One Foundation)

AURELIA

Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors, whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking the road where faith is found.

Divine Eternal Lover, you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

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APOSTLES' CREED*

Gabriel Shafer

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: "God of grace, **hear our prayer.**"*

Balian Witt, Ashton Williams, Benny Rathbun, Brenden Sifford

PEACE*

Elijah Young

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

Please be seated

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Build My Life
Sung by our Youth Choir

Pat Barrett

(Verse 1) Worthy of every song we could ever sing.
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breath.
We live for you, we live for you.

(Verse 2) Jesus the Name above every other name.
Jesus the only one who could ever save.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for you.

(Chorus) Holy, there is no one like You.
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder.
And show me who you are.
And fill me with your heart.
And lead me in your love to those around me.

(Bridge) Holy there is no one like You.
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder.
And show me who You are.
And fill me with Your heart.
And lead me in Your love to those around me.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN 184* *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

HILLERT

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER*

Hannah Jean Roy

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER*

THE LORD'S PRAYER*

Emily Rhyne

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*

Emmett Stephenson

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

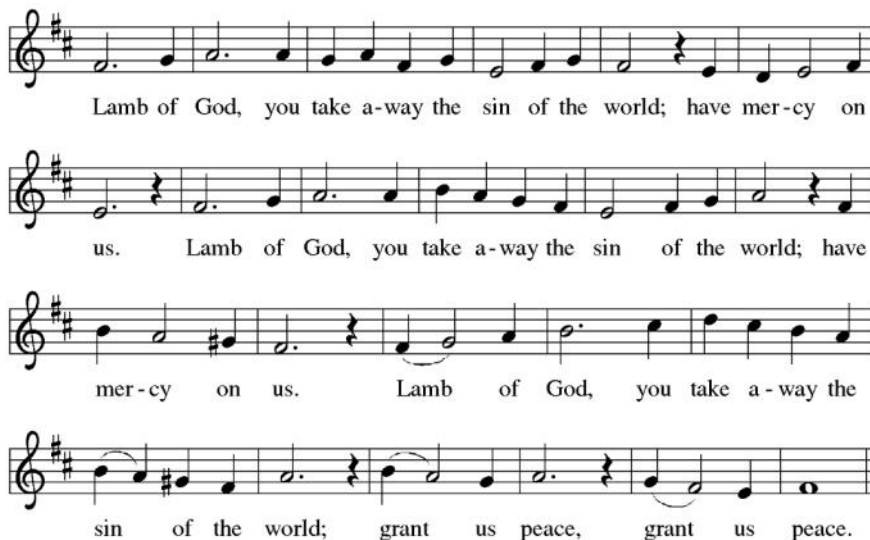
Please be seated

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.

Piano Meditation	<i>Piano Sonata No. 14 “Moonlight Sonata”</i> Ludwig van Beethoven Noah Trick, Piano
Hymn 481	<i>Come to the Table</i>
Hymn 472	<i>Eat This Bread</i>
Hymn 471	<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

Caleb and Benny Rathbun

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.



SENDING

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

BENEDICTION*

Anson Ward

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 543*+ *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

DISMISSAL*

C.J. Sifford

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SUPPORT PARTICIPANTS

927 ACOLYTE: Isaac Schmiesing

927 GREETERS:

Lower Doors—Drew Rabon, Aiden Moss, Gabriel Shafer, William Charest

Upper Doors—Lilly Dangerfield, Katie Ann Dangerfield, Ella Wilson, Clara Misner

Faith Center Doors:

Left Side—William Charest, Finnegan Avery, Graham Wilson, Jeffrey Stephenson

Right Side—Kaitlyn Losh, Bella German, Bell Brady, Anelise Roy

927 USHERS:

Finnegan Avery, Drew Rabon, Jeffrey Stephenson

927 COMMUNION SERVERS:

Drew Rabon, Ella Wilson, Lilly Dangerfield, Sam Goodman, Landen Ryerson

927 PREACHERS: Drew Rabon, Ella Wilson

927 ANNOUNCEMENTS: Kaitlyn Losh, Finnegan Avery, Aiden Moss

927 PRAYER: Noah Young, Gabriel Young, Elijah Young

927 CHILDREN'S SERMON: Kaitlyn Losh, Bella German, Aiden Moss

927 READER: Graham Wilson

11 am GREETERS:

Breezeway Entrance - Sam Goodman, Cora Wymbs

Church St. Entrance - Kaitlyn Losh, Drew Rabon

Elevator Entrance - Jeffrey Stephenson, William Charest, Graham Wilson, Landen Ryerson

Center Doors - Luke Yang, Bella German, Finnegan Avery, Ashley Yang,
Ashton Williams, Balian Witt

11 am USHERS:

Jillian Towns, Cora Wymbs, Meredith Williams, Gabriel Young, Aiden Moss, Drew Rabon

11 am COMMUNION SERVERS:

Floor Left - Bella German

Floor Right - Bell Brady

Choir Loft - Hope Thomas and Mallory Rhyne

11 am PREACHERS: Ashley Yang and Lilly Dangerfield

CRUCIFER: Luke Yang

BANNER BEARER: Sam Goodman

ACOLYTES: Katie Ann Dangerfield and Clara Misner

CANTOR: Lea Anne Thomas



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