



“Do this in remembrance of Me.”

Luke 22:19

Maundy Thursday First Communion

April 17, 2025 | 7 pm



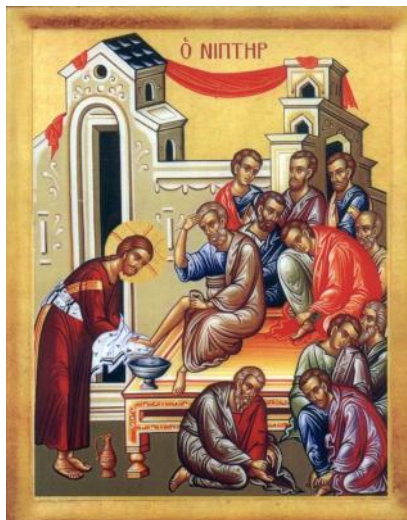
St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, North Carolina

MAUNDY THURSDAY

With nightfall and the beginning of this liturgy, our Lenten observance comes to its culmination. We gather with Christians around the world in celebrating the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Our remembering is more than a retracing of the last days of Jesus' life. Rather, through word, sacrament, and ritual, we participate in the saving power of Jesus' Passover from death to life. As the Three Days begin, we are invited to glory in the cross of Christ — our salvation, our life, our resurrection.

Tonight we gather around the Lord's table to remember God's great sacrifice of love. We share the holy meal, becoming what we eat and drink: the body of Christ, offering ourselves in love for the life of the world.

At the conclusion of the liturgy, the altar and chancel furnishings are removed, preparing the worship space for Good Friday. Through this stark ritual we recall that Jesus was abandoned by his followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone. We leave in silence, ready to continue the celebration of the Three Days on Good Friday.



+ Holy Week at St. John's +

Good Friday, worship at **12:15 pm (Chapel)** and **7 pm (Sanctuary)**. A service of darkness, focused on the twelve last words of Christ. The altar is draped in black as we consider Jesus' great sacrifice and His ultimate gift of grace.

Join us for **Easter Breakfast** in Ritchie Hall from **8:30 am to 10:30 am**.

Easter Sunday, **9:27 am (Faith Center)** and **11 am (Sanctuary & Online)**. Easter worship is festive, joyous, and filled with energy as we give thanks for new life and beginnings, forgiveness of sin, and Christ's triumph over the grave!



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

First Communion—Congratulations to these young people as they take this important step in their faith journey: *Camden Blair Baucom, Sabine Aurelia Witt, Katherine Joyce Gebhardt, Bree Carter Schenk, Mara Evangeline Pope, Jensen Novak and Landyn Novak*. Special thanks to Pottery 101 for helping the students create their First Communion chalices. They will commune from these chalices.

Office Closed—Easter Monday, **Apr. 21**. If you have an emergency during that time, please call the church office 704-636-3431 and dial ext. 2090, for the Pastor on call.

New Sermon Series—On **Sat., Apr. 26**, we will welcome Rev. Dr. Katherine Shaner to St. John's to begin our sermon series. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm, and Dr. Shaner will share her insights and overview of the book of Revelation beginning at 6:15 pm. On Sun., Apr. 27, she will preach at both services. Dr. Shaner is an Associate Professor of New Testament at Wake Forest University School of Divinity and is an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). She serves as a guest preacher and presider in various large and small churches, bringing her theological expertise and pastoral experience to different congregational settings.

Serenity Sisters—Ages 35-55ish—Join us on **Sun. Apr. 27 from 5-7 pm**, for a time of fellowship and devotions. Email Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org for location and more information.

St. John's Men's Chorus Spring Concert—Join us on **May 18 at 4 pm** in the Sanctuary as the St. John's Men's Chorus presents, *"Sacred Harp, Sacred Song: Celebrating the Rich Tradition of American Folk Hymns"*. A freewill offering will be taken.

VBS—ages 3 through CURRENT 5th grade—Join us on **Jun. 9-13 from 9 am—12:15 pm** for a *"True North"* adventure! Register and view wish list by scanning QR codes below. Contact Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org with any questions or to volunteer.



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

Mein Junges Leben Hat Ein End
Trombone Quartet

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*+

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive 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 heart;
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, 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.
Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN*

Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now

1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing
2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -
3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you

feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and
vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry
ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in

life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.
is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.
praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

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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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS



WORD

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

FIRST READING:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

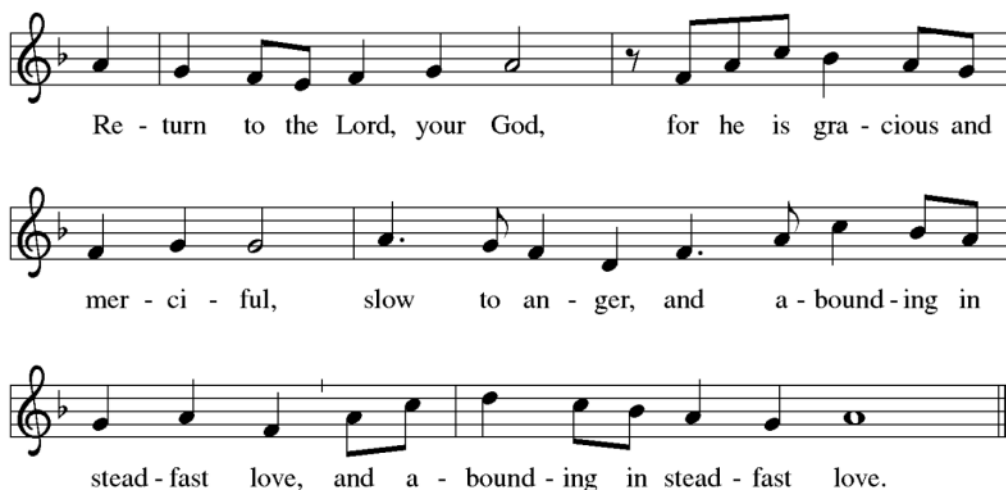
In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Return to the Lord



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN*

John 13:1-17; 31b-35



The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you,

you have no share with me.” ⁹Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

^{31b}“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor James Demmel

HYMN 358*

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

RYBURN

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

PEACE*

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

Please be seated

JOYFUL RINGERS

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Sandra Eithun



MEAL

The Offertory Hymn 182*

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

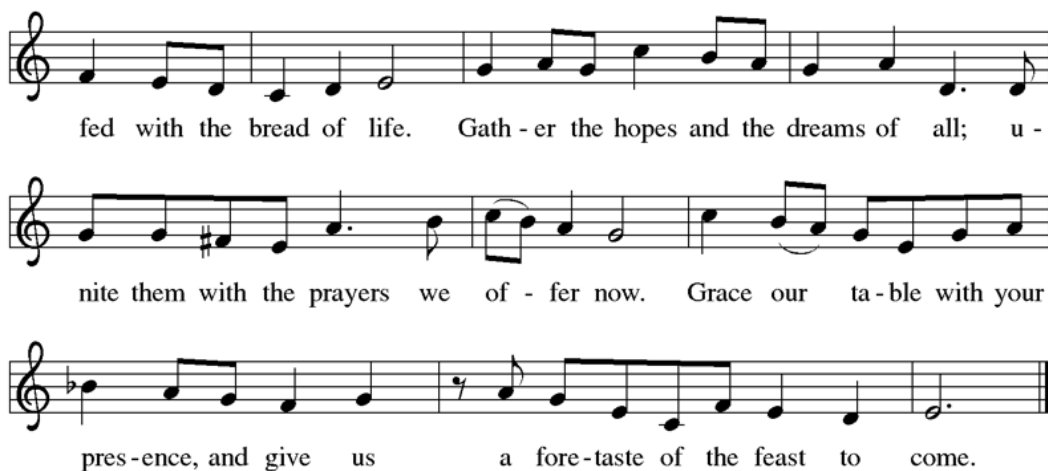
HILLERT



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



OFFERTORY PRAYER *

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
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, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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*

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*

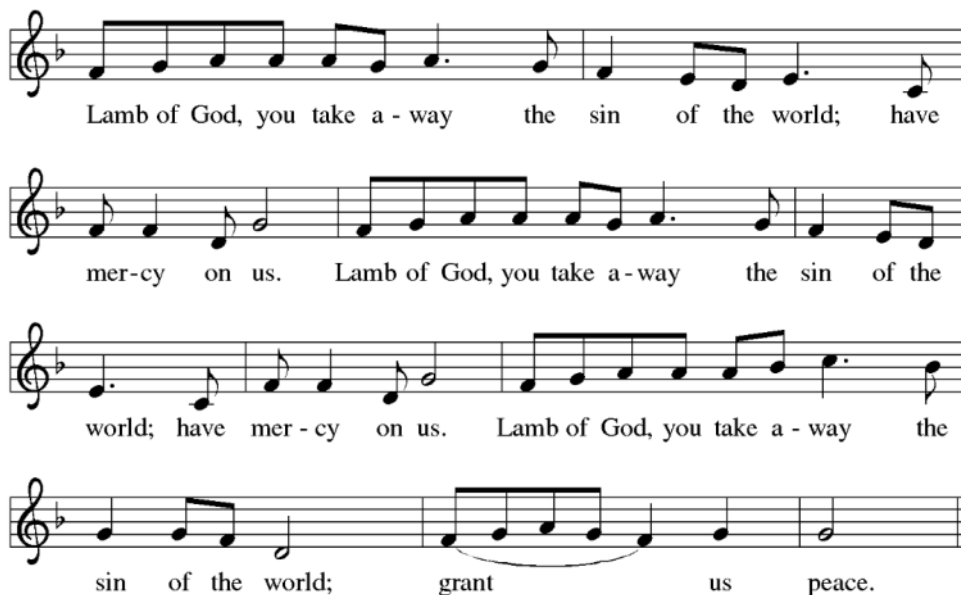
The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION. *Our first communion students and their families will receive communion first at the altar. Students will receive while kneeling using self-designed chalices. Parents and siblings are invited forward to lay hands on their children as they receive first communion. Ushers will welcome you forward after students have communed. Please be in prayer with them as they come to Christ's table for their first communion. Those celebrating their first communion are Camden Blair Baucom, Sabine Aurelia Witt, Katherine Joyce Gebhardt, Bree Carter Schenk, Mara Evangeline Pope, Jensen Novak and Landyn Novak*

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION. *All baptized and communing Christians are welcome to receive God's gift of grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion at the altar. Follow the usher's instructions. Wine is served in individual cups. Grape juice and non-gluten wafers are available upon request. Please indicate your preference to the pastor. Those not receiving the sacrament, are invited forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest as a sign to the pastor. **If you need Communion brought to you in the pew, please signal the servers when they come down from the chancel.***

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.

ORGAN MEDITATION

O Sacred Head

arr. Michael Burkhardt

TROMBONE QUARTET

Drei Equali
Christus Factus Est

Ludwig van Beethoven
Anton Bruckner

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

CHORAL MEDITATION

Thy Will Be Done

Craig Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness.
Our cup was filled with death.
Christ took our cup and drank it,
And gave us life, and gave us hope,
Gave us Himself.

My Father, let this cup pass from me
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord
Yet not my will, O Lord
But Thine be done.

In blackest night we hear Him
In dark Gethsemane.
Pleading with the Father
For one more way, for one more hope,
For one more day.

My Father, let this cup pass from me.
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord
Yet not my will, O Lord
But Thine be done.

They took our Savior,
And led Him to a tree;
And there they broke His body,
Poured out His life, put Him to death
To rise again!

My Father, let this cup pass from me.
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord,
Yet not my will, O Lord
But Thine be done. .



STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The altar is stripped of its vestments and furnishings as a sign of the humiliation
Christ endured on his journey to the cross.*

*“Then Pilate’s soldiers took Jesus into the governor’s palace,
and the whole company gathered around him.
They stripped him of his clothes ...
spat on him ...
made fun of him ...
then they led him out to crucify him.”*

Mark 15:16-20

+ *We leave in silence during the tolling of the bell* +

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S:

Acolytes: Makara Trick and Noah Trick

Crucifer: Graham Wilson

Banner Bearer: William Charest

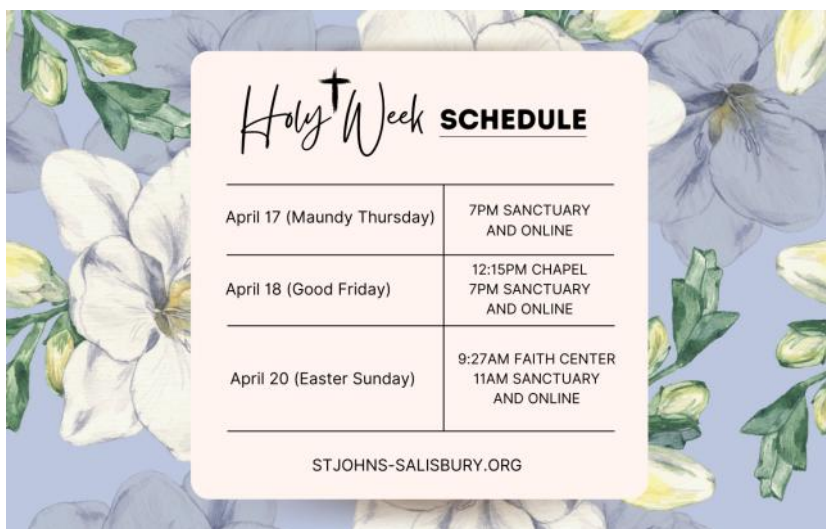
Reader: Camden Baucom

TROMBONE QUARTET: Nick Lewis, Charlie Fisher, Eric Henson, Aleksandr Witt

TIMPANI: Davis Brown

SOUND: Mike Agee

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Taylor Hutchins



Holy[†]*Week* **SCHEDULE**

April 17 (Maundy Thursday)	7PM SANCTUARY AND ONLINE
April 18 (Good Friday)	12:15PM CHAPEL 7PM SANCTUARY AND ONLINE
April 20 (Easter Sunday)	9:27AM FAITH CENTER 11AM SANCTUARY AND ONLINE

STJOHNS-SALISBURY.ORG



Easter
Breakfast

APRIL 20
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
RITCHIE HALL
(Love Offering Accepted)

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

Interim Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs Director.....Kimberly Lentz.....ext. 2080
Interim Organist.....Connie Burleson.....ext. 2080
Contemporary Worship Leaders.....Michael Board and Ondria Witt
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
Ministry Program Coordinator.....Mary Wymbs...ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg.....ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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



Good Friday

April 18, 2025 | 7 pm



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, North Carolina
stjohns-salisbury.org | 704.636.3431

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

The word *Tenebrae* is Latin for “darkness” — an ancient liturgical form from the eighth century reflecting the dramatic contrast between light and darkness.

Please enter in silence.

Before the prelude, a bell will chime as twelve candles are lit, representing one of the biblical numbers for completeness. There were twelve sons of Jacob who became the twelve tribes of Israel. Jesus was twelve years of age when he first appeared in public. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus selected twelve disciples, hearkening back to the twelve tribes of Israel. Most dramatically, the Gospel of Mark reports that at noon, the twelfth hour, soon after Jesus was nailed to the cross, “darkness came over the whole land.”

PRELUDE

Were You There?

Corinne Mauldin, Soloist

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING DIALOGUE

from Genesis 1:1-4 and John 1:1-14

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

In the beginning, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Each petition concludes:

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Conclusion:

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

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.**

INSTRUMENTAL

Toccata on King's Weston
Luther Ringers

arr. Matthew Compton

The PASSION of OUR LORD

THE FIRST READING

Matthew 26:36-46

Piano Meditation

Prelude in E Flat Minor
Mark Tysinger

J.S. Bach

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 26:47-66

Hymn 347

Go to Dark Gethsemane
(Stanzas 1 - 3)

GETHSEMANE

THE THIRD READING

Matthew 26:69-75

Duet

Is He Worthy
Michael Board and Ondria Witt

Andrew Peterson/Ben Shive

Hymn 349

Ab, Holy Jesus
(Stanzas 1 - 3)

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

THE FOURTH READING

Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26

Solo

The Crucifixion
Cathy Tysinger, Mezzo-Soprano; Mark Tysinger, Piano

by Samuel Barber

ADORATION of the CROSS

*As the cross is being carried forward and placed, the pastor leads the following dialogue.
(This year the cross will be carried by Christopher and Aiden Moss.)*

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.
Oh, come, let us worship him.

Once the cross is placed in its stand, the dialogue concludes.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

THE FIFTH READING

Matthew 27:27-44

Hymn

On the Via Dolorosa
Anna Morris, Oboist; St. John's Chancel Choir

Douglas Wagner

THE SIXTH READING

Matthew 27:45-54

Hymn 351

O Sacred Head Now Wounded
(Stanzas 1-3)

+Silence for prayer and meditation as the Christ candle is removed +

THE SEVENTH READING

Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:1-9, 12

Chancel Choir

They Carried My Lord Away

Joseph Martin

Following the prayer, you are invited to place your nail at the foot of the cross.

+ We leave in silence at the tolling of the bell +



Easter Sunday

Resurrection of Our Lord

April 20, 2025 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, North Carolina

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

*Interested in learning more about St. John's or connecting with a pastor,
please see the connection cards found in the pews.*



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 calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Canzon per Sonare #2
Easter Brass

G. Gabrieli

Toccata on “*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*”

arr. Mark Sedio

Please stand

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION*+

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Easter Proclamation is one of the oldest Christian greetings, with origins in the earliest church. The greeting captures the joy and hope of the Christian faith, rooted in our commonly held belief that “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

HYMN 365*

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

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.



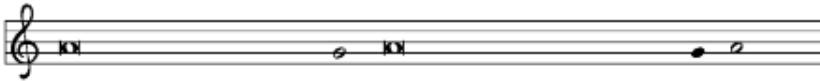
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

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



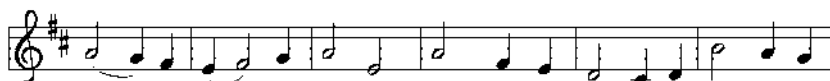
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

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*

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

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WELCOME



WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

INVITATION TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP—All elementary-aged children are invited to Children’s Worship. Please gather at the Baptismal Font.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL HYMN*+ *Please stand and face the Gospel procession as it is brought into the very center of our community. Together we sing, “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!” (See Hymn 385 in red books for melody)*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

The Lord of life is risen this day; death’s mighty stone is rolled away;
Let all the earth rejoice and say: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE*

Luke 24:1-12



Evidently expecting to find Jesus’ corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONSE HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord,
The life laid down, the life restored: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

HYMN 361*

The Day of Resurrection!

ELLACOMBE

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



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rejoice This Easter Day
St. John's Chancel Choir

arr. Jeremy Bankson

Rejoice this Easter Day!
Christ conquered sin and death!
Rejoice, give thanks, and praise God with your every breath.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

God's power cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Savior given;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ the Judge, shall come
To glorify the saints for their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

OFFERTORY PRAYER *

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER*

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign...

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



...we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

...And receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

...Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



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*

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

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 HYMNS

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.

Luther Ringers
Piano Meditation

Jubilation Fanfare
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Janie Rollins, Piano
Christ Lag in Todesbanden

Sandra Eithun
arr. by John Helgen
arr. by Timothy Shaw

J.S. Bach

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE*

Hallelujah Chorus

by G.F. Handel

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Hallelujah!

**The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.**

And He shall reign forever and ever,

King of kings, and Lord of lords,

Hallelujah!

The “Hallelujah Chorus” is from G.F. Handel’s “Messiah” oratorio, written in 1741. The oratorio, considered the finest ever composed, offers reflection on Jesus as Messiah. Part 2 concentrates on the Passion and death of Jesus, and ends with the dramatic “Hallelujah Chorus.” Tradition holds that King George II was moved to stand when he first heard it, which has led audiences ever since to stand.



SENDING

God sends us into the world to advance his kingdom.

BENEDICTION*+

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN 376*

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

DISMISSAL*

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God
Easter Brass

Marcello

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EASTER GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

CRUCIFER: Luke Yang

BANNER BEARER: Ashley Yang

GOSPEL BEARER: Finnegan Avery

TORCH BEARERS: Balian Witt; Ashton Williams

ACOLYTE: Isaac Schmiesing and Bell Brady

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

THE EASTER BRASS:

Trumpets: Darrion Keck, J. Ben Jones

Horn: Andrea Alcantar

Trombone: Charlie Fisher, Aleksandr Witt

Timpani: Davis Brown

READER: Wayne Nelson

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Taylor Hutchins

SOUND: Mike Agee

Blessings to you this Easter!

Today's floral decorations are given by members to the Glory of God and in honor and memory of loved ones. If you purchased a Palm or Easter Lily, you may take it home following this morning's 11 am service.

Your last opportunity to pick up your Palms or Lilies will be Thursday evening (4/24).

Easter Lilies Given in Honor

Jerry and Claudette Barger by Tim and Kerry Gardner

James Bradshaw by Steve Jarrett

Our family; Eric, Ann, Kristen & Travis, Ryan Brady & Brad, Heather, Bell & Graham Brady by

Jim and Elizabeth Brady

Jim and Elizabeth Brady by Eddie and Patricia Graham

Kent and Carol Brown by Eddie and Patricia Graham

Connie Burleson by Charles Dabbs

Lanny and Connie Burleson by Jim and Elizabeth Brady

The Choir by James Ryser

Dr. Charlotte J. Dunmore by Valire Copeland

Rob Durocher by Charles Dabbs

Diane Everhart by Jim and Elizabeth Brady

Carol and Kelly Everhart by Jim and Elizabeth Brady

Anne Ficken by Darrell and Kathy Norris

Olivia Rose Fulbright, born October 25th, 2024 by Nathan and Grace Fulbright

In Thanksgiving to God by Florence Rabe

Patricia and Eddie Graham by Jim and Elizabeth Brady

Carol Hair by Steve Jarrett

Nora and Rose Henson by Brett and Lauren Henson

Celia Jarrett by Steve Jarrett

Katherine Jones by Eddie and Patricia Graham

Pastor Dan Joyner Miller by Charles Dabbs
Jim Krider by Pastor David Nelson and Vernon Davis
Mack and Meeta Lampert by Eddie and Patricia Graham
Kim Lentz by Charles Dabbs
Kim Lentz by Jim and Elizabeth Brady
Jimmy and Nancy Linn by Charlie and Lori Graeber
Martin Luther SS Class Teachers Gary Rhodes and Lee Ketner by Diane Everhart
Carolyn Myers by Karen and Mike Shelton, Betsy and John Myers
Lib Page by Tommy and Mary Willis Page
Ms. Leslie Parker by Pastor David Nelson and Vernon Davis
Our St. John's Pastors, Dan, James and Lori by Tommy and Mary Willis Page
Pansy Peeler by Eddie and Patricia Graham
Lily Phipps by Devin and Ashley Graham Phipps
Janie Rollins by Charles Dabbs
Kathryn, Linda, John, Sallie, and Molly by Wade Rouzer
Bob Rusher by Kathryn, Bo, and Lillie
Bill Safrut by Steve Jarrett
Harold and Jan Snider by Charlie and Lori Graeber
Susan and Rodney Stalheim by Kathryn, Bo, and Lillie
Barbara Stauffer by Darrell and Kathy Norris
Mark Tysinger by Charles Dabbs

Easter Lilies Given In Memory

Dr. Chris Agner by Jim and Elizabeth Brady
Rudy Boksleitner by The Boksleitner and Samuels Families
My loving sister Laura Lennox Campbell by Lisa Lennox
Our brother David Curlee by Jenny and Eric Ryerson
Elma Linker Dabbs by Charles Dabbs
Dr. Jim Emerson by Bonnie and Family
Howard Everhart by Diane Everhart
Howard Everhart by Kimberly Lentz, Kenneth, Kelly Everhart
Mrs. Loubbertha Glenn by Valire Copeland
Bud and Nan Graeber by Charlie and Lori Graeber
Bud and Nan Graeber by Karen and Mike Shelton, Betsy and John Myers
Darlene Hoffa by Janet and Kevin Mienke
Bevis Norris by Perry and Carolyn Hood
Virginia Hypes by Linda Eisensmith
Lottie and J. R. Koontz by Debbie Koontz Hoffman
My loving husband Bruce Lennox by Joan Lennox
Eric Lentz by Diane Everhart
Eric S. Lentz by Kimberly Lentz
Bill Marcum by Betty Pinkston
Mr. and Mrs. James McAllister by James and Jacque Rice
Yvonne McGaha by Dave McGaha and children

Ellie Grace Mitchell by Paige Mitchell
Robert Myers by Karen and Mike Shelton, Betsy and John Myers
Dick Nelson by Pat Nelson
Susan Owen by Michael Owen
Gerald Peeler by Eddie and Patricia Graham
Mavis Pigford by Janet and Kevin Mienke
Chris Pinkston by Betty Pinkston
Gary Pinkston by Betty Pinkston
Julie Pinkston by Ben, Kelly, Sam and Anna Kate Goodman
Davey Rhodes by Gary and Scott Rhodes
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rice by James and Jacque Rice
Peggy Rouzer by Wade Rouzer
Harold and Bonnie Rufty by Bonnie and Family
Joan T. Rusher by Kathryn, Bo, and Lillie
My loving mom Cathy Ryerson by Eric Ryerson
Ree Shelton by Karen and Mike Shelton, Betsy and John Myers
My loving mother, Jane Shuping by Jenny Ryerson
Eleanor Sifford by Bonnie Emerson and Family
Joe Ivan and Barbara Sims by their family
Joe and Hester Sims by their family
Vickie Koontz Smith by Debbie Koontz Hoffman
Roy and Sarah Snider by Diane Everhart
Mr. and Mrs. Emmette Thompson, Jr. by Judy Thompson Moore
Mildred Warlick by Charles Dabbs
Ms. Rena Carr Wilfong by Valire Copeland
Floyd and Juanita Williams by Perry and Carolyn Hood

Palms Given in Honor

Travis and Kristen Berry by Eric and Ann Brady
Jim and Elizabeth Brady by Eric and Ann Brady
Ryan Brady by Eric and Ann Brady
Rob and Janie by Chris and Carol McNeely
My sister, Melanie Kirchin, and her family by Barbara Jo Corriher
St. John's Lutheran Church Pastors by David and Bonnie Hord
My brother, Joseph Sims, and his family by Barbara Jo Corriher

Palms Given in Memory

Doris Alexander, Mother by Tricia Holt
John Wister Brown by Bobbie Ann Brown
Lois and Paul Carter by Chris and Carol McNeely
A.B. and Ruth Ferguson by Stan and Melanie Ferguson
Frank Goodnight by Diane Goodnight
Reba and Marvin Jones by Tommy and Mary Willis Page
Earl and Ruth McKinney by Stan and Melanie Ferguson

Bill Page by Tommy and Mary Willis Page
Larry G. Phillips by Linda Phillips
David Sean Phillips by Linda Phillips
Steve Shirley by Nancy Shirley

Flowers given in Honor for the Easter Cross

Our 57th wedding anniversary by John and Linda Bryant
Tom and Judy Childress by Valire Copeland
Gary and Angela Graham by Lily, Nora, Rose and their parents
Harley Hatchett on his first birthday by Ann and Parker Hatchett
Lauren, Brett, Nora and Rose Henson by Gary and Angela Graham
Our grandchildren Connor, Abby, Emily, and Hailey by Chuck and Judy Moll
Our children Steven and Julie Page and Anna Page by Tommy and Mary Willis Page
Ashley, Devin and Lily Phipps by Gary and Angela Graham

Flowers given in Memory for the Easter Cross

Bryce and Almeda Barger by Jane Jones
Virginia Hypes by Linda Eisensmith
Gerald Jones by Jane Jones
Anne Loeblein by Bob Loeblein
Gerald Peeler by Eddie and Patricia Graham
Sean Phillips by Perry and Carolyn Hood
Shirley and Raymond Ritchie by Jane and Mark Ritchie
Joan Trexler Rusher by Joey & Cindy Rusher, Joseph & Isabella
Steve Shirley by Ron Bellinghausen
James Smith loving husband and father by Margie

+++++

*Special thanks to Jane Britt for constructing the tomb located in the baptismal area.
It serves as a symbol of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*We are blessed to adorn our altar, pulpit, and lectern with our new festival paraments this Easter.
The new all season paraments are given to the Glory of God and in memory of
Floyd and Juanita Williams and James and Anna Safrit
by Perry and Carolyn Hood and Mark and Elizabeth Derrick.*

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Baptismal Font Flowers—Given to the glory of God and in honor of Betty Brown on her 90th birthday, today, 4/20/2025, by Evelyn Brown, Karen, Mark and Julia Ingram.



St. John's Lutheran Church

200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144 | 704.636.3431
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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

Interim Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs Director.....Kimberly Lentz.....ext. 2080
Interim Organist.....Connie Burleson.....ext. 2080
Contemporary Worship Leaders.....Michael Board and Ondria Witt
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
Ministry Program Coordinator.....Mary Wymbbs...ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg.....ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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