



Second Sunday In Easter

April 27, 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 The Rev. Dr. Katherine Shaner who will be preaching this morning. Dr. Shaner is the Associate Professor of New Testament at Wake Forest University School of Divinity.

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.

Women's Ministry Spring Tea—**May 1 at 6 pm**. Leigh Ann Loeblein has graciously agreed to host our Spring Tea at her home (460 Mainsail Rd). Leigh Ann has created a beautiful and yummy menu for this event. Please watch for a Sign-Up Genius with a list of items to bring.

Senior Seasons Academy is offering a fascinating opportunity to dive into the book of Revelation! This two-part series will explore one of the Bible's most intriguing and enigmatic books. Goodman Dining Room on **Tuesdays**, May 6, 13, and 20. **Coffee and Danish:** Available starting at 9:30 am; Light refreshments available at 11:10 am. **Lecture times:** 9:50 am and 11:30 am. **Contact:** Pastor Lori Carter (lori@stjohns-salisbury.org) with questions or for more information.

Women's Ministry VBS Prep Extravaganza—**May 8 at 6 pm**, in the ARK. Please join us for a fun night of preparing crafts and decorations for VBS. Feel free to bring a snack to share!

Graduation Sunday—**May 18**. Join us as we celebrate and congratulate our Class of 2025 graduates. Our 2025 St. John's Scholarship Recipients will also be acknowledged at this service.

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 free will offering will be taken and will benefit the NC Synod Disaster Fund for Hurricane Helene Relief and will be matched up to \$5,000 by a generous donor.

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 via Faith Life. Contact Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org with any questions or to volunteer.

Altar Flowers—Given to the glory of God and in memory of Julius D. Waggoner, and in honor of his 91st birthday, by Dan, Marsha and Rosalind.

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

Thine Is the Glory

arr. Loucks

Helen Rifas, Harpist

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM*+

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✝ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your
church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own mak-
ing. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in
captivity; waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

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.



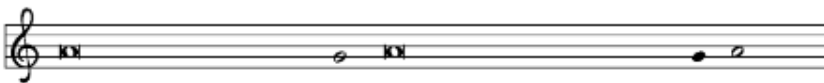
Lord, have mer - cy.



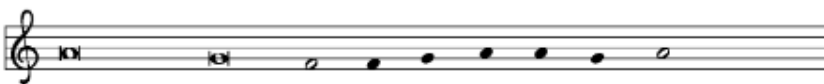
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



HYMN OF PRAISE*

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, his the throne.
 Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
 “Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

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

Let us pray.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit’s breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of 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

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

READING:

Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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 ACCLAMATION*

Alleluia



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN*

John 20:19-31



The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are

those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Rev. Dr. Katherine Shaner

SERMON HYMN 435* *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

HELMSLEY

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.

PEACE*

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

Please be seated

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art
Helen Rifas, Harpist

arr. Barnwell

OFFERTORY HYMN* *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*



OFFERTORY PRAYER*

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION * *Each petition ends: "Hear us, O God,. **Your mercy is great.**"*

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 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 389*+

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing
(Stanzas 1, 2, 4 and 5)

TRURO

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

Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship
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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

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Order of St. John's:

Acolytes—Graham Wilson, Jillian Towns

Crucifer—Gabriel Shafer

Banner Bearer—Ella Wilson

Reader—Chuck Moll

Cantor—Lea Anne Thomas



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