



Fifth Sunday In Lent

April 6, 2025 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, NC



During the season of Lent, our altar cross is replaced by a cross that reflects the somber and reflective themes of the season. This black cross with gold vines crossing through it was commissioned by the Heilig family and used as the St. John's altar cross for over 50 years.

During the remainder of the year, it sits in the chapel narthex. Our regular cross, made of bright gold and commissioned by the late Paul and Lois Carter in 2011, will return on Easter Sunday.

Holy Week Services:

Good Friday, Apr. 18 at 12:15 pm in the Chapel and 7 pm in the Sanctuary and online.

Easter Sunday, Apr. 20, 9:27 am in the Faith Center and 11 am in the Sanctuary and online.

Easter
Breakfast

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

A promotional graphic for an Easter breakfast event. It features a dark background with a croissant, coffee, and fruit. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout.



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

Buck-A-Meal—Every one dollar bill placed in the offering boxes this morning goes to purchase a meal at Rowan Helping Ministries.

Welcome Hannah Nadeau Giron!—Executive Director of (GRACES) Guatemalan Relief Assistance for Children's Education Services.. Hannah is visiting us this weekend at St. John's. GRACES is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization providing education and other support services for children and adolescents who live in poverty near Antigua, Guatemala. Our youth will be going on a Vision Trip to GRACES this summer.

Wednesdays of Lent—Concludes this Wed., **Apr. 9 at 6:30 pm** in the Sanctuary and online, preceded by a meal at 5:30 pm. Wednesday Night Meals will start back up in the fall.

Altar Guild Interest Meeting—Goodman Dining Hall at **6:00 pm** on **Thurs. Apr. 10**. All current and interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

Palms and Easter Lilies — **Ordering deadline** is this **Wed., Apr. 9**. Be part of the beautiful tradition at St. John's as we decorate our worship spaces for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Palms or lilies given in honor or memory of your loved ones may be purchased.

Stripping of the Altar—**Maundy Thurs., Apr. 17, 7 pm** in the Sanctuary. This is a very significant and meaningful part of Holy Week which symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his followers and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. **Any interested adults in assisting during the service, please contact Melody Moxley (mamoxley@icloud.com) or Brenda Goodman (sissy4tennis@yahoo.com), no later than Apr. 10.**

Decorating Help Needed for Easter—**Sat., Apr. 19 from 9 am—3 pm**. The Decorating Team is looking for volunteers to help decorate our Sanctuary, Faith Center and Peeler Hall with flowers for Easter. To volunteer, please sign up via Faith Life or contact Mindy Hochuli (malindahochuli@gmail.com) or Marian Hough Schouweiler (mlhough17@gmail.com).



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

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

arr. Karrin Ford

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*+

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In **+** Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

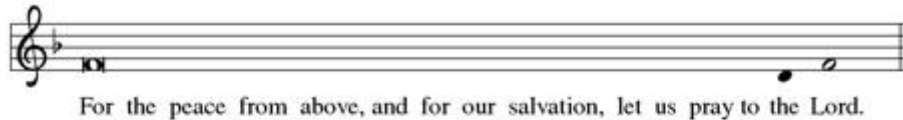
APOSTOLIC GREETING*

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.*



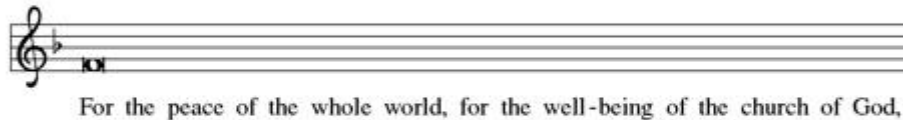
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



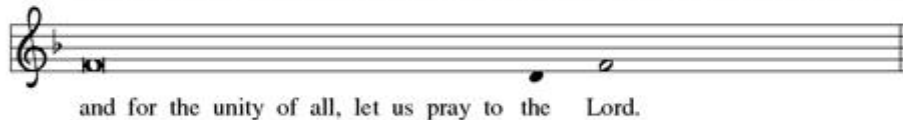
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



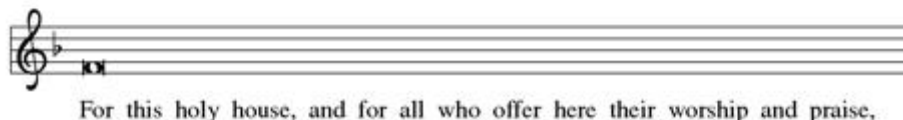
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE* *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days* Setting by Rob Durocher
 Text: Claudia F. Hernaman

O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast; in -
 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days, that
 spire re - pen - tence for our sin. and free us from our past.
 when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

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

Let us pray. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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

WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE

Song of Ruth
 Mark Tysinger, Director

by David N. Childs



WORD

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

Psalm 126

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.



¹ When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for
them.”**

³ The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**


⁵ Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

Return to the Lord



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN*

John 12:1-8



Glo-ry to you, O Lord.

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Daniel Joyner Miller

HYMN 802*

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN

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, in your mercy, receive 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

The First Song of Isaiah
St. John's Chancel Choir

Jack Noble White

*(Refrain) Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.*

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
From the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Refrain

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
See that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
And this is known in all the world.

Refrain

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
Ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you
Is the Holy One of Israel.

Refrain



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN 182* *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord*

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 the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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* *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us sing the prayer that Jesus taught us.*

The assembly sings:



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are
yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men

INVITATION TO COMMUNION*

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

Please be seated

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.

Hymn 466
Piano Meditation

In the Singing
My Jesus, I Love Thee by Anna Laura Page
Lea Anne Thomas, Piano

Hymn 753

Dona nobis pacem

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*


Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



SENDING

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

BENEDICTION*

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and your minds in  Christ Jesus.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN 729* *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

WAREHAM

DISMISSAL*

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
Thanks be to God!

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:

Acolyte: Hannah Jean Roy and Gabriel Shafer

Cantor: Eileen Fain

Crucifer: William Charest

Banner Bearer: Landen Ryerson



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