



2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025 | 11 am



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



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

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

Bibles and Brews—Men's Ministry—**Tues., Jun. 24 at 6 pm** at the Goose and Monkey, 401 S. Railroad St., Lexington 27292. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hands and Feet Camp – **Jul. 29-31, 9 am - 4 pm**. Current 3rd-5th graders! Join Pastor Dan, Stacey and St. John's Youth for morning devotions, opportunities to serve in the community, lunch, and fun afternoon outings. Scan the QR Code to register by Jul. 1.



Churchwide Retreat – Sept. 12-14 at Lutheridge. The registration deadline is **Mon., Aug. 18 at 5 pm** (subject to change if we sell out). To secure your spot, submit your registration and non-refundable \$50 deposit early - only 150 spots available! Registration forms and total payment in full are due by the registration deadline. To register, scan QR Code here or locate a paper form, available in all of our literature racks. Contact Donna Groce with any questions at Dwgroce93@icloud.com.



St. John's Kindergarten - Enrollment Now Open for the 2025-2026 School Year for Kindergarten and Pre-K. For information, call 704-636-4404 or email kindergarten@stjohns-salisbury.org. We are also seeking to **HIRE** a new Pre-K Teacher. Contact Pastor James: James@stjohns-salisbury.org.

Friendship Folds - Use the QR code or go to our website to sign up for a new round of Friendship Folds! Make sure to sign up in June as the new round starts in July. Questions? Contact Holly Dorton at 336.596.2037 or holly.dorton@yahoo.com



Altar Flowers – Given to the Glory of God and in Honor and Appreciation of our Choir and Interim Director Kim Lentz and Interim Organist Connie Burleson by Raymond and Kay Coltrain.

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

Chorale Prelude on "O Bread of Life from Heaven" by Johannes Brahms

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*+

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

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

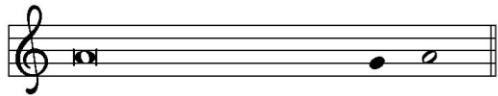
ENTRANCE HYMN 842*

O Worship the King
(Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 5)

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.



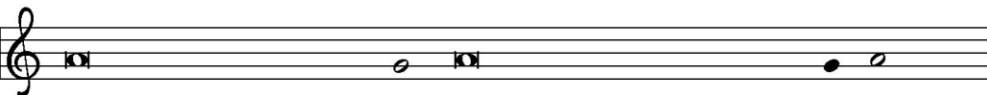
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE*

This is the Feast

from Revelation 5

Refrain
Cantor

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

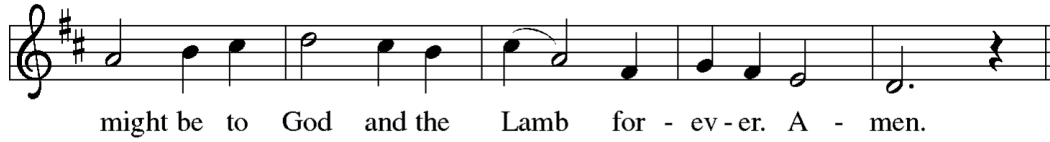
All

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY*

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

Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



WORD

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

READING:

Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

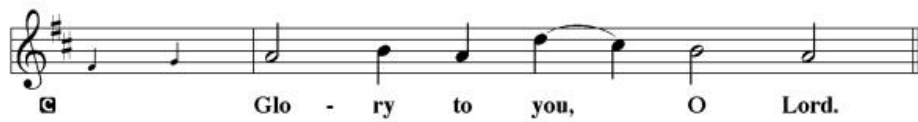
Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

Alleluia!





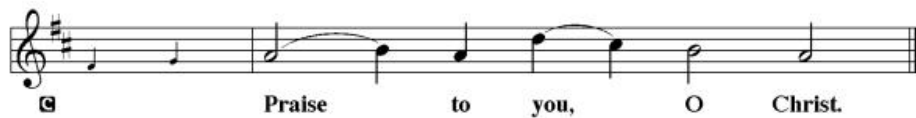
Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Pastor James Demmel

HYMN 843*


Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

NETTLETON

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

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

With a Voice of Singing
St. John's Chancel Choir

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord has delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honor of his name,
Make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.
Alleluia, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN 184* *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord*

NELSON

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*

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

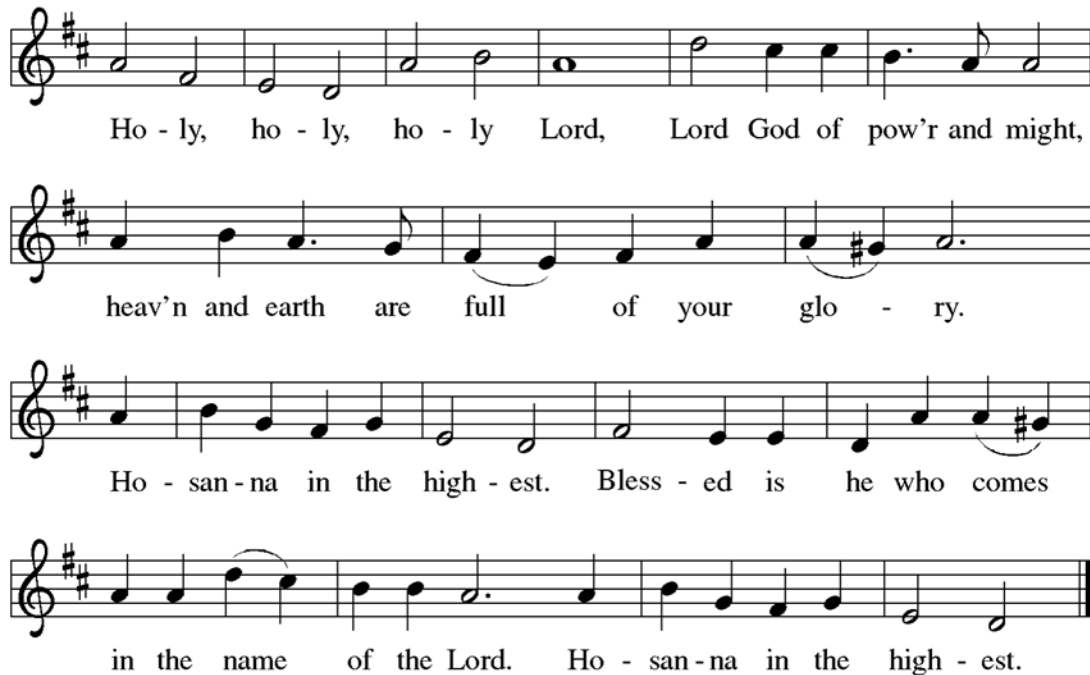
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*

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:



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 kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

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.

Hymn 472

Piano Meditation

Hymn 481

Eat This Bread

Spinning Song

Noah Young, Piano

Come to the Table

by Albert Ellmenreich

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.



SENDING

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

BENEDICTION*

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✚ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN 798* *Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

DISMISSAL*

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST: Janie Rollins

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S:

Acolyte: Emmett Stephenson and Elijah Young

Crucifer: Hope Thomas

Banner Bearer: Jeffrey Stephenson

Cantor: Gretchen Witt

Reader: Wesley Rhyne

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 & 5 year olds), Director...Bonita Rowland...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.*