



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 29, 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!

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

Rowan Helping Ministries Food Drive – In addition to our monthly Buck-a-Meal collection for Rowan Helping Ministries, we will be holding a **food drive throughout July**. Rowan Helping Ministries is currently serving 1,300 families and has specifically requested **donations of peanut butter and jelly**. Your items can be placed in the brightly colored **boxes located in the Peeler Hall and the Sanctuary Narthex**. You may also give using the QR Code and choosing Rowan Helping Ministries from the drop-down.



Hands and Feet Camp - July 29-31, today from 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 July 1.



Church-wide 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 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.

Altar Flowers – Given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Davey Rhodes by Gary and Scott Rhodes.

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

Introduction and Chorale on AURELIA

Robert Hobby

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*

Glories of Your Name are Spoken

AUSTRIA



1 Glo - ries of your name are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear

he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for his own a - bode.
 well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near.

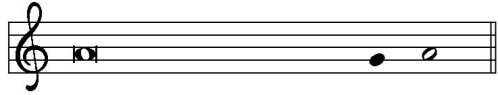
On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose?
 Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,

With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 Grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.

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.



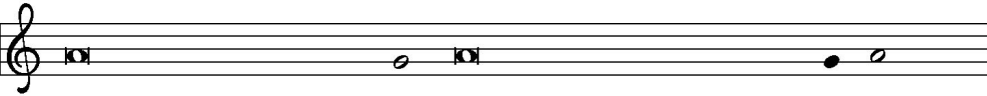
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



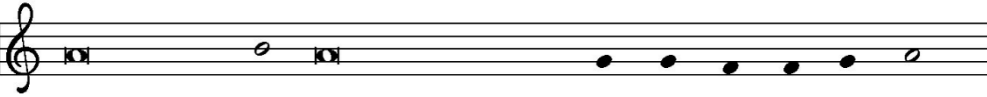
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

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



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.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, 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 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities,

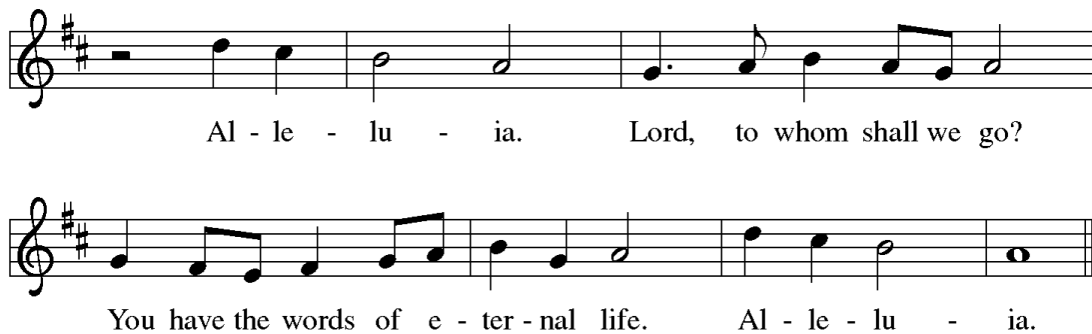
strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

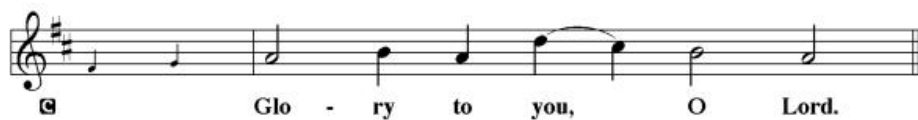
INVITATION TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP—All elementary-aged children are invited to Children’s Worship. Please gather at the Baptismal Font.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION* *Alleluia!*



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE*

Luke 9:51-62



Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶² Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Pastor Lori Carter

HYMN 427*

For All Your Saints, O Lord

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 *Come Christians, Join to Sing* Wes Ramsey/Jon Paige
St. John's Chancel Choir

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!

Let all with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice;
Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore
His goodness well adore,
Singing forevermore,
Alleluia! Amen!



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.

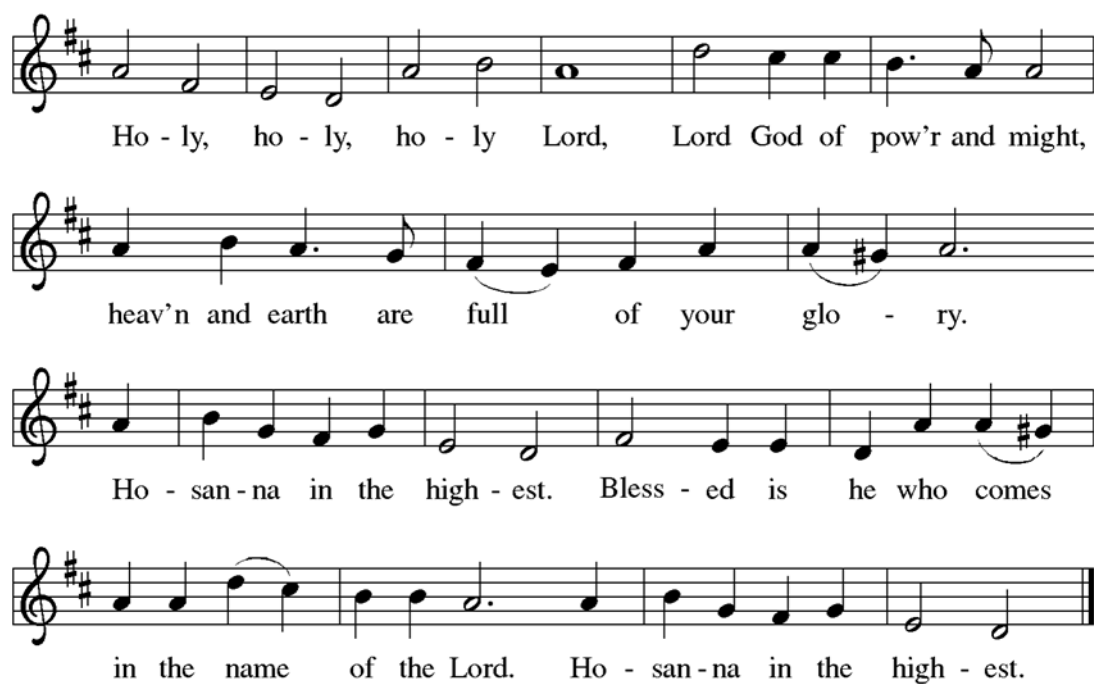
OFFERTORY PRAYER*

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.

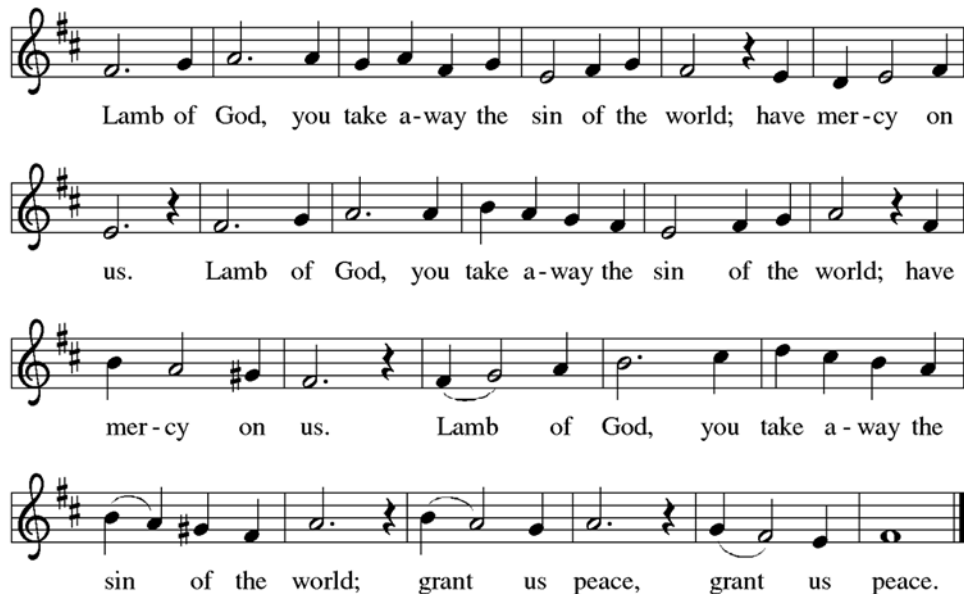
Please be seated

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



Piano Meditation	<i>Sommarpsalm</i> setting by John Helgen Janie Rollins, Piano
Organ Meditation	<i>When Thou Art Near</i> by J.S. Bach Connie Burleson, Organ
Hymn 515	<i>Break Now the Bread of Life</i>

POST COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

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 660*

Lift High the Cross

DISMISSAL*

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

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S:

Acolyte: Isaac Schmiesing and Bell Brady

Crucifer: Luke Yang

Banner Bearer: Ashley Yang

Cantor: Eileen Fain

Reader: Mitch Siegel

St. John's Lutheran Church

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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 & 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 Wymbs...ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg...ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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