



5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 13, 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!

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

Rowan Helping Ministries Food Drive – Throughout July, we are collecting donations of peanut butter and jelly for Rowan Helping Ministries. Place your donations in the brightly colored collection boxes located in Peeler Hall and the Sanctuary Narthex. Prefer to give digitally? Simply scan the QR code and select Rowan Helping Ministries from the drop-down menu. Thank you for your generosity and support!



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 Celebration of Mark and Corinne Mauldin's 45th Wedding Anniversary, by the Mauldin Family.

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Michael Costello

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.

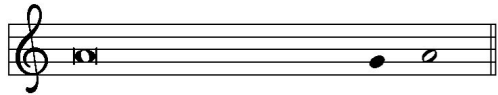
Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, 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.**

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY*

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

Let us pray.

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, 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:

Colossians 1:1-14

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

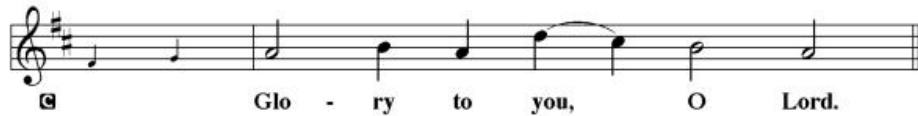
Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION* *Alleluia!*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

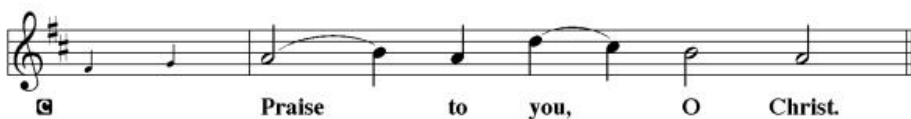


Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷ He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN 696*

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

GALILEE

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

Speak, O Lord
Makara Trick, Violinist

arr. Fred and Ruth Coleman

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You, to receive the food of Your holy Word.
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds, help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity;
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; and by faith we'll walk as You walk with
us. Speak, O Lord, 'till Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory.



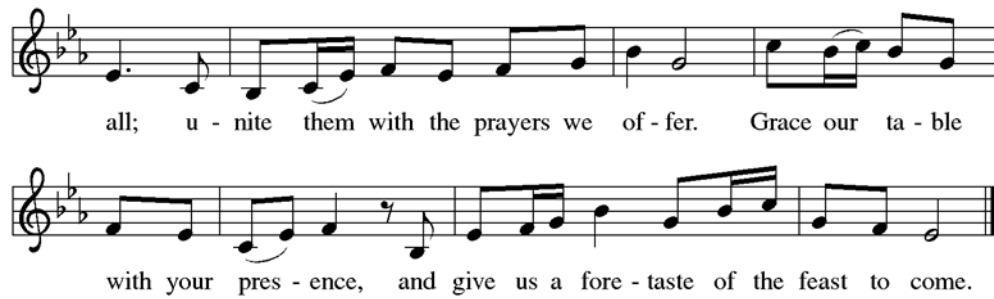
MEAL

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



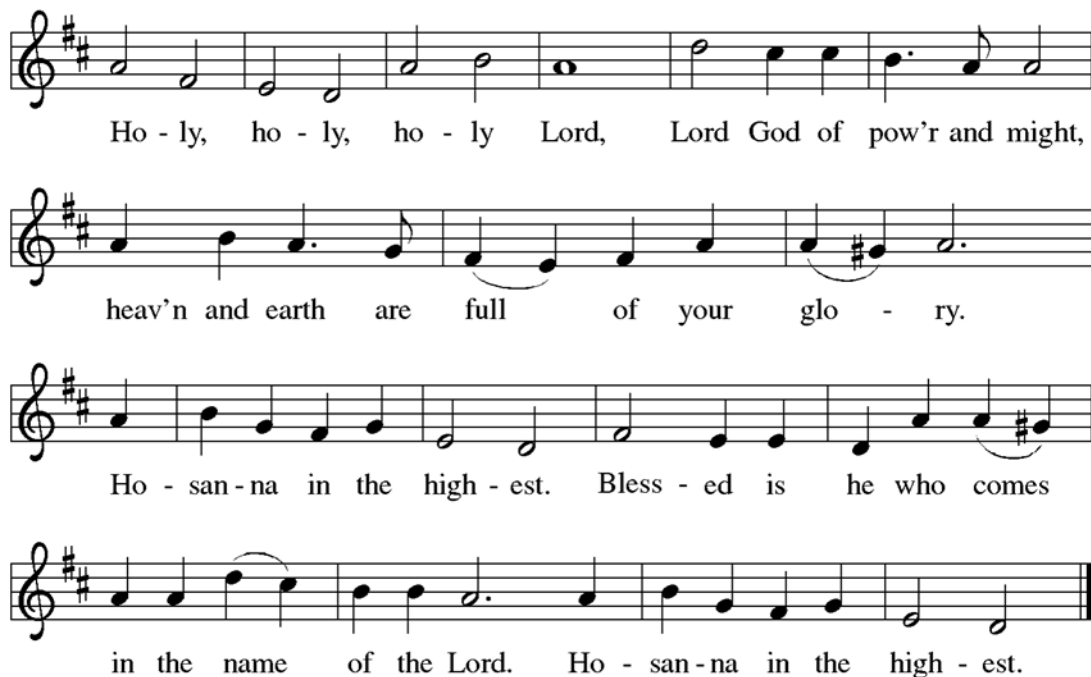
OFFERTORY PRAYER*

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.

Piano Meditation

Fur Elise

by Ludwig van Beethoven

Ashton Williams, Piano

Hymn 800

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Hymn 466

In the Singing

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 758*

You Are the Way

DUNDEE

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: Hannah Jean Roy and Emily Rhyne

Crucifer: Ashton Williams

Banner Bearer: Mallory Rhyne

Cantor: Mark Lewis

Reader: David Hord

Worship Leaders: Pastors
Lori Carter and Darrell Norris

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 Wymbbs...ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg...ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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