



Gogh, Vincent Van. *Harvest in Provence*. 1853-1890. Painting. Israel Museum

## 4th Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC  
[stjohns-salisbury.org](http://stjohns-salisbury.org) | 704.636.3431



# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

*We're so glad God has brought you here!*

*God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.*

**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!



**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](mailto: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](mailto:kindergarten@stjohns-salisbury.org).

**Altar Flowers** – Given to the Glory of God and in memory of Norde Wilson and in gratitude and to all who served our great country and fought to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today! May God forever bless America by Kay Wilson.

## 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

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

arr. 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.**

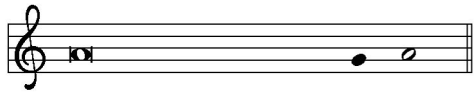
You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN 893\*** *Before You, Lord, We Bow*

## 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.



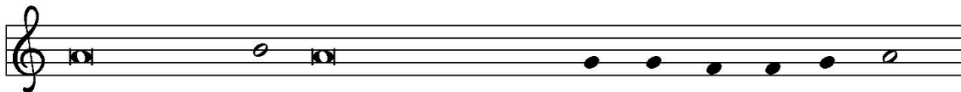
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

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.*

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through 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:

**Galatians 6:1-10**

*In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in “the family of faith.”*

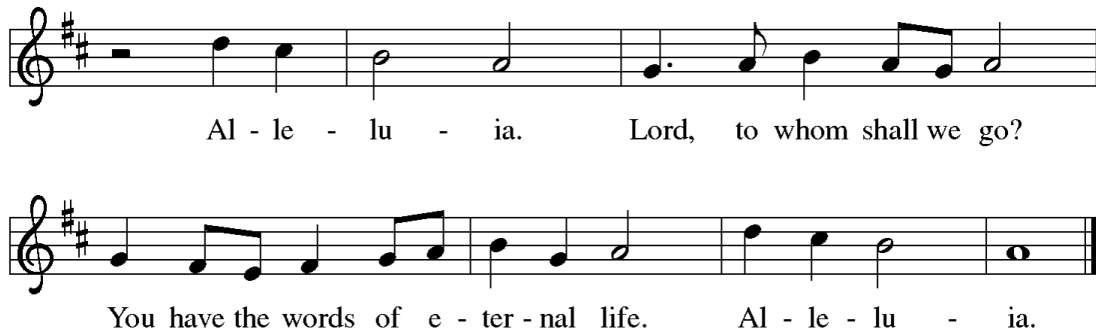
<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. <sup>4</sup> All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. <sup>5</sup> For all must carry their own loads.

<sup>6</sup> Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. <sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup> If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

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

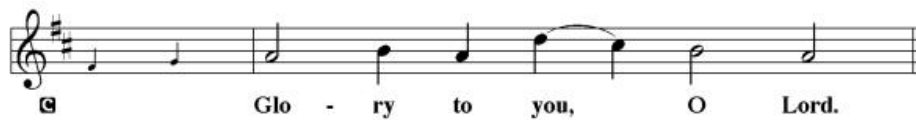
**INVITATION TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP**—All elementary-aged children are invited to Children’s Worship. Please gather at the Baptismal Font.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION\*** *Alleluia!*



**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE\***

**Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**



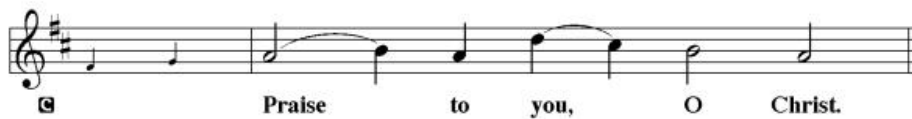
*Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.*

<sup>1</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ <sup>6</sup> And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’”

<sup>16</sup> “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

<sup>17</sup> The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” <sup>18</sup> He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



**SERMON**

Pastor James Demmel

**HYMN 756\***


*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

**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

*This Is My Song*

arr. Lloyd Larson

This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My countries skies are bluer than the ocean,  
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
O hear my song, Thou God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Ruler of all nations;  
Let Thy reign come; on earth Thy will be done.  
In peace, may all earth's people draw together,  
And hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, Thou God of all the nations,  
Myself I give Thee; let Thy will be done. 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.

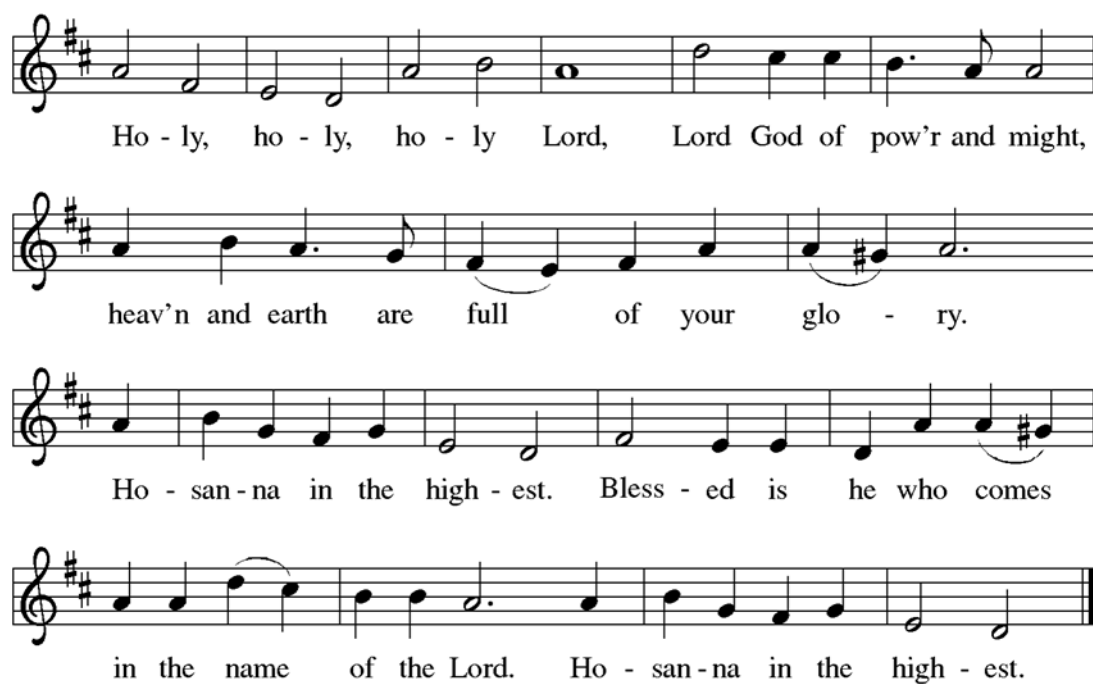
## OFFERTORY PRAYER\*

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\***

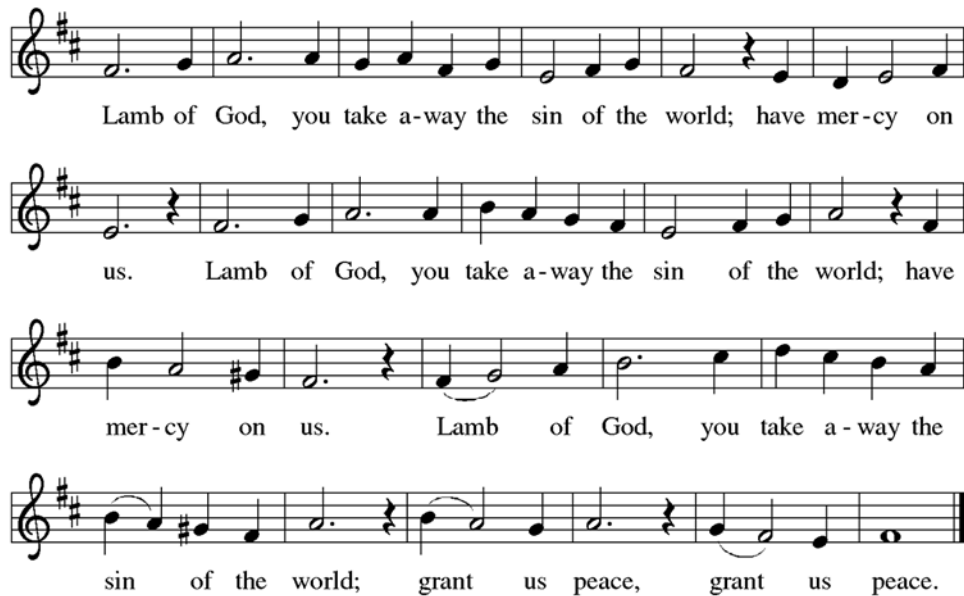
The kingdom of God is set before you.  
Eat and rejoice.

*Please be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION.** *All baptized 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 HYMNS

### *Lamb of God*



### Hymn 483

### *Here is Bread*

### Piano Meditation

### *Eternal Father, Strong to Save, arr. Davis Brown*

Davis Brown, Piano

### Hymn 492

### *Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup*

## 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 888\***    *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

## 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:** Graham Wilson and Balian Witt

**Crucifer:** Gabriel Shafer

**Banner Bearer:** Ella Wilson

**Cantor:** Lea Anne Thomas

**Reader:** Dennis Rogers

# St. John's Lutheran Church

200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144 | 704.636.3431  
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 Care .....Lori Carter...ext. 2050  
Pastor for Youth and Outreach .....James 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.*