



Nineth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 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!

A reminder that **our nursery** is available during the 11 am worship service. Please see an usher for assistance.

Lutheridge 75th Birthday Capital Campaign – Today is Commitment Sunday. We are joined by Rev. Nathan Gragg. Nathan is an ordained Lutheran pastor with over 20 years of experience in congregational ministry. He has been involved in outdoor ministry at NovusWay throughout his life as a camper, summer counselor, adult leader, and now as a part of the development team. Your generous gifts will help sustain Lutheridge's camp ministry for generations to come. Be sure to fill out the Statement of Intent Card and help light a candle for Lutheridge.

Women's Ministry – Game Night & School Supply Collection – Aug. 12, 6 pm in Ritchie Hall. Bring a snack to share. The collected school supplies will benefit the Isenberg Elementary School. Scan the QR Code here for a list of supplies needed.



Confirmation Sunday - Unity Service is Aug. 17 at 10 am – We will worship together in **ONE service** in the sanctuary. Join us as we celebrate an important milestone in the lives of our confirmands.

Bible Study – Thursdays at **5:30 pm, through Aug. 21 in Ritchie Hall.** Taught by Dr. Bradley R. Trick, join us as we learn the How (and why) to unify in an age of division as we study the book of Galatians. Sign up with QR code here or on our website.



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). Spots are still 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.




Altar Flowers – Given to the Glory of God and in honor of Maxwell Leo Carlson on his Baptism, and in loving memory of Juanita Williams on her birthday by Perry and Carolyn Hood.

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

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach

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 ELEISON * *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace as we gather for worship.*

Setting by Robert J. Durocher, Jr.

Voice

(Cantor) Congregation (Cantor)

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Lord have mer - cy. Chr - i - ste e -

6 Congregation 2nd time

le - i - son, Christ have - mer - cy. Christ, have - mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE*

This is the Feast

Setting by Robert J. Durocher, Jr.

$\text{♩} = 92$

Voice

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of

6 vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu-ia, al-le-lu - ia!

11

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.



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God.



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, 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,



glo - ry and might be to God - and the Lamb for - ev - er, A - men. 3.This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. For the Lamb who was



slain be-gins his reign. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le lu ia. Al-le lu ia, al le lu ia.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY*

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



WORD

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

READING:

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

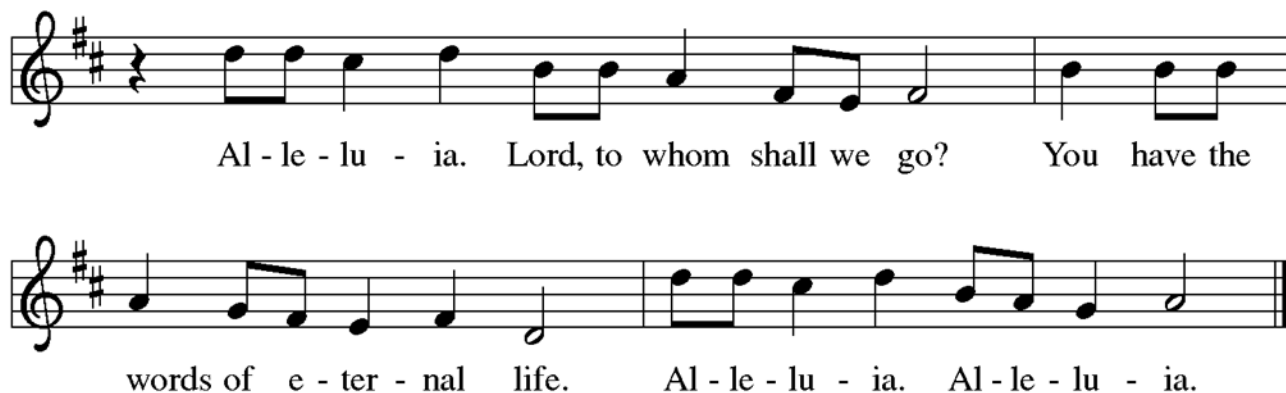
⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

INVITATION TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP — Children ages 3 through 3rd grade are now dismissed for Sunday School. Please exit through the door near the baptismal font. Children will return to the worship service after the sermon.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION* *Alleluia!*



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE*

Luke 12:32-40



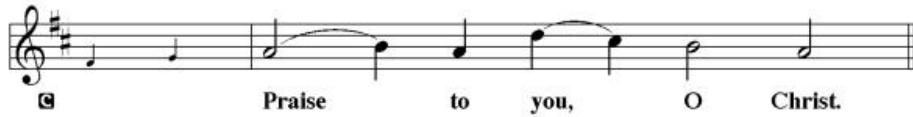
Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God’s reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God’s generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Pastor Lori Carter

HYMN 818*

O Master, Let Me Walk with You
(Stanzas 1, 2 & 4)

MARYTON



Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Maxwell Leo Carlson

Child of *Alexander and Kathryn Carlson*

PRESENTATION

Baptismal family gathers at the font.

The Congregation's Response:

People of God, do you promise to support Maxwell and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **We do.**

The Profession of Faith.

People of God, do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God...unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Rite of Baptism. *The Rite of Baptism includes three symbols used in baptismal liturgy since the beginning of the church: water (for cleansing), oil (for sealing), and light (for proclaiming).*

Baptism with Water. *Maxwell is baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

Imposition of Oil. *Oil is used to make the sign of the cross on Maxwell's forehead, a symbol that seals him in relationship with Christ.*

Gift of Light. *Maxwell is welcomed into the Family of God. A candle (the light of Christ) is presented to him with the words, "Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative
redeeming Word to all the world.**

As Maxwell is introduced to the congregation; all are invited to sing:

“Jesus Loves Me.”

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

*Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! He who died, heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

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 *Beautiful Savior*

Words: Munster Gesangbuch; Music: David Allen

Beautiful Savior! King of creation!
Son of God and Son of man!
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flowers of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man!
Glory and honor, Praise adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!



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.

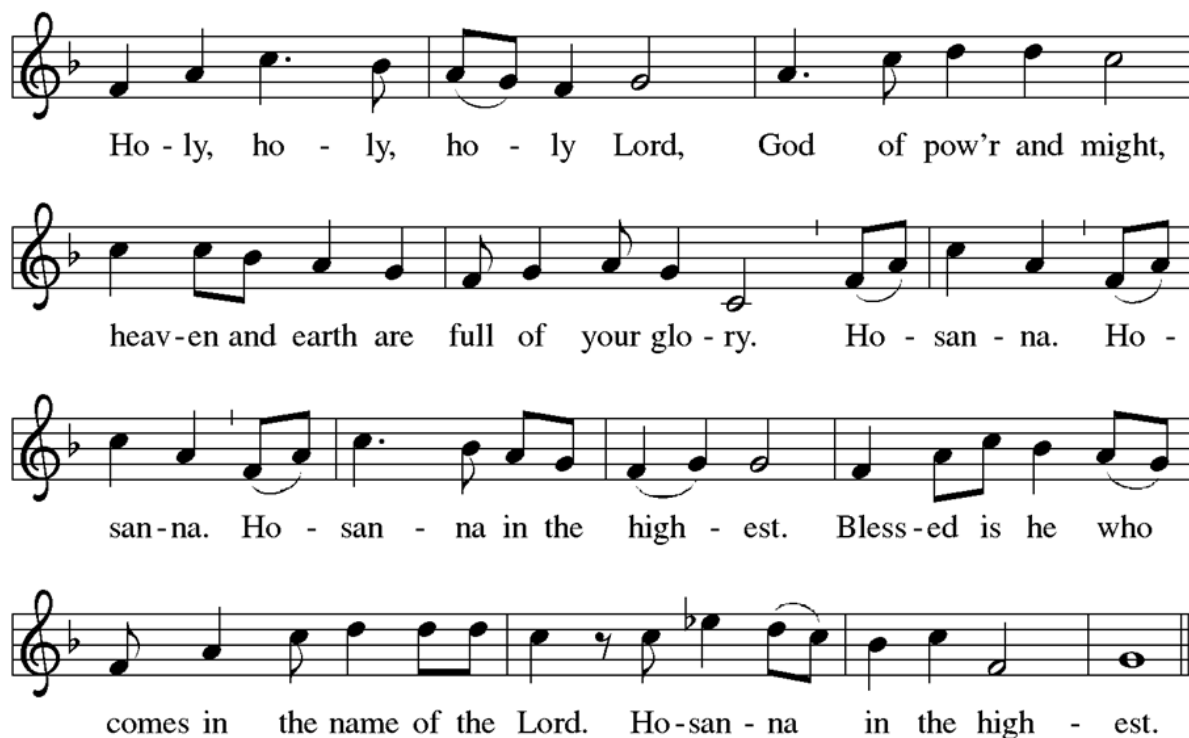
OFFERTORY PRAYER*

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:



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*

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.

Piano Meditation

Breaking Bread Together
Thom Hinson, Piano

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Organ Meditation

Christ, Be Our Light
Connie Burleson, Organ

by David Lasky

Hymn 502

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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 632* *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

DISMISSAL*

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

POSTLUDE

Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship
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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S:

Acolyte: Hannah Jean Roy and Elijah Young

Crucifer: Anelise Roy

Banner Bearer: Kaitlyn Losh

Cantor: Mark Lewis

Reader: Rosemary Wood

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.*