



Title: Prophecy of the Destruction of the Temple. Date: ca. 1886-1894. Artist: James Tissot 1836-1902.

23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025 | 11:00 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!

Installation of Pastor Spence Robertson. Join us at **2 pm** for a special worship service as we officially welcome Pr. Spence into the pastoral ministry at St. John's. There will be a light reception to follow in Ritchie Hall.

Bibles & Brews - Men's Ministry - Tues., Nov. 18, 6 pm at **Goose and the Monkey** at 401 S. Railroad St., Lexington, NC. We look forward to seeing you there!

Wednesday Evening Vesper Service—Nov. 19 at 6 pm in the Chapel—Join us after our Wednesday night meal for an evening worship service.

Faith Center's 10th Anniversary – Nov. 21, 6-8 pm. Join us in **Peeler Hall**, as we gather for finger foods and drinks followed by a time of music, recognition and looking to the future. Please RSVP using QR Code here or on our website.



Serenity Sisters – Nov. 23 at 5 pm. Contact: Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org to join or for more information.

Hanging of the Greens—Nov. 23 at 12-5 pm in the Sanctuary —We are inviting the congregation to participate in the "Hanging of the Greens." This event helps us begin decorating our church campus for Advent. Participants may want to stay after church and bring work gloves to help fluff the tree!

Thanksgiving Day Worship—Online only—Nov. 27 at 10 am. We welcome you to join our annual Thanksgiving Day of Worship as it is presented online—a great way to begin your Day of Thanksgiving. Enjoy 30 minutes of song, prayer and inspiration. Available to view Thanksgiving morning by visiting our website, FaceBook or YouTube.

Christmas Traditions—Join us Sunday, **Nov. 30, 5-7 pm**, at the **Vista at Walnut Hill** for our Christmas Traditions event. You'll enjoy Advent wreath making, soup, chili, the Solid Ground Coffee Truck and more! Sign up by scanning the QR code or online at <https://stjsalisbury.onechurchsoftware.com/forms/133/fields>



Altar Flowers—Given to the Glory of God and in honor of and appreciation for our Office Staff and our Facilities Manager's Team, by Raymond and Kay Coltrain.

GATHERING

*The congregation is invited to respond where words are in **Bold**.
Hymns are found by number in the red worship books located in each pew.*

PRELUDE

*‘Encourage One Another’
by Mark Burrows*

Kingdom Kids

We rise and face the cross.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. **Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you,
✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

‘Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies’

ELW 553

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

Leader

Lord, have mer - cy.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

1. Glo - ry be to God in heav - en peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2. Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3. Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your pro - mise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Children ages 3 through 3rd grade are now invited to **Kingdom Kids**, exiting through the door near the baptismal font. Children will return to the worship service after the sermon.*

WORD

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

READING

Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from Malachi, the 4th chapter.

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

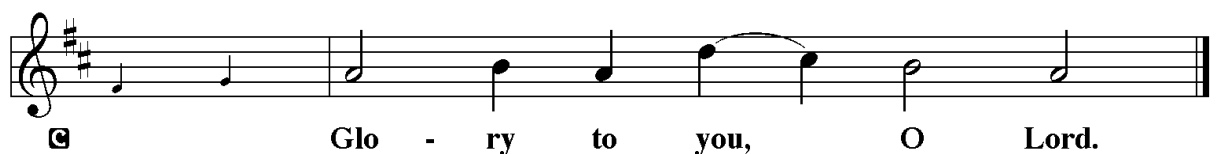


Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.



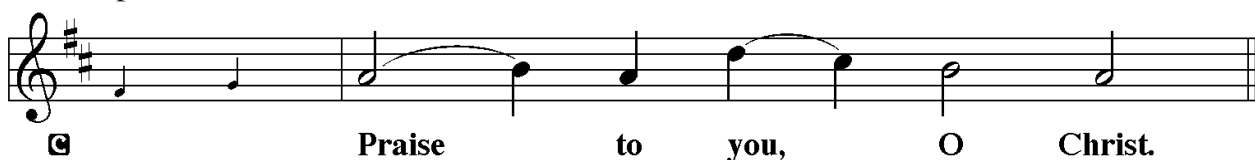
⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

We rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY

'My Hope is Built on Nothing Less'

ELW 596

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, we confess our faith:

**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**

PRAYER AND PEACE

Each petition concludes with the following:
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Be seated.

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

'Sing to the Lord a New Song'

by Kenneth Kosche

*Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!*

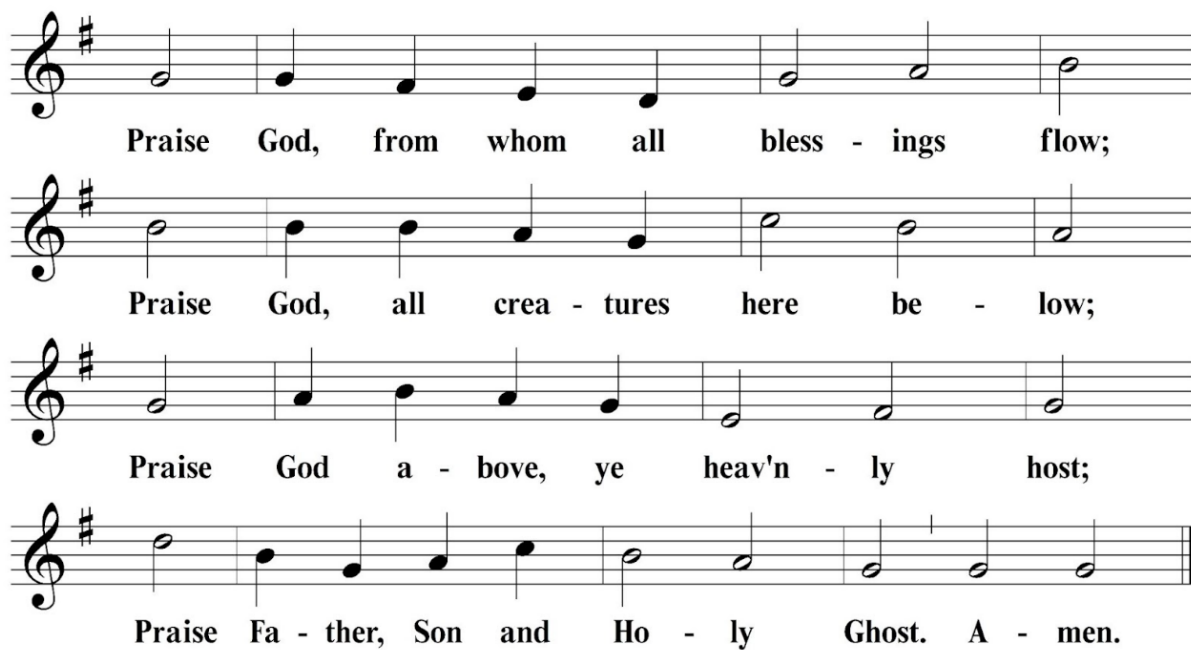
*Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;
Tell of God's salvation from day today.*

*Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvelous works among the people!*

Sing praises to the Lord, all the earth!

We rise.

RESPONSE AND PRAYER



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;

Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;

Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Let us pray: God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

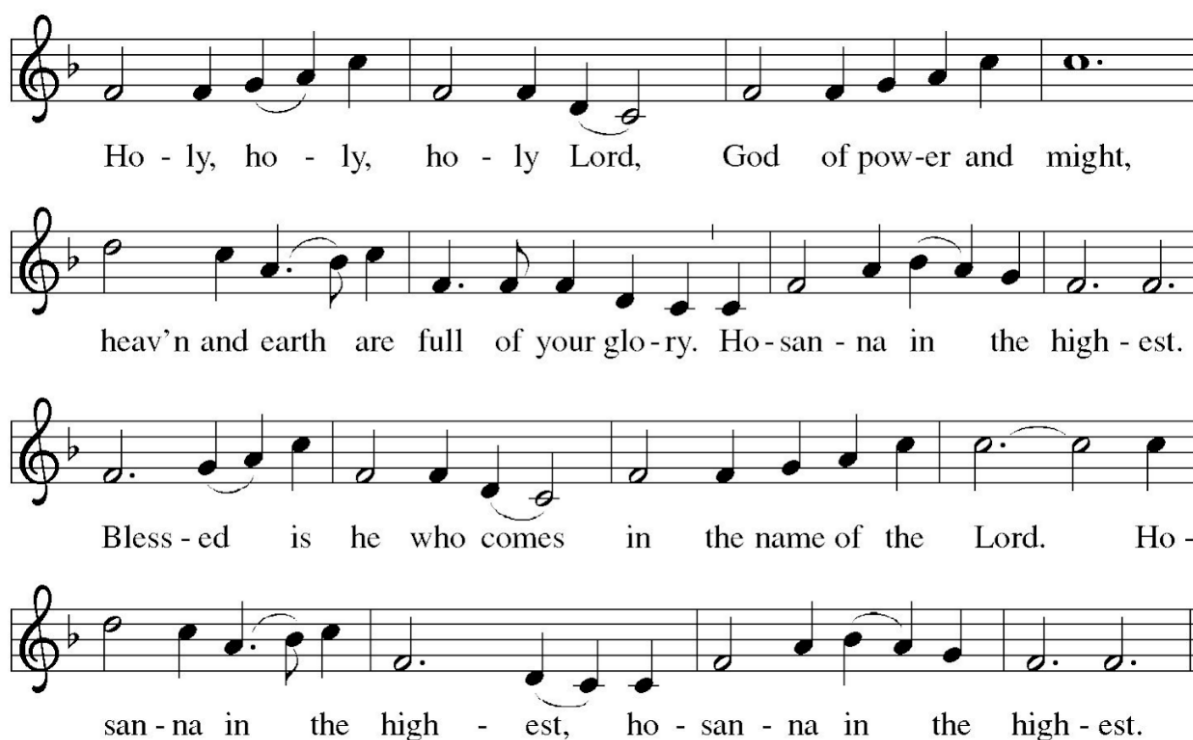
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC AND LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us: **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

There is a place for you at the table of God.

Come, receive a taste of life eternal. **Thanks be to God.**

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at the altar, following the usher's guidance. At the altar, bread is served (gluten-free by request), followed by wine (grape juice by request). Those not receiving Communion are invited forward to receive a blessing (crossing your arms across your chest as a sign to the pastor). If you need Communion brought to you, please signal the servers when they come down from the chancel.

COMMUNION HYMN



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION SONG

*'Thanksgiving Suite'
Arr. Kurt Meyer*

Luther Ringers

COMMUNION HYMN

'How Firm A Foundation'

ELW 796

We rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Let us pray: God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

May God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ✙ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

'O God, Our Help in Ages Past'

ELW 632

DISMISSAL AND POSTLUDE

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Cantor.....	Lea Anne Thomas
Reader.....	Noah Young
Preacher.....	Pastor Dan Joyner Miller
Presider.....	Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S

Acolytes.....	Elijah Young and Isaac Schmiesing
Crucifer.....	Noah Young
Banner Bearer.....	Gabriel Young

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 CareLori Carter...ext. 2050
Pastor for Youth and OutreachJames Demmel...ext. 2040

Worship and Music Ministry

Pastor for Worship and the Arts.....Spence Robertson...ext. 2080
Associate Parish Musician.....Janie Rollins
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
Communication Specialist.....Stephanie Mesimer...ext. 2220
Ministry Program Coordinator.....Mary Wymbs...ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg...ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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