



*Title: Shine. Date: 2013. Artist: Mike Moyers.*

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

*Scout Sunday*

February 8, 2026, 11:00am

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*St. John's Lutheran Church*

*Salisbury, North Carolina*

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

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

**Today is Scout Sunday.** Scouting has been an integral part of the ministry of St. John's for over 100 years. Today, the scouts will participate in worship and will receive special religious awards. We would like to extend a special thanks to the scouts who participate in this morning's service.

**Buck-A-Meal** - Every one-dollar bill placed in the offering boxes this morning goes to purchase a meal at Rowan Helping Ministries.

**Men's Ministry Beach Retreat Weekend – Register by Feb. 15** via QR code here or contact Eric Brady with any questions (704) 213-7164. The Retreat dates are April 24-26.



**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner – Feb. 17, 5:30-7:00 pm in Ritchie Hall.** Join us for our annual Pancake Dinner in support of St. John's Children's Ministry. Free-will donations accepted. Homemade crafts will be available for purchase. (Cash only please.)

**Ash Wednesday Service – Feb. 18, 12:15 pm in the Chapel and 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.**

**Women's Ministry – Terrie Hess Child Advocacy Center – Feb. 19, 6 pm in Ritchie Hall.** Join us for the “*Share the Love*” Blanket Tying event. Contact Rosalind Hines with any questions at rhines509@gmail.com.

**Birth-2yr old Milestone—“Jesus Loves Me” - Feb. 21, 10 am.** Join Mrs. Stacey in the Ark for music, family fun and fellowship! **RSVP by Feb. 15** to [stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org).

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Milestone – “Pot of Gold” - Feb. 22, 2 pm.** Join Mrs. Stacey in the Ark for music, family fun and fellowship! **RSVP by Feb. 16** to [stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org).

**“Open My Life, Lord” – Wednesday Lenten Services, begins Feb. 25 at 6:30pm** (Sanctuary or Online). Feb. 25, Holden Evening Prayer; Mar. 4, Guest Organist Dr. Philip Murgess; Mar. 11, Guest Pianist Dr. Lawrence Quinnett; Mar. 18, St. John's Musicians; Mar. 25, Holden Evening Prayer.

**Altar Flowers—**Given to the Glory of God and in memory of Brian Wisecarver by Lynn and Callie Wisecarver.



*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

*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, the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us confess to the one who knows us completely.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✙ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

## 'Gather Us In'

ELW 532

## 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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray:* Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, 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.*

## SCOUT SUNDAY RECOGNITION

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## WORD

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



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## READING

### 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup> And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. <sup>14</sup> Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are

foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup> Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. <sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.]

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

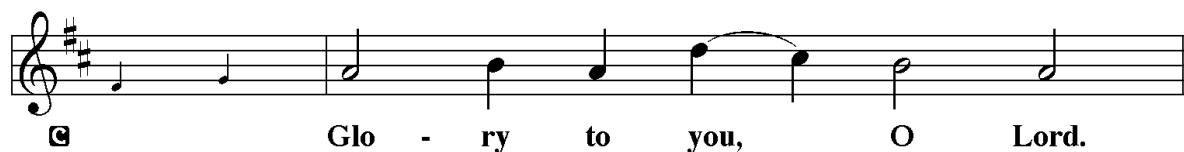
*We rise.*

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-20

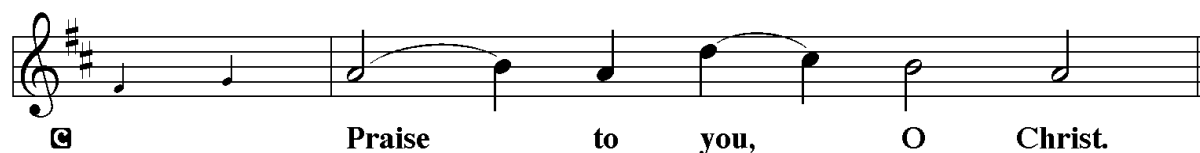


The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

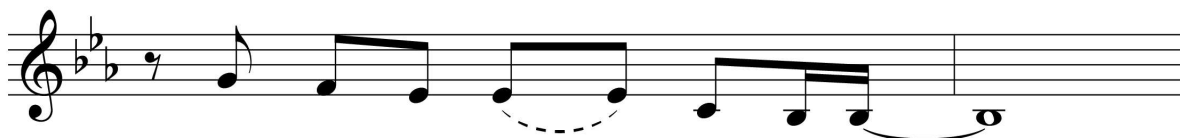


[ Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.



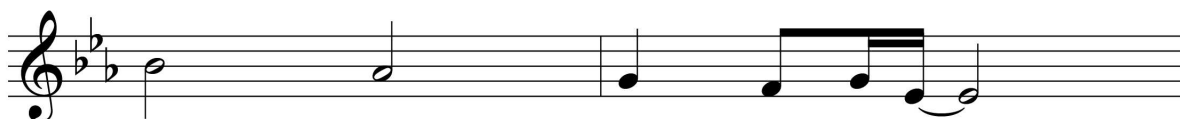
*Stanza 1) Solo    Stanza 2-4) All*



1. You are the light of the world,  
2. You are the ci - ty on a hill,  
3. You are a can - dle in the dark,  
4. You are a star in the night,



you are the light of the world.  
you are the ci - ty on a hill.  
you are a can - dle in the dark.                      So  
you are a star in the night.



shine,                      shine,                      shine where you are.



You are the light of the world.  
You are a ci - ty on a hill.  
You are a can - dle in the dark.  
You are a star in the night.

## 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:*  
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

*Be seated.*

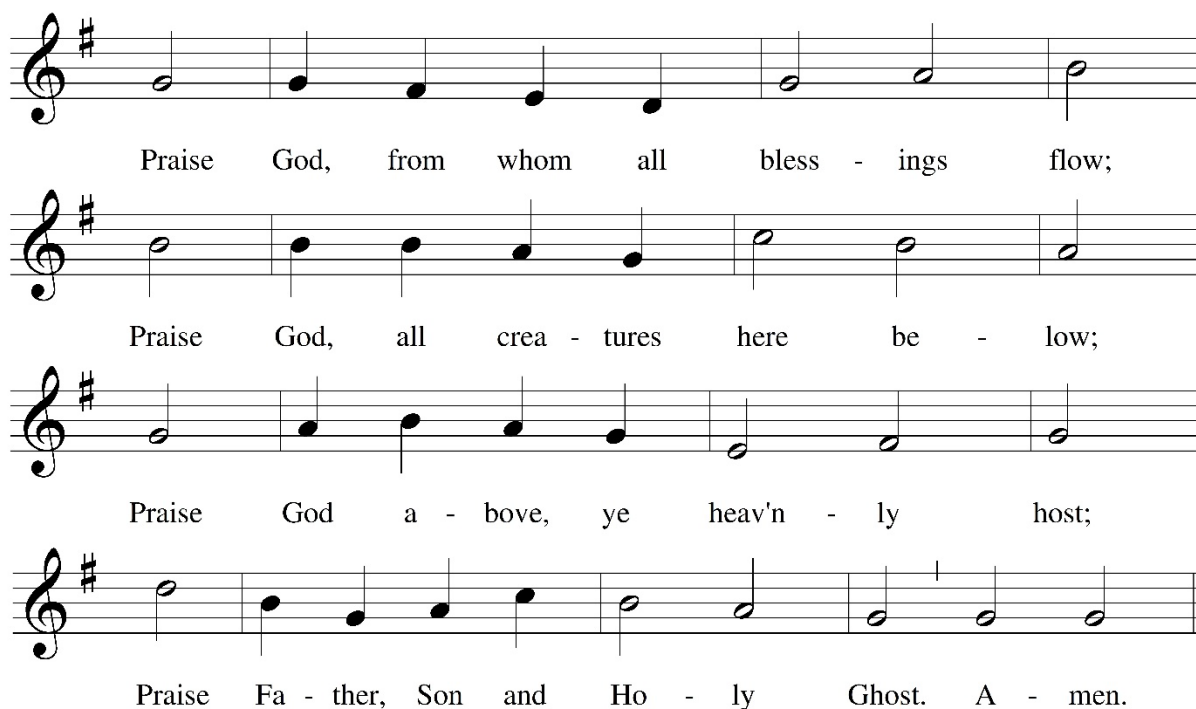
## OFFERING AND ANTHEM

**'Trust and Obey'**

*arranged* **Gail Smith**  
*performed* **Noah Trick**

*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 majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

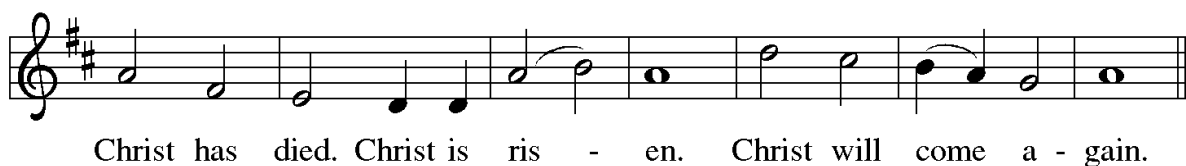
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

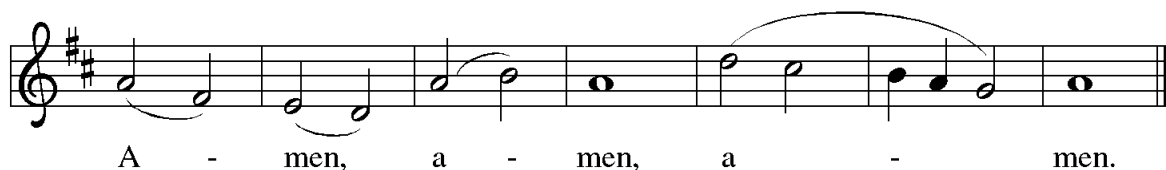
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.



## 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

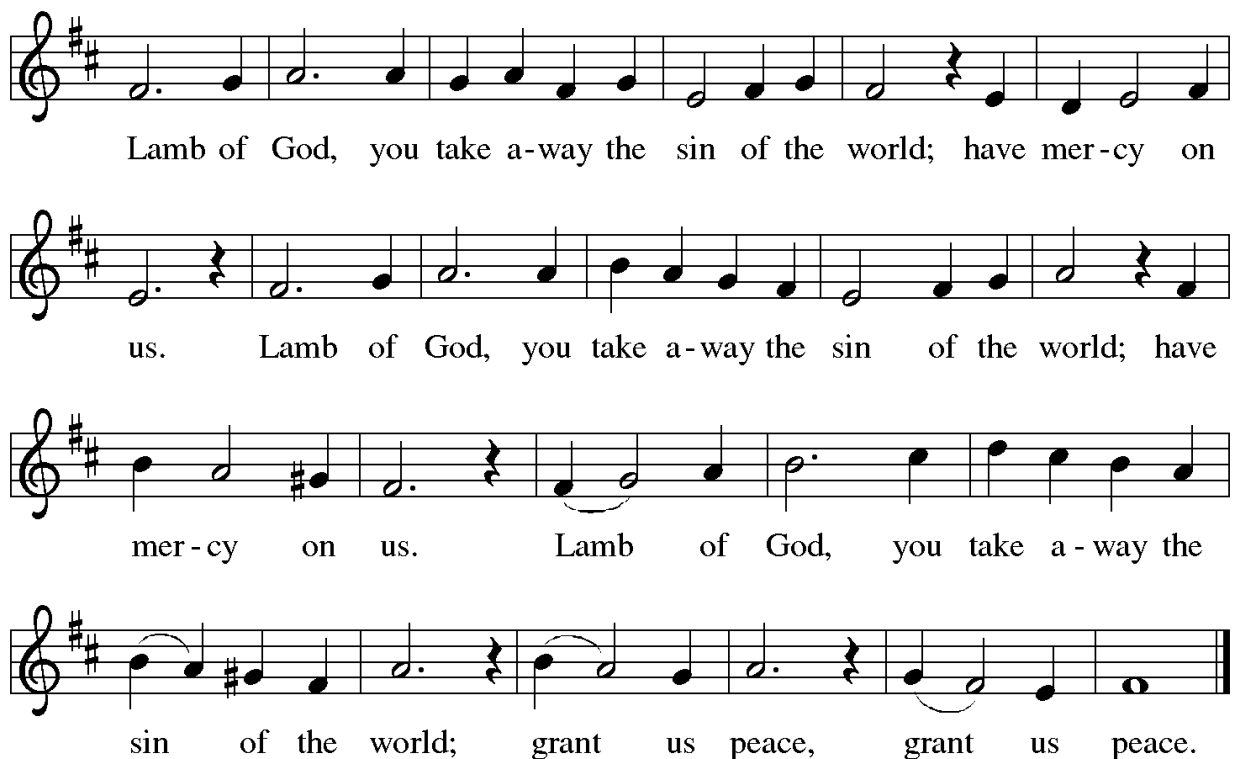
Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see. **Thanks be to God.**

*Be seated.*

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in the nave, following the usher's guidance. In the nave, communion is by intinction, dipping bread (gluten free by request) into wine (or grape juice). 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



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.

## COMMUNION SONG

**'Blest Be the Ties that Binds'**

*arranged, Mark Hayes*  
*performed, Kim Lentz*

## COMMUNION HYMN 'Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service'

ELW 712

*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:* Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

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



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## BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

**‘Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies’**

**ELW 553**

## DISMISSAL AND POSTLUDE

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Walk Humbly.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Cantor.....Malachi Overcash  
Reader.....Ashton Williams  
Liturgist.....Pastor Lori Carter  
Preacher..... Pastor James Demmel  
Presider.....Pastor Spence Robertson

## ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S

Acolytes.....Caleb Rathbun and Noah Trick  
Crucifer.....Ashton Williams  
Banner Bearer.....Benny Rathbun

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