



Youth Sunday

Rooted

Colossians 2:6-7- "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."



Third Sunday of Easter
Youth Sunday
April 19, 2026, 11:00 am



St. John's Lutheran Church

Salisbury, North Carolina

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

Welcome to worship on this Youth Sunday! Youth ministry at St. John's strives to help our young people grow in their faith. Youth gather weekly for lessons and fellowship on Sunday evening and attend retreats and trips throughout the year. Youth Sunday is an opportunity for our youth to give back to St. John's through their worship leadership and reflect upon the year they have had together. Our theme this year is "Rooted" and our theme verses are Colossians 2:6-7 - "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." In selecting this theme, our graduating seniors reflected on how the faith foundations they have formed have shaped who they are and help ground and root them amidst life's joys and anxieties. Youth have helped prepare and lead nearly every aspect of the service. Our preachers this year are graduating seniors Finnegan Avery (Salisbury High School) and Kaitlyn Losh (Gray Stone Day), preaching at 9:27, and Gabriel Young (Gray Stone Day), Sam Goodman (Salisbury High School), and Aiden Moss (Salisbury High School), preaching at 11 am.

Senior Seasons Academy – *"Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit"* – The remaining Academy dates are **Apr. 21 and 28, 9:30 am – 3 pm in Ritchie Hall**. After lunch, we will board the St. John's bus and be led by member and historian, Dr. Gary Freeze as we visit some of the oldest churches in Rowan County connecting our story with the faithful witness of those who have gone before us.

Six-Week Book Discussion – *"Christ in the Rubble"* - Join us in person or via Zoom (5 weeks remaining) on **Tues., Apr. 21 at 7 pm in Room 218** (Education Wing). Written by Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac, former pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, this book explains the Israel/Gaza war from both an insider as well as a Christian perspective. Contact Michael Connor at mjconnor1982@gmail.com or (734) 255-7230, with any questions.

Adult Discipleship – *"The Vanishing Church"* – **Apr. 24 through May 15** (4 Fridays remaining) **from 12 – 1 pm in Room 213**. Join us for a thoughtful conversation facilitated by Trevor Eppheimer, Academic Dean at Hood Theological Seminary. Bring your own lunch and beverage.

Worship Volunteers' Appreciation Dinner – **Sun., May 3 at 6 pm in Ritchie Hall**. We look forward to celebrating and thanking those who share their time and talents to help make worship services meaningful at St. John's. You will receive an invitation. Please RSVP by scanning the QR Code on the invitation, or by calling the church office.

St. John's Men's Chorus will present a spring program titled *"Voices Raised"* on **Sun., May 17 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary**. Under the co-direction of Jason Harwood and Spence Robertson, the concert will feature the St. John's Chancel Choir, Women's Ensemble, and Handbell Ensemble, accompanied by Janie Rollins and guest musicians. A freewill offering will be received to benefit a local charitable organization, which will be announced next month.

VBS—ages 3 through CURRENT 5th grade—Join us on **Jun. 8-12 from 9 am—12:15 pm** as we explore the Nature of God through *"Rainforest Falls"*. Register by scanning the QR code here. Sign up to VOLUNTEER today by emailing Stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org.



VBS Registration



VBS Wishlist

Altar Flowers – Given to the Glory of God and in honor of Harley Rowan Hatchett on his 2nd birthday, by his grandparents, Ann and Parker Hatchett.



*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

The Church's One Foundation.
arr. Robert James Lamb

Joyful Ringers

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Katie Ann Dangerfield, Clara Misner, Jillian Towns

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever. **Amen.**

We rise and face the cross.

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.**

THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

Mary Masters Goodman

Let us pray: Almighty and ever-living God, in the days of the apostles you poured out your Holy Spirit upon the Church, giving them boldness to proclaim your Word and gathering many into the fellowship of your Son: Grant us the same Spirit of power and grace, that, made alive in Christ, we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, serve one another in love, and walk in the way of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ashton Williams, Benny Rathbun, Brenden Sifford

TEMPLE TALK - YOUTH MINISTRY

Pastor James Demmel

WORD

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



FIRST READING

Acts 8:27b-38

Balian Witt

A reading from Acts, the 8th chapter.

²⁷ So [Philip] got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

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

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6-15

Hope Thomas

A reading from Colossians, the 2nd chapter.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹² when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

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

Sing twice.

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 7th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!” ²⁸ Now when Jesus had finished saying these words, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, ²⁹ for he taught them as one having authority and not as their scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Be seated.***CHILDREN’S SERMON***St. John’s Youth***SERMON***Aiden Moss, Samuel Goodman, Gabriel Young*

♩ = 60

A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b/G A^b E^b/G Fm7 A^b/B^b

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in

4

E^b A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b/G A^b E^b/G Fm7 A^b/B^b

song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and
 babe! This gift of love and right-eous-ness, scorned by the ones He came to
 slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose a -
 me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com-mands my des - ti -

8

E^b E^b/G A^b E^b/G B^b sus B^b E^b/G A^b Cm7

storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings
 save. Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 -gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 -ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His

12

B^b sus B^b A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b/G A^b E^b/G Fm7 A^b/B^b E^b

cease. My Com-fort-er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 -fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.
 me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

INSTRUMENTAL

B^bm7 Fm7 E^b E^b sus E^b

NICENE CREED

Gabriel Shafer

With the whole church, we confess our faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.*

PRAYERS AND PEACE

*Benny Rathbun, Brenden Sifford, Balian Witt,
Ashton Williams, Elijah Young, Isaac Schmiesing*

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

'Old Church Choir'
Arr. Jeff Moore

*There's revival, and it's spreading
Like a wildfire in my heart
A Sunday morning, hallelujah
And it's lasting all week long*

*Can you hear it? Can you feel it?
It's the rhythm of a gospel song
Oh, once you choose it, you can lose it
There ain't nothing there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*I got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*When the valleys, that I wander
Turn to mountains that I can't climb
Oh, You are with me, never leave me
Oh, 'cause there ain't nothing
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*I got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

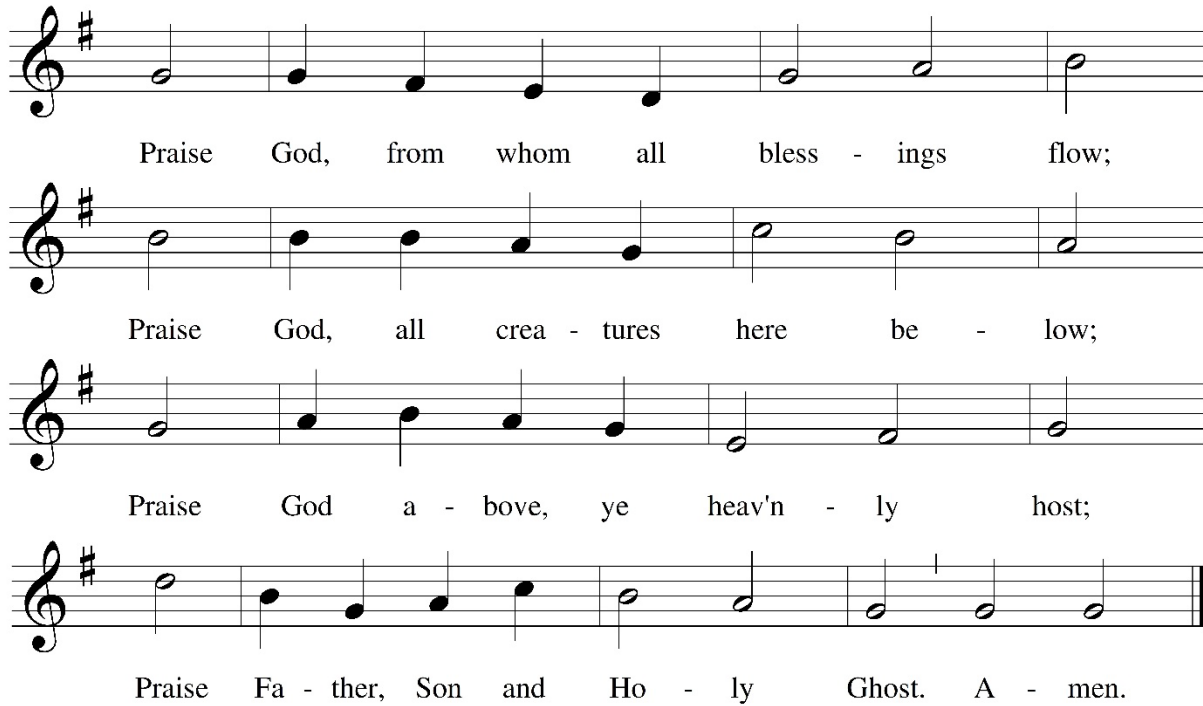
*Clap your hands and stomp your feet
Till you find that gospel beat
'Cause it's all you'll ever need
All you'll ever need*

*I've got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

We rise.

RESPONSE AND PRAYER

Anelise Roy



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: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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.

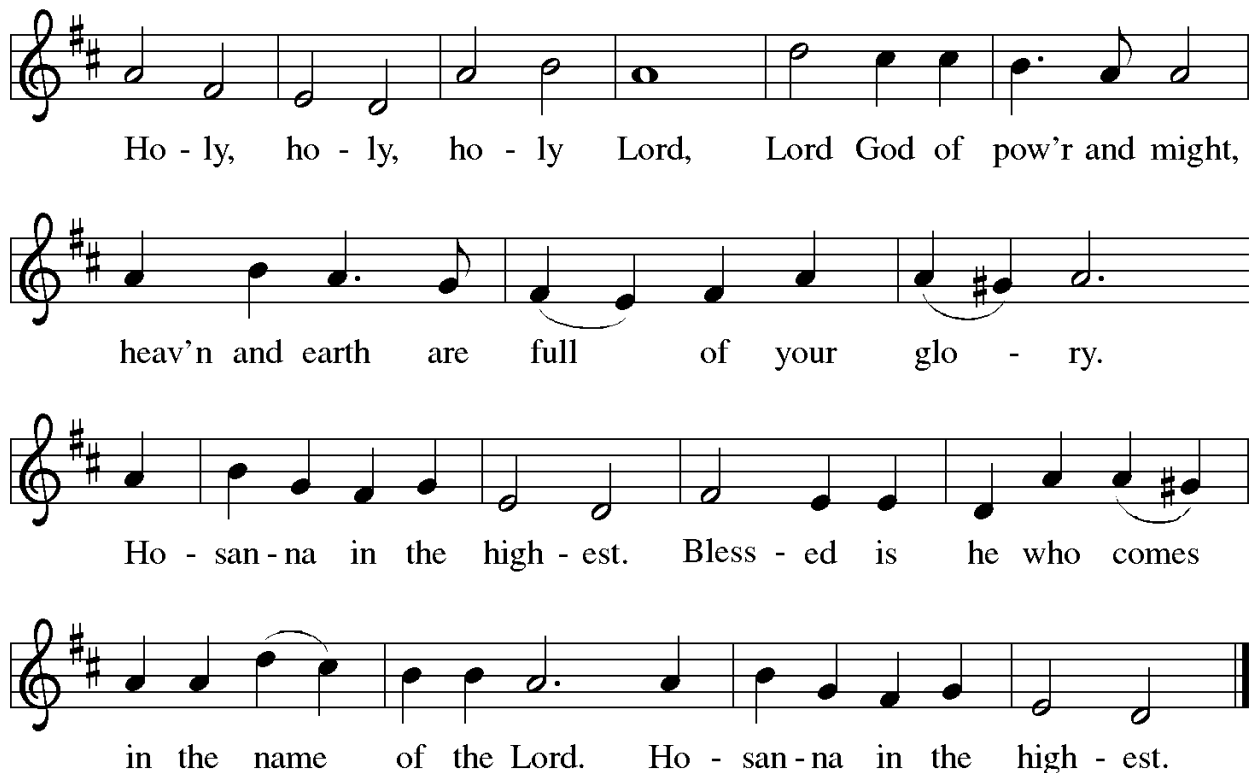
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover
from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With all your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Connor Towns

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

Jackson Williams

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in the nave. Please follow 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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION SONG

'Invention in C Major'
BWV 772 by J. S. Bach

Noah Trick

COMMUNION HYMN

'My Hope is Built on Nothing Less'

ELW 596

We rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Hannah Jean Roy, C.J. Sifford

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

Let us pray: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

SENDING

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



BLESSING

William Charest

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

'Go, My Children'

ELW 543

DISMISSAL AND POSTLUDE

Graham Wilson

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

YOUTH SUNDAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

927 ACOLYTES: Waylen Jarrett, Anson Ward, Isaac Schmiesing

927 GREETERS:

Lower Doors—Sam Goodman, Jeffery Stephenson, Jillian Towns, Maggie Panzeri

Upper Doors—Gabriel Shafer, William Charest, Aiden Moss, Wyatt Barnhardt

Faith Center Doors:

Left Side—Anelise Roy, Brenna Baucom, Paige Marino, Anna Lynne Marino

Right Side—Mary Masters Goodman, Anna Kate Goodman, Katie Ann Dangerfield, Bella German

927 USHERS:

Landen Ryerson, Graham Wilson, Noah Young

927 COMMUNION SERVERS:

Finn Avery, Kaitlyn Losh, Connor Towns, William Charest, Derek Young, Aaron Shafer

927 PREACHERS: Kaitlyn Losh, Finnegan Avery

927 ANNOUNCEMENTS: Anelise Roy, William Charest, Gabriel Shafer, Graham Wilson, Clara Misner.

927 PRAYER: Noah Young, Gabriel Young, Elijah Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON (927 + 11am): St. John's Youth (there are many!)

927 READERS: Jillian Towns, Landen Ryerson

11 am GREETERS:

Breezeway Entrance – Cora Wymbs, Finnegan Avery

Church St. Entrance - Kaitlyn Losh, Connor Towns

Elevator Entrance - Jeffrey Stephenson, William Charest, Graham Wilson

Center Doors – Ashton Williams, Jackson Williams, Clara Misner, Noah Young, Anelise Roy, Katie Ann Dangerfield

11 am USHERS:

Connor Towns, Cora Wymbs, Meredith Williams, Gabriel Young, Aiden Moss, Sam Goodman

11 am COMMUNION SERVERS:

Floor Left – Landen Ryerson, Aaron Shafer

Floor Right – Anna Lynne Marino, Nicole Demmel

Choir Loft - Gabriel Young, Derek Young

11 am PREACHERS: Aiden Moss, Sam Goodman, Gabriel Young

Order of St. John's

CRUCIFER: Landen Ryerson

BANNER BEARER: Connor Towns

ACOLYTES: Brenna Baucom and Wyatt Barnhardt

CANTORS: Hope Thomas and Lea Anne Thomas

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