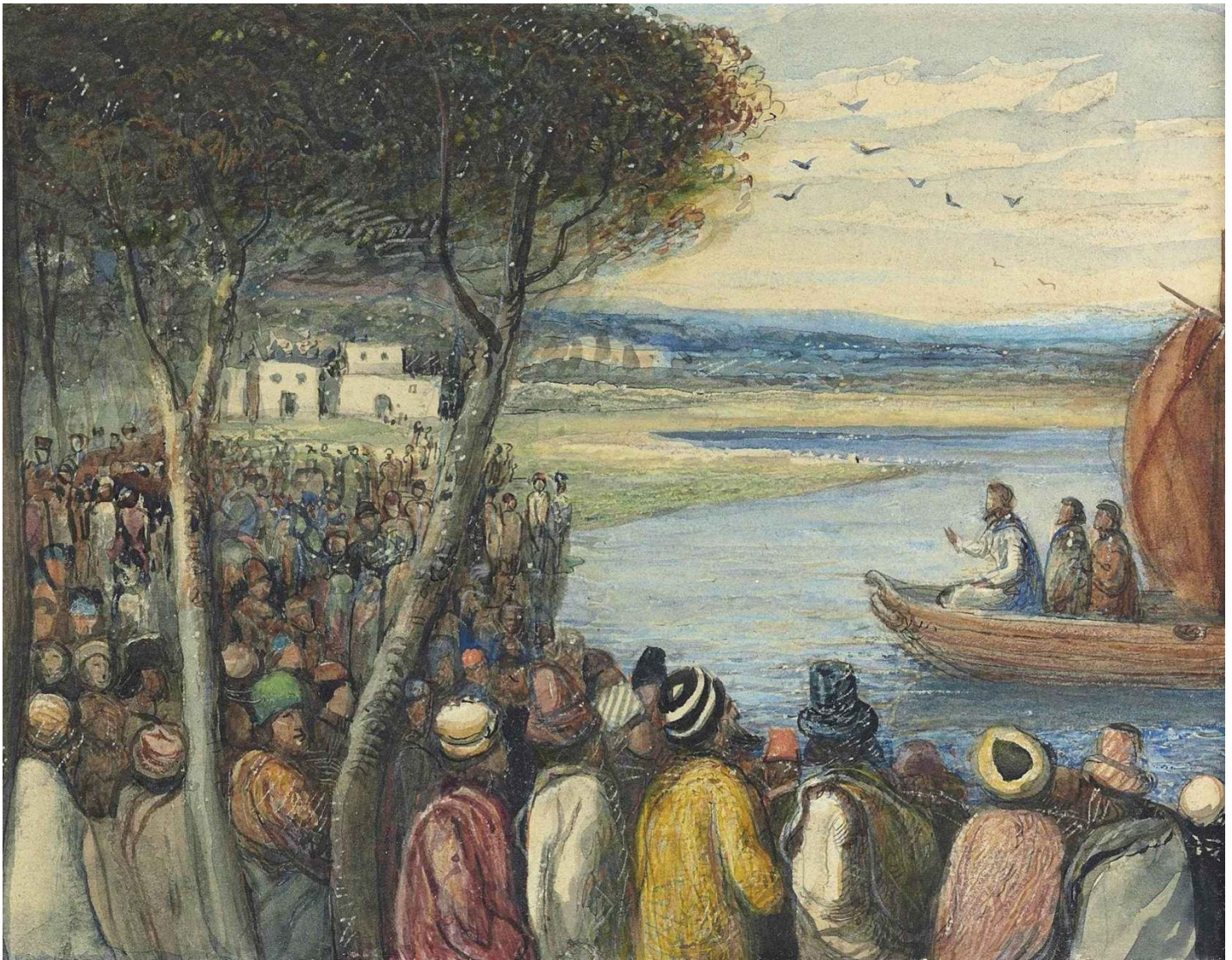




Title: Christ Preaching to the Multitudes (19th Century). Artist: James Smetham.

10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 2026, 11:00 am



St. John's Lutheran Church

Salisbury, North Carolina

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are glad God has brought you here!

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

St. John's Rainbow Makers – Birthday Book Drive – ends Today - for our Kindergarten and Child Development Center. Scan the QR code for the wish list or purchase an age-appropriate book and drop it off in the designated area at the church. Make sure to write a birthday message inside.



Pictorial Directory Volunteers Needed to assist with Sign-ups – Training sessions are Tues., Aug 4 at 10 am and Wed., Aug. 5 at 6 pm in room 218. **Photo Sign-ups will be in Peeler Hall, before and after both services on 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30, 9/6 and 9/13.** We need a total of 12 volunteers (2 for each service). Contact Stephanie@stjohns-salisbury.org or call (704) 636-3431 ext. 2220. Thank you in advance for your help with this important project.

St. John's Book Club – Thurs., Aug. 6 at 11 am in room 216. Contact Gerrie Blackwelder with any questions at blackwgd@gmail.com.

New 3-year-olds and their parents – Aug. 9 from 9:45-10:30 am, join us in the 3 & 4 year old classroom downstairs for a special introduction to Sunday School as we begin an exciting journey of faith, friendship, and learning together. Contact stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org with any questions.

Blessing of the Backpacks—Aug. 9 – Bring your backpacks or work bag for a special blessing at both services. During each service, we will pray for our students, teachers and school administration as they begin another school year.

Women's Ministry Group – Game Night – Aug. 13, 6-8 pm in the PIT. We will be collecting school supplies for Isenburg Elementary. Grab your supply list handout. Bring a snack to share. Games will be provided. Come join the fun! Contact Rhines509@gmail.com with any questions.

Visitor Meet & Greet – Aug. 16 at 10:30 am. You're invited to join us for a warm welcome gathering where visitors can connect with our pastors and have their questions answered. We will gather in the room across from the Welcome Desk in Peeler Hall.

Newly-added Pre-K Classroom Celebration - Aug. 16, following the 11 am worship service. Come Celebrate with us at the opening of our additional Pre-K Classroom and in honoring 80 Years of Loving, Learning, and Leading at our St. John's Kindergarten Program – We will meet at the playground! See you there!

God's Work, Our Hands – Sept. 13 – Save the Date... for our annual community service project which will benefit Zion Hills and St. John's, this year. Details are coming soon.

Altar Flowers – Please visit our website to reserve your altar flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or special occasion. You may also scan the QR code here or call our office for assistance.





*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,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **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.

GLORY TO YOU, GOD

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music, each with three-part vocal harmony (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and corresponding lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the sixth line.

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kingdom Kids will return on Sunday, August 16. Activity bags are in the narthex.

WORD

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



READING

Genesis 32:22-31

A reading from Genesis, the 32nd chapter.

²² [At night Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

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

We rise.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:13-21

Sing twice.



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Lori Carter

We rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY

‘We Come to the Hungry Feast’

ELW 479

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.**

PRAYERS AND PEACE

Each petition concludes with the following:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Share the ‘peace’ of Christ with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

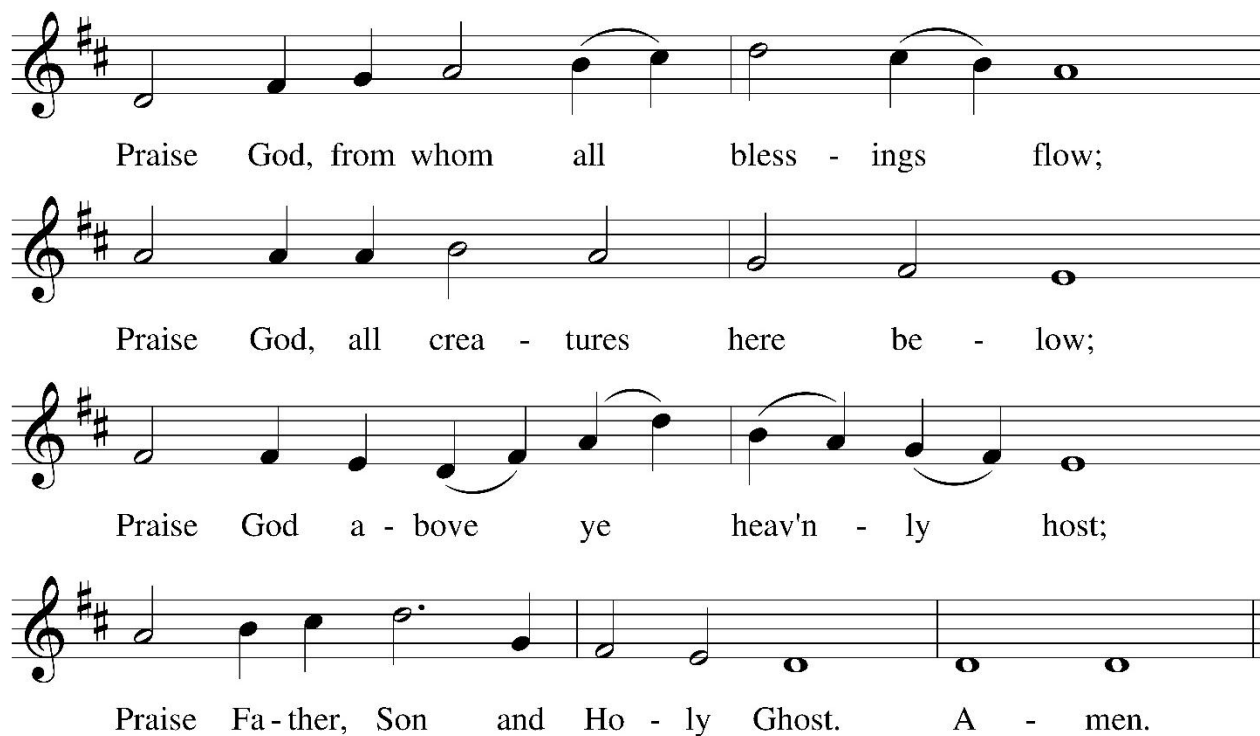
Be seated.

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

**‘Jesus, Feed Us’
Arr. Brian Wentzel**

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: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us 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 AND HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.
We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.

THE 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

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the
feast! **Thanks be to God.**

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. Please follow the usher's guidance to one of the three communion stations. 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 inform an usher.

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

‘Meditation on the Tenth’

By Davis Brown

COMMUNION HYMN

‘Break Now the Bread’

ELW 515

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: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

'Praise the One'

ELW 843

DISMISSAL AND POSTLUDE

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Reader.....Patricia Holt
Preacher.....Pastor Lori Carter
Presider.....Pastor James Demmel
Liturgist.....Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S

Acolytes.....Jackson Williams and Elijah Young
Crucifer.....Landen Ryerson
Banner Bearer.....Noah Young

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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
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins...ext. 2190
Associate Parish Musician.....Janie Rollins
Contemporary Worship Leaders.....Michael Board and Ondria Witt
Director of Music *emeritus*.....Karl Kinard, Jr., *deacon*
Director of Worship and the Arts *emeritus*.....Robert J. Durocher, 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
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg...ext. 2070
Custodian.....Steven Elliott



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