



Anchored in Faith



The Season of Easter

April 22, 2018 | 8:30 am | Youth Sunday

St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury, North Carolina

Welcome to St. John's!

*For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.
The congregation's responses are in **bold**.*





Gathering

Each year, we give our high school youth the opportunity to plan, write, and lead all aspects of our worship services. We give thanks for these young people and for the vibrant ministry we offer for youth at St. John's. May God be glorified in our worship today.

Kai Thurow, Youth Minister

Gathering Music

Welcome Victoria Plyler

Invocation Grace Faller, Hans Roemer, Bo Rusher

Reading Hebrews 6:19 Archie Dees

"We have this hope in Christ as an anchor for our soul, firm and secure."

Sharing of Christ's Peace. Maddie Eudy

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor

Music Meditation *The Lord's My Shepherd* arr. Douglas Smith
CRIMOND
Instrumental trio: Kevin Agner, Jared Hensley, Rebecca Lewis

Confession and Forgiveness. *Please follow the direction of our youth.* Katherine Sullivan

Entrance Hymn 574 *Here I Am, Lord* HERE I AM, LORD

Devotional Reading Anna Everhart

Please stand

Hymn 787 *On Eagle's Wings* ON EAGLE'S WINGS

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, ^[a] for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, ^[b] he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Please be seated

Sermon

Bethanie Stauffer

Please stand

Hymn 659

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

Statement of Faith

Led by Spencer Everhart

The following statement of faith was written by our youth. Their words embrace the tradition of the Apostles Creed, which states our belief in God the father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in a triune God who is so incredibly awesome.

We believe in God the Father, who is not male or female and cannot be described by words.

We believe that God invented and created all things in heaven and on earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ who is God's only Son,

who through the power of the Holy Spirit was born, as a gift to us, in human form by a virgin named Mary.

Jesus lived and walked on earth just like we do, and he

experienced joy, pain, worry and other emotions that we experience every day.

We believe that Jesus lived a life that we are called to learn from and to follow.

We believe that he suffered and died because of and for people just like us. After we brutally killed him, he went to the land of the dead to make his presence known.

On the third day he returned from the dead and then ascended to a paradise we call heaven — a paradise free from worry, frustration, anger, hate, death, disease, and war.

We believe in God, the Holy Spirit, who is with us constantly.

We believe that Christians all over the world – past, present, and future - are connected through the Holy Spirit in a deeper way than we can possibly comprehend.

We believe that because of Jesus' sacrifice, all of our sins are forgiven and that we have no need to worry any longer.

We believe in the resurrection of all people when Jesus comes again.

We believe that we will all be in paradise with God eternally . Amen.

Prayers of the People

Led by Lillie Rusher

These prayers were adapted by our youth from a prayer attributed to Mother Teresa.

Let us pray for the people of the world responsively.

Lord, we know that the world is struggling and that we worry about a lot.

But with your help, we will remember your promises.

Lord, we know that there are people who are hungry, people who are lonely, people who are persecuted, people who are imprisoned, and people who are dying.

But with your help, we will be your hands and feet to these people each day.

Lord, we know that people are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

But with your help, we seek to forgive them anyway.

Lord, we know that if we are kind, people may accuse us of selfish, ulterior motives.

But with your help, we seek to be kind anyway.

Lord, in this world we know that if we are successful, we will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

But with your help, we will seek to succeed anyway.

continued ...

Lord, we know that if we are honest and sincere people may still deceive us.
But with your help, we will be honest and sincere anyway.

Lord we know that what we may spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.
But with your help we will continue to create anyway.

Lord we know that if we find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.
But with your help we will be happy anyway.

Lord, we know that the good we do today, will often be forgotten.
But with your help we will continue to do good anyway.

Lord we know that in many cases, even when we give the best we have, it will never be enough.
But with your help we will give our best anyway.

In the midst of our worries we turn to you, Lord. Give us the strength to be the church today and every day.

Amen

Please be seated

Offering

Offertory Hymn 685

Take My Life, That I May Be

PATMOS

Congregation joins in singing the hymn, standing on the final refrain.

Offering Prayer

Kayla Sachse

Blessed are you, O God,
Ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts and hands, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Anchor. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Led by David Holden

Congregation is invited to hold hands as a sign of unity and love.

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.

Benediction

Callie Kirchin

Now may you go from this place out into the world knowing that we have Christ as our anchor, no matter what storms come our way in life!!

Amen.



Sending

Sending Announcements

Kevin Agner

Sending Hymn 723

Canticle of the Turning

STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

Dismissal

Worship has ended, let the service begin! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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