



First Sunday in Advent

November 27, 2022 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC

Welcome to St. John's

We're so glad God has brought you here!

The Advent Wreath. *One of the most recognizable customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The unbroken circle of greens is an image of everlasting life. Its circular shape, without beginning or end, symbolizes God's unending love for us. The wreath itself is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life, even during the dormant time of winter. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light, despite the wintry darkness that surrounds us.*

Christmas Traditions—Join us today, Nov. 27, 5 -7 pm, at the Vista at Walnut Hill for our Christmas Traditions event. You'll enjoy Advent wreath making, a hot chocolate bar, soup, chili, and more!

Retirement Reception—Join us as we celebrate and thank Ruth Ann Diehl for her 22 years of ministry here at St. John's on Sunday, Dec. 4, 10:30 am in Peeler Hall.

Men's Chorus Christmas Concert—Sunday, Dec. 11, 4:00 pm in the sanctuary

Christmas on Church St.—Friday, Dec. 16, 6-8 pm in the Bell Tower Green

Lessons & Carols—Sunday, Dec. 18, 11 am Traditional Service

Altar Flowers—Given to the glory of God and in honor of Dr. Rhodes and Krista Woolly for their 13 years of service in ministry to St. John's and the Salisbury community, by Stan and Sandy Jordan.

Annual Meeting | December 11, 10:15 in the Faith Center

Members are encouraged to join us for a vote on the 2023 Budget and elect new Council Members

Council Nominees: Mark Lewis, Brett Henson, Carolyn Byrd, Neal McElveen and Cindy Fink.

Youth Nominees: Connor Towns & Lilly Dangerfield

Benevolent Fund Trustee Nominee: Cliff Ritchie

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Interested in walking where Jesus walked?
Use the QR code below to register.



Giving

Thank you for your gifts to God's Work through St. John's. Give online by using this QR Code.





Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God

Prelude

Impromptu in D Minor
Mark Tysinger, Pianist

by Johannes Brahms

Prayer of Confession

Please stand and face the processional cross.

As we gather for worship, we make the sign of the cross as a sign of our baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of new beginnings, we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation. Forgive us for our sins, those known to us
and those known only to You. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your
way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming
among us. **Amen.**

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign.
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. As a called and ordained
minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the
entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
 from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
 dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

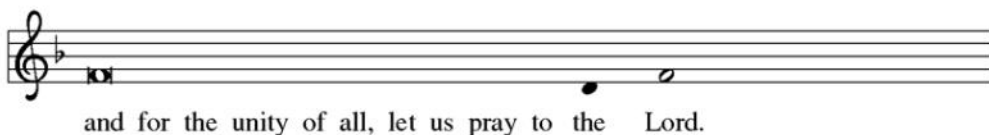
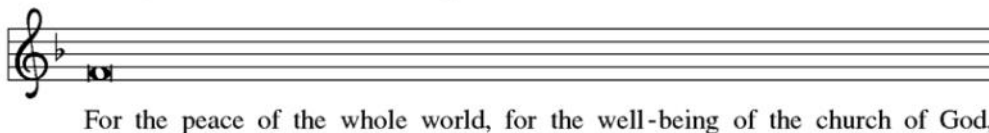
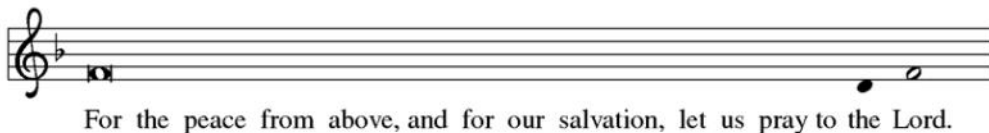
Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
 born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
 by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Come, our hearts are waiting for you, Come, Redeemer, come and bring
 peace and hope and joy forever, love is here! Our hearts will sing!
 Help us as we work together, your great kingdom to proclaim.
 Where we'll live in light and splendor—praising always your great Name.

Apostolic Greeting

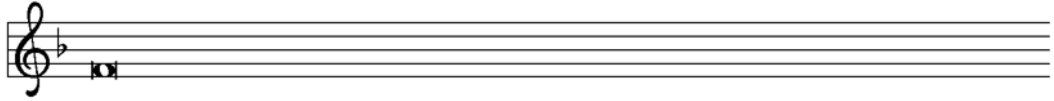
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie. *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace as we gather for worship.*

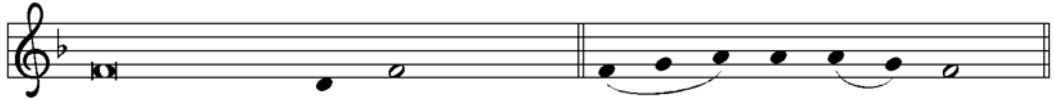




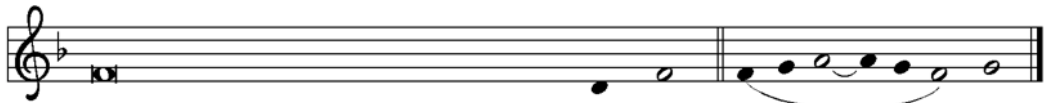
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (*please remain seated*)

Litany of Hope—The Henson Family, Brett, Lauren, and Nora

Congregational Response

Peace, Hope and Light

by Robert J. Durocher

Soprano

♩ = 82

Dm C/E F Gm Dm C sus4 Dm C/E

1. Peace, rest - less soul. Hope, wear - y heart. Light in - to this

6 F Bb2 Dm C sus4 F

troub - led world, come, Je - sus come.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a soprano part. It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 82. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "1. Peace, rest - less soul. Hope, wear - y heart. Light in - to this". The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: "troub - led world, come, Je - sus come." Chord symbols are written above the notes: Dm, C/E, F, Gm, Dm, C sus4, Dm, C/E on the first staff; and F, Bb2, Dm, C sus4, F on the second staff. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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Prayer

Praise to you, O God our salvation who is near:
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
You hurry to gather all people to your peace. **Amen.**



Word

Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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

Recitative and Aria *O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion* by G.F. Handel
Cathy Tysinger, Mezzo Soprano and Mark Tysinger, Accompanist

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
and shall call his name Emmanuel, God with us.

O thou that tellest good Tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high Mountain:
O thou that tellest good Tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy Voice with Strength;
lift it up, be not afraid: Say unto the Cities of Judah, Behold your God.
O thou that tellest good Tidings to Zion, Arise, shine, for thy Light is come,
and the Glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor James Demmel

Hymn 257

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

See page 9 of this bulletin or hymn 257 in the red worship book.

Apostles' Creed

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 of Intercession *Each petition ends: Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

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.



Sending

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

Benediction

Sending Hymn 239

Hark, the Glad Sound!

CHESTERFIELD

See page 10 of this bulletin or hymn 239 in the red worship book.

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

Postlude

Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship
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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Worship Participants

READER: Franco Goodman

CANTOR: Ricky Howsare

PIANIST: Janie Rollins

SOUND: Mike Agee

VIDEO: Taylor Hutchins

SOLOIST: Cathy Tysinger, Mezzo Soprano and Mark Tysinger, Accompanist

Join Us In Prayer For The Following:

CONDOLENCES—Dorothy Bedford (daughter, Cindee Bridges and son-in-law, Chip) who died on Nov. 17.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS — Gary Taylor, Maria Lewis, Carol Yost, John O'Dell

ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS — Landen Ryerson, Margaret Ketner, Joanne Bullard, Karl Kinard, Reggie Munday, Larry Cartner

St. John's Lutheran Church

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stjohns-salisbury.org | To contact a staff member: first name@stjohns-salisbury.org

Pastoral Ministry

Interim Senior Pastor.....Greg Williams
Pastor for Congregational CareLori Carter
Pastor for Youth and OutreachJames Demmel

Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon
9:27 Worship Leader.....Ricky Howsare
Accompanist.....Janie Rollins
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins
Director of Music *emeritus*.....Karl Kinard Jr., deacon

Program Ministry

Children.....Stacey Shafer
Senior AdultsDiane Poole
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds), DirectorTeresa Stoner
Child Development Center, Executive Director.....Lea Anne Thomas

Administrative Team

Business Manager.....Ruth Ann Diehl
Office Manager.....Deborah Cross
Office Assistant.....Vivian Connor
Accounting.....Mark Bias
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg
Custodian.....William Fisher



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