



Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 22, 2023 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC



Welcome to St. John's!

We're so glad God has brought you here!

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

Wednesday Night Meals—5:30 pm in Ritchie Hall! **Reservations are required no later than the Monday before.** You can RSVP at: stjohns-salisbury.org/Wednesdays.

Wednesday Night Adult Programming: Join us on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm. Brad Trick will lead a study of the gospel of Matthew.


Offering Envelopes—UPDATE—Due to vendor supply issues and we are anticipating delivery by the end of January. We invite you to utilize pew envelopes or one of our online giving options to support God’s work through St. John’s. We thank you for your patience!

Altar Flowers— given to the Glory of God and in Honor of the G2G campaign and all who made the project happen.

Worship Navigation

The Congregation is invited to respond where words are in **Bold**.

***** = Please stand as you are able **+** = Face the Cross

 = You are invited to make the sign of the Cross.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

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,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever,
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

Thus says our God:
"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."
God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Entrance Hymn 673 *

God, Whose Almighty Word

ITALIAN HYMN

See page 9 of this bulletin or hymn 673 in the red worship book.

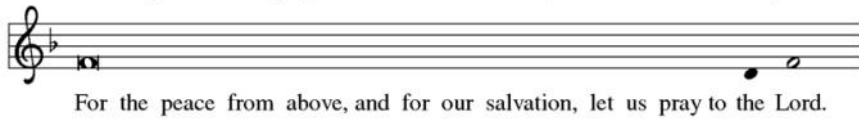
Apostolic Greeting *

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.**

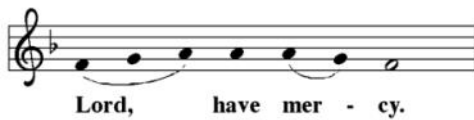
Kyrie. * *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace as we gather for worship.*



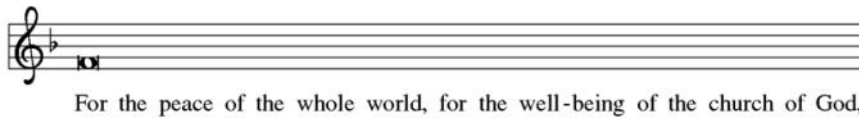
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



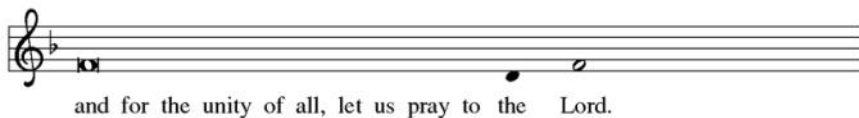
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



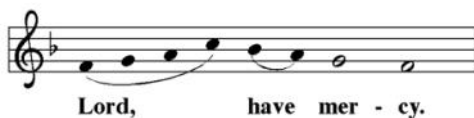
Lord, have mer - cy.



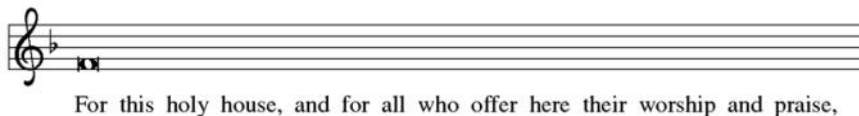
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



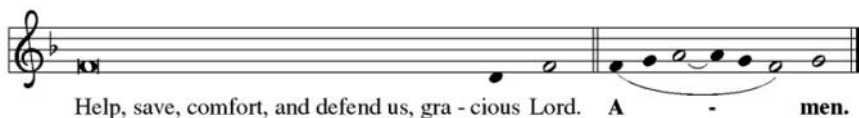
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

Hymn of Praise *



Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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 *

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Welcome



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Choral Response

As Daybreak Swells to End the Night

Philip M. Young

As daybreak swells to end the night, and bring another morning bright,
Its sunlight enters every heart to warm and soothe the deepest part,
In everyone the same.

Refreshing showers bathe the land cast forth by God's impartial hand
Their waters fill the streams and sea, and fall on all humanity,
On everyone the same.

From west to east warm zephyrs blow, their fragrance sweet, God does bestow
On all who dwell upon the earth; by grace he gives us equal worth,
To everyone the same.

Magnificent! Salvation's plan ordained before the world began;
Conceived in love by God on high, who sent his only Son to die,
For everyone the same.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 *

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

Sermon

Pastor Greg Williams

Hymn 798 *

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

See page 10 of this bulletin or hymn 798 in the red worship book.

Apostles' Creed. * Gathered as God's people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the 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 sent into the world to share God's love.

Benediction *

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 660 * +

Lift High the Cross

ST. THOMAS

See page 11 of this bulletin or hymn 660 in the red worship book.

Dismissal *

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* and is reproduced by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies annual license #26999.

God, Whose Almighty Word

1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Will You Come and Follow Me



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



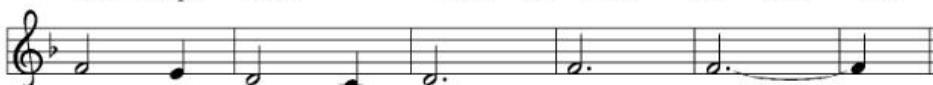
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947
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St. John's Lutheran Church

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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
Contemporary 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

Church Administrator.....Deborah Cross
Office Manager.....Vivian Connor
Accounting.....Mark Bias
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg
Custodian.....William Fisher



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