

"A God of Second Chances"

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2010 ♦ 8:30 service



St. John's Lutheran Church

Salisbury, North Carolina

Welcome to St. John's!

*Please note that today's service is printed entirely in this worship booklet.
Occasionally you will be invited to turn to a hymn
in the cranberry-colored book, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.*

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS! We hope that you will feel a warm sense of welcome today. If you are without a church home, we invite you to become a part of the ministry of St. John's. Please complete the Friendship Pad found on the pew so that we might get to know one another better. For more information, visit our website at www.stjohns-salisbury.org.

HOLY COMMUNION is offered on the first and third Sundays at the 11:00 service, and on the second and fourth Sundays at the 8:30 service. All baptized and communing Christians are welcome to the Table to receive God's gift of grace through his body and blood. Those not communing are invited forward for a spoken blessing. Following the ushers' instructions, proceed down the aisle to the front of the church.

For those with special needs, please note the availability of grape juice (in the center of the communion tray) and non-gluten wafers (by indicating your preference to the pastor). Persons with walking difficulties may receive the bread and wine by sitting in the reserved front pew. Welcome to the Lord's Table!

SMALL CHILDREN are always welcome at worship, although a nursery for infants through age 5 is provided in the educational building for your convenience. Please ask an usher to direct you to the building. Pagers are available for your peace of mind.

ST. JOHN'S IS FULLY ACCESSIBLE to those with physical restrictions. An elevator to the sanctuary is located along the side entrance of the church. Hearing aids and audio loops are available at the 11:00 service. Large print bulletins are available at the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Our ushers will be glad to assist you.

RALLY DAY IS NEXT WEEK! A new year of Sunday School for all ages begins September 12 at 10:00. We will meet in the fellowship hall (below the main sanctuary), introduce teachers, and divide into our various classes. Join us!



SESG begins with SEEK God's purpose

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The congregation's responses are in **bold**. All hymns are found in the cranberry worship book, unless otherwise noted.

Gathering Song #74 *I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord*
(found in the purple worship book)

Welcome *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

Please stand.

Prayers of Confession

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God's Promise of Forgiveness

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ. *Having been reconciled with Jesus through Confession and Forgiveness, let us now reconcile ourselves with one another by sharing the peace. "The peace of the Lord be with you. And also with you."*

Hymn #870

We Praise You, O God

KREMSER

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. *The Kyrie is 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.



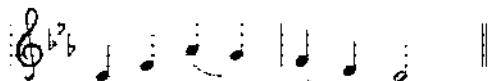
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



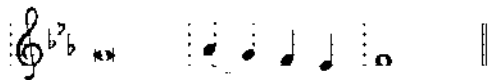
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. In our worship this day, open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

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

Reading: Philemon 1-21 (*page 1090 in your pew Bible*)

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love — and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother — especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

²²One thing more — prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

²³Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴and so do Mark, Aris-tarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

²⁵The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

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

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

Gospel Luke 14:27-32 (page 954 in your pew Bible)

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.

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

Gospel Response (repeat Alleluia verse on page 6)

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

Please stand.

Hymn

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

(found on page 8 of this bulletin)

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.

Please be seated.

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Peace Like a River
The Chapel Choir

arr. by Jean Anne Shafferman

Offertory Hymn

As the gifts are presented at the altar, the congregation stands and sings the Doxology:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession. *Each petition ends: "Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**" The prayer concludes with the Lord's Prayer. (sung by congregation, printed on page 9)*

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction

Sending Hymn #880

O God Beyond All Praising

THAXTED

Dismissal

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

Seek Ye First

1. seek ye - first the -
2. Ask and its shall be ___
3. We do not live by ___

3
king - dom of God and its ___
giv - en un - to you; seek and ___
6 bread a - lone. but by ___

9
righ - teous - ness. ___
you shall ___ find; ___

11
ev - ery ___ word ___
and all these things shall be
knock and the door shall be
that pro - - ceeds from the

add - ded un - to you. Al - le -
o - pened un - to you. Al - le -
mouth - of - God. Al - le ___

14
lu, al - le - lu - - - ia.
lu, al - le - lu - - - ia.
lu, al - le - lu - - - ia.

Music by Karen Lafferty, born 1948,
copyright 1972 Maranatha! Music, CCLI #942521.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a- gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de-
liv-er us from e- vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the
glo- ry are yours, now and for ev- er.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Lord's Prayer' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of eight staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of trial and de- liv-er us from e- vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the glo- ry are yours, now and for ev- er.'

Words and music by David Haas, © 1987 GIA, License #8435.

Church Notes

SESG BEGINS TODAY! Be sure to pick up your September Devotional in the narthex.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Harold Hoke, by Fran Hoke.

TODAY IS “BUCK-A-MEAL” SUNDAY. Please place your \$1 bills in the offering plates for Rowan Helping Ministries. Thanks!

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AND SHEPHERDS of the new Spark online curriculum will be held this Thursday, September 9, at 7:00 pm. Parents of children from preschool (beginning age 2 by September 1) to 5th grade are also invited to attend and discover the principles and lessons your children will be learning at St. John's. Other adults who have a heart for God's little ones are also invited to attend this meeting. Those attending will experience firsthand the SPARK online curriculum and see what our children will be learning this year in the new Rotational Workshop Sunday School.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATION FORMS are available in the tract racks around the church campus. Please consider taking part this important leadership ministry of St John's. All nomination forms are due in the church office by September 15. Please contact Elaine Gerst with any questions or for more information.

SIGN UPS ARE UNDER WAY for several upcoming programs at St John's. *Alpha*, Disciple Bible Study, Life Keys and Inquirers classes all will begin in mid-September. Also, please consider signing up as a volunteer to serve as a mentor at Knox Middle School during the upcoming school year. Sign up sheets for all of these are located in the church lobby.

ONE CHURCH, ONE WEEKEND, ONE PURPOSE, ONE BODY - We are thrilled that so many of our St. John's members have registered to come together as one during St. John's church-wide retreat, October 15-17. There are a limited number of spaces still available. We would be delighted to have you join us, but need for you to quickly turn in your registration form and non-refundable deposit. The Fellowship Board will soon be finalizing details with Lutheridge and need to be accurate with our information.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH are invited to go to the Lenoir-Rhyne vs. Davidson football game this Saturday, September 11. The church bus will leave St John's at 2:00pm for a pre-game cookout at L-R and will return late Saturday night. Contact the church office if you can attend.



JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR THE FOLLOWING:

HEALTH & HEALING — Charlotte Eller, Walter Smith, Mack Wood, Joyce Brady, Katherine Nalle, Cathy Ryerson, Harriet Bolstad, Patsy Medlin, Madison Briggs, Marie Fork, Fran Lawson, Newton Cohen, Frank Andrews, Sam Foy

GUIDANCE & PROTECTION — Sarah Bolick, serving with ELCA Global Missions in Israel; those in the military; and our mission partners in Guatemala, Sudan and The Philippines

This Week at St. John's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>5 BUCK A MEAL SUNDAY 8:30 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Center Celebration/HC 10:00 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Sanctuary Worship/HC</p> <p>Pastor on Call: Jan Huntley Cell #828-243-1558</p>	<p>6 LABOR DAY **Office Closed**</p>	<p>7 5:30 pm Stewardship, Discipleship Boards 6:00 pm Youth & Family Bd. 7:00 pm Worship, Witness, Service, Fellowship & Children's Ministry Boards</p>	<p>8 8:30 am Prayer Walk 9:30 am Prayers for the People of God 10:30 am Meals on Wheels 12:00 pm Weekly Word 12:00 pm CDC Board 6:30 pm RHM Check-in Meal 6:30 pm Hand Bell Choir 7:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>9 5:30 am RHM Breakfast 10:15 am Trinity Oaks Singers & Ringers GO Club @ Ruffy- Holmes Center 6:00 pm CC Musicians 7:00 pm Sunday School Teacher Training</p> <p><u>EAGLE'S VIEW DEADLINE</u></p>	<p>10 6:30 pm Bridge Group</p> <p>Pastor on Weekend Call: Rhodes Woolly Cell #704-754-2250</p>	<p>11 2:00 pm Middle/High Youth to LR Football Game</p>	<p>12 Rally Day 8:30 am Chapel Worship/HC 9:00 am Center Celebration 10:00 am Sunday School/Rally Day 11:00 am Sanctuary Worship 4:15 pm Youth Brass Ensemble 4:45 pm Men's Chorus 5:00 pm Women's Ensemble 5:30 pm Middle/High League Confirmation Kick-off</p>

Today's Worship Leaders

**Indicated 8:30 service*

PREACHING MINISTER: Pastor Rhodes Woolly

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pastor Jan Huntley

LAY ASSISTING MINISTER: Tony Lippard

CANTOR: Gretchen Witt

LECTORS: Clarence Bostian*, Eleanor Sifford

ELEMENT BEARERS: Laura Agner and family

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Karen Rogers, Dennis Rogers

ACOLYTES: Isabella Rusher, Rebecca Agner

CRUCIFER: Greg Tonnessen

WELCOME PLACE GREETER: Lois Carter

GREETERS: Franco & Brenda Goodman, Harold & Stamie Overcash

AFTER SERVICE GREETERS: Steve Butner, Bryan Wymbs, Eva White, Paul McNeely

USHERS: Head Ushers - Stan Ferguson, Ernie Kirchin

Team 1E*: Tom Childress, Jim Boger

Team 6: Gary Epperley—Captain, Darryl Corriher, James Hardin, Larry Phillips,
Horace Rhyne, Jody Sedberry, Luther Sowers, Glenn Terry, Franco Goodman,
Nick Goodman

COMMUNION PREPARERS: Fran & Jerry Lawson

ALTAR GUILD: Judy Trexler—Captain, Donna Cesario, Cheryl Sjoblom, Angie Greene

NURSERY CAPTAIN: Emily Brinskelle

NURSERY: Ashlee & James Dangerfield*, Paula Bohland-Keryluk, Samantha Dagenhart

P. A. OPERATOR: Darrell Blackwelder, Mike Agee

Today's service is setting one of the liturgy, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, and is reproduced by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies annual license #26999.

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

Senior Pastor	The Rev. Rhodes Woolly
Pastor for Discipleship and Outreach.....	The Rev. Jan Huntley
Director of Music Ministries.....	Rob Durocher
Associate Parish Musician	Rosemary Kinard
Director of Music Emeritus.....	Karl W. Kinard, Jr.
Business Manager	Ruth Ann Diehl
Facilities Manager	Oscho Ruffy
Office Assistant	Karen Goodman
Office Assistant.....	Margaret Meek
Custodian	Sandra Knox