

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

301 W. Main Street, Walhalla, SC

www.stjohnswalhalla.org

Facebook — St. John's Lutheran, Walhalla

The Reverend Dr. Rachel Connelly

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Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8:30am to 1:00pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

Walhalla, South Carolina

9am Lakeside Worship



*For his anger is
but for a moment;
his favor is for
a lifetime.*

Psalm 30:5, NRSV

Additional St. John's Staff

Ray Burroughs, Facilities Manager

Joan Lewis, Spiritual Gifts Coordinator

Greg Harris, Congregational President

Patty Shepard, Youth Director

Tiffany Chapman, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Our tithes and offerings are an important part of our faith journey. Electronic offerings may be given through GIVELIFY.

You may also go to our website: www.stjohnswalhalla.org and access the secure giving button.



Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023

Biggerstaff Christian Retreat Center

Welcome to Our Lakeside Worship

SUNDAY

April 23, 2023

9:00AM

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

PRE-GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.
Open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see you, I want to see You. *(Repeat)*

To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory;
Pour out Your pow'r and love,
As we sing, "holy, holy, holy... *(Repeat from beginning)*

Last Time
holy, holy, holy;
holy, holy, holy...
holy, holy, holy ...
I want to see You.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **People: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

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.**

Our Extended Family and Friends

Frank Guldner, in rehab at Lila Doyle
Phyllis Horton, recovering at home (friend of Millie Hawbecker)
Brad Eaton, Fredi Hallman's son in law—healing from heart issues
Dan Huber, (Safrits)
George Combes, healing (twin brother of Grace Lichtenwald)
Peggy Hall, advanced melanoma of the lung (sister of Libby McLean)
Don Rivers, COPD complications (brother-in-law of Ann Brackett)
Mark Vassey, failure of transplanted kidney (friend of Ann Brackett)
Ken Burnside, chemo/radiation (cousin of Barbara and Paul Wilson)
Lauren Bowman, Lyme disease (daughter of Gary and Barb Bowman)
Sara Pike, breast cancer/treatment (daughter of Dean and Anne Fogel)
Volanté Roberts, breast cancer (friend of David and Cathy Plowden)
Debra Turk, treatment of breast cancer (daughter of Delores Kreuger)
Perry Shearouse, treatment of cancer (cousin of Delores Kreuger)
Barbara Vigneault, healing from lymphoma (friend of Williams)
Chris Dodson, healing from surgery (Daniels)
Diane Rivers, treatment for cancer (sister of Bill Brackett)
Tara Nolan, cancer (friend of Anne Fogel)
Jacquelyn Moore, healing/MS (niece of Kathy Scherter)
Bennie Smith, health (nephew of Wards)
Jaime Henry, heart issues (son of Annie Henry)
Bryce Easton, cancer (family of Fredi Hallman)
Kay Davis, cancer (friend of the Daniels)
Betty Watkins (friend of Betty Sosebee)
John Heasley, diabetes (son-in-law of Johnsons)
Dohnvan (grandson of Kathy Scherter)
Tom Tyree, cancer (friend of Sears)
Harold Smith, heart (friend of Tina Barrett)
Jennifer Rowe (friend of the Nortons)
Dolorico Perez (father of Josie Perez)
Eve Mills, cancer (niece of Francoise Fussell)
Gina Daly, health (daughter of Bob Johnson)



Please let the church office know of any updates to our prayer list.

Our Church Family

Brackett Family, new grandbaby
Scot Williams, surgery for colon cancer
Martha Murtiashaw, healing
Bill Watt, recent hospitalization
Eddie Harper, colon cancer/healing
Tiffany Chapman, healing from surgery
Bob Beck, fall, back injury
Dave Lewis, hospitalized, rehab at Lila Doyle
Frieda Cobb, healing and last radiation treatments
Judy Nelson, healing from sickness
Lois Cooley, healing/comfort
Annie Henry, recovery from hip surgery
Baby Liam Plowden, continued growth

Those grieving

Nancy Carter and family, loss of daughter, Suzanna Foley

Our Elders at Home or Assisted Living

Dottie Brandt, Lila Doyle, well-being
Jenine Baldus, hospice/home care
Ann Biemann, home
Brenda Cantrell, home
Linda Humphries, home
Doug Deane, hospice at home
Betty Sosebee, Residence at Park Place
Jeanne Welch, home and rehab
Jack Campbell, recently hospitalized
Peg Turner, The Oaks
Julie Corbertt, home care
Marie Palmatier, home
Betty Wallace, Belvedere
Jack Campbell, home
Peg Turner, The Oaks, Rehab
Julie Corbett, home care
Marie Palmatier, home
Betty Wallace, Belvedere

Other Prayer Concerns

For our country and for those grieving from recent mass shootings.
For Syria and Turkey following the devastating earthquake.
All those affected by Tornados and storms.
Bishop Ginny Aebischer and our Synod Staff
Our military Personnel



Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **People: Amen.**

OPENING SONG: "Alleluia, Jesus is Risen"



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

People: And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People: Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Psalm: 116:1-4, 12-19— **Read Responsively**

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people.

¹⁵**Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people,

¹⁹**in the courts of the LORD’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

The Bell Tower—Ministry News



Bible Study for the Easter Season led by Vicar Emily Whitlow. Tuesdays at 10:00 am. We are exploring God’s promises in Jesus’ resurrection.

St. John’s is hosting Lutheroad Day Camp at Biggerstaff Christian Retreat Center

July 10-14, 2023

Camp runs 9am—4pm Monday—Thursday

9am—12 pm on Friday

For children completing K—5th grade

Cost is only \$140 (\$125 Early Bird Special) for the week and scholarships are available.

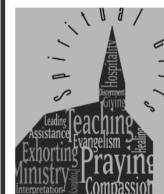


Registration forms are available in the church office or on the church website <https://www.stjohnswalhalla.org/event-1/>

WHAT IS DAY CAMP? It is a five-day program where many of the benefits of Camp Lutheridge come right to the local church. Trained counselors come for the week and share in a program that includes fun, worship, games, Bible study, fellowship, crafts, sharing and prayer.

Great week of fun for children of our church, grandkids, friends, and kids from the community!!

Serving Today



Presiding Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Rachel Connelly

Lay Assistant:

Vicar Emily Whitlow

Lector:

Greeters:

Musicians:

Carla Padgett, Tom Ward,
Ray Burroughs, Dave Devoe

THE BLESSING

Pastor: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

SENDING SONG: “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel

THE ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he

interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.
²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

THE MESSAGE

SONG OF RESPONSE: *“I Come With Joy”*

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, and a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate and was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition— God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

PRE-COMMUNION SONG “Let Us Break Bread Together”

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
 let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees,
 with my face to the rising sun,
 O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
 let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
 let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

THE MEAL

Entering worship today you were given a communion/fellowship cup. As the pastor shares the Words of Institution and consecrates the elements, you are invited to open the seal on the cup and partake of the bread and wine.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

THE PASTORAL BLESSING

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.
 With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**