

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
Cell: (910) 515-0897 or Email: stjohnpastorrachel@gmail.com

Vicar Emily Whitlow, Seminary Intern
Cell: (803) 587-3113 or Email: stjohnsvicaremy@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant
(864) 638-6363 or Email: stjohsluther@gmail.com

Office Hours
Monday—Thursday 8:30am to 1:30pm
Friday 8:30am to 1:00pm

CHRIST
IS RISEN
INDEED *Alleluia*

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.



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA
Walhalla, South Carolina
11 am Worship Service
Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day



Christ is Risen!

Welcome to Worship at St. John's!

We are glad that you are with us today as we worship our Risen Lord Jesus Christ!

Please use the hand sanitizing upon entering and exiting the building.
Communion is celebrated at the altar or with the pre-filled communion fellowship cups.

If you are a 1st time Worshiper at St John's, we invite you to sign our guest book in either the Narthex, or the Back Gathering area.

++Please be courteous and respectful. Please turn off all electronic devices during worship .++

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

PRELUDE “The Strife Is O’er” arr. Hal Hopson

WELCOME AND MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GATHER

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: On this holy day of Christ’s resurrection, we gather to worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: God of Easter and God of Good Friday, we see in your death the good news of our own Resurrection. We have felt the despair of our own Good Fridays, wondering if Easter would ever come. We need to be resurrected, Lord. We need the promise of new life and the hope of conquered death. On this Easter morning, break through the barriers of our sin and shame and bring your peace to our troubled hearts. Strengthen our faith so that we may become witnesses of your redeeming love.

Leader: Friends in Christ, today brings the best news of all: Jesus lives! Jesus died on the cross - a cruel death— for the sin of the whole world. He was placed in a tomb and on the third day came back to life to defeat death for all time and to offer to us this new life as our very own. Because Jesus lives, your sins are forgiven. Praise God for the good news of Easter!

People: Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” ELW 365

GREETING

Leader: 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 Bell Tower— Ministry News



The church office will be closed Monday, April 10, 2023 in observance of the Easter holiday.



If you ordered lilies, make sure to take those home with you today after our 11AM service!

Thank you to all who purchased lilies in memory and honor of loved ones.



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00am at Biggersstaff Christian Retreat Center

10:00am Sunday School at St. John’s

11am at St. John’s Lutheran Church

The WELCA Spring Foothills Conference will be held on April 22 at Trinity Lutheran in Anderson, SC. April 1 is the deadline to sign up or call Barbara Wilson.

Reminder— all ladies of the congregation are members of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



Serving Today

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rachel Connelly

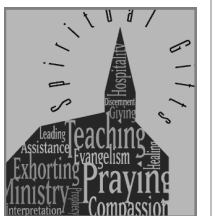
Lay Assistant: Vicar Emily Whitlow

Lector: Barbara Wilson

Organist: Carla Padgett

Greeters/Ushers: Deb Blackmore, Sharon Hamilton, Jeri Klaren

Altar Guild: Diane and Chuck Rawlins



From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26326. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Music permission CCLI, Christian Copyright Licensing International #11166774.



Our Church Family

Bill Watt, recent hospitalization
 Eddie Harper, colon cancer/healing
 Tiffany Chapman, healing from surgery
 Deb Blackmore, healing/rehab/back surgery
 Bob Beck, fall, back injury
 Dave Lewis, hospitalized
 Frieda Cobb, healing
 Ann Brackett, healing
 Judy Nelson, healing from sickness
 Lois Cooley, healing/comfort
 Annie Henry, recovery from hip surgery
 Baby Liam Plowden, continued growth

Those grieving

Bill Brackett and family, in the loss of Bill's
 uncle, Earl Brackett

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, Dominion
 Jack Campbell, recently hospitalized
 Peg Turner, The Oaks
 Julie Corbett, 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 Syria and Turkey following the devastating
 earthquake that has taken more than 45,000 lives and left
 thousands injured and /or homeless
 All those affected by winter storms especially those who
 lost loved ones.
 Bishop Ginny Aebischer and our Synod Staff
 Our elected leaders, for continued wisdom
 All military personnel

Our Extended Family and Friends

Phyllis Horton, recovering at home (friend of Millie
 Hawbecker)
 Brad Eaton, Fredi Hallman's son in law—healing from
 heart issues/operation
 Dan Huber, (Safrits)
 George Combes, hospitalized with Covid (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 Françoise Fussell)
 Gina Daly, health (daughter of Bob Johnson)

KYRIE

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.



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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with You. **People: And also with you.**

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Eat This Bread"

ELW 472

THE PASTORAL BLESSING

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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. **People: Amen**

THE BLESSING

Pastor: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **People: Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN

"Thine Is the Glory"

ELW 376

THE DISMISSAL

Assisting: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. **People: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

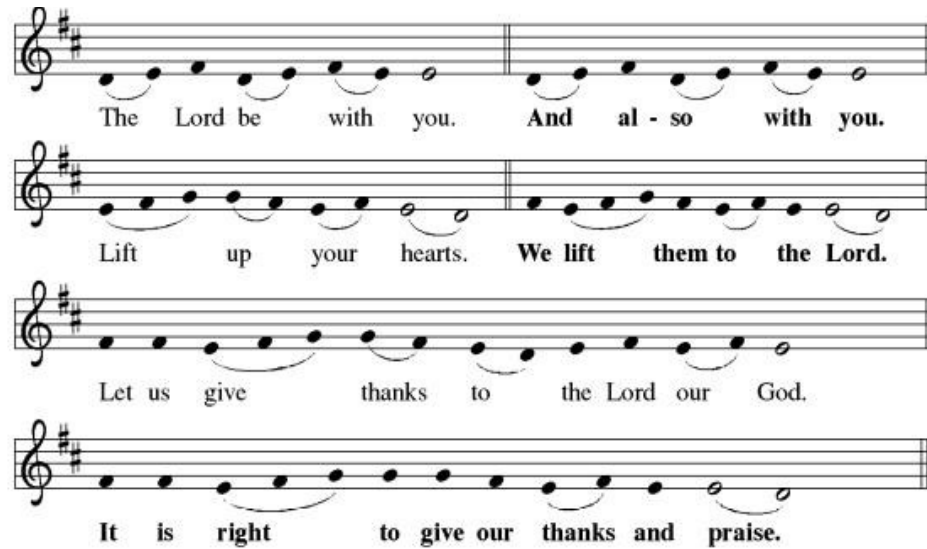
"Carillon"

Louis Vierne

OFFERTORY PRAYER

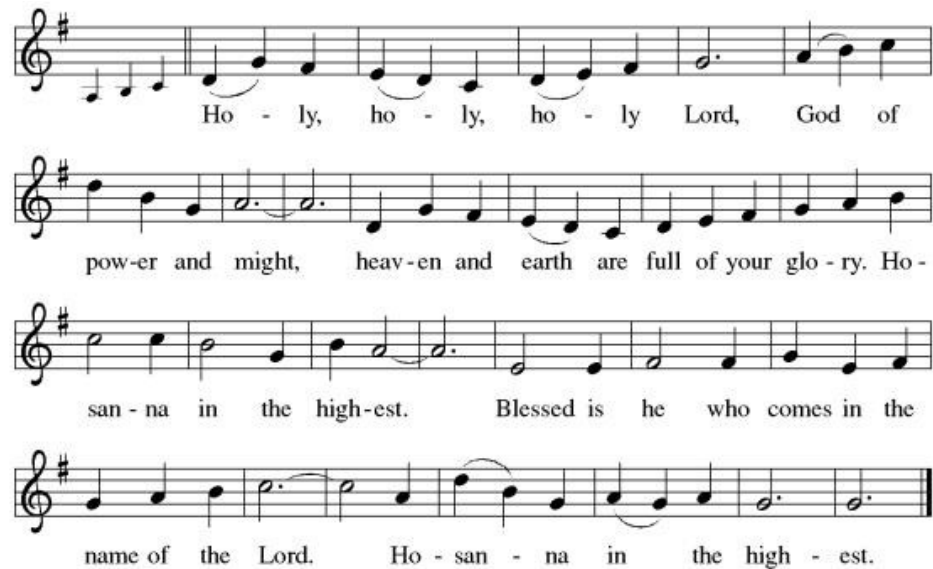
Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **People: Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE and THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People: Amen**

CHILDREN / YOUTH MESSAGE

Vicar Emily Whitlow

THE FIRST READING:

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

EASTER PSALM LITANY (Based on Psalm 118) — **Read Responsively**

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND READING:

Colossians 3:1-4

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

A: The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p 102

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

Matthew 28:1-10

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord. C: **“Praise to you, O Christ”**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Rachel L. Connelly

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Alleluia, Sing to Jesus”

ELW 392

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition— Merciful God, receive our prayer.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

OFFERING ANTHEM *“O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing”* arr. Larry Shackley

OFFERTORY

“Let the Vineyards”



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.