

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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Music Director, Carla Padgett

Email: carla@carlasart.com

Melissa Rasley, Administrative Assistant

(864) 638-6363 or Email: stjohnsluther@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8:30am to 1:00pm

Lift up a song
to him who rides
upon the

clouds—



his
name
is the
LORD.

Psalm 68:4

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

9am Lakeside Worship



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

Biggerstaff Christian Retreat Center

Welcome to Our Lakeside Worship

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

PRE-GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

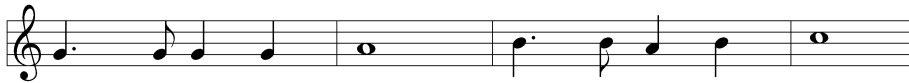
GATHERING SONG "Glorify Thy Name"



1 Fa - ther,
2 Je - sus, we love you, we wor - ship and a - dore you,
3 Spir - it,



glo - ri - fy thy name in all the earth;



glo - ri - fy thy name, glo - ri - fy thy name,



glo - ri - fy thy name in all the earth.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

People: Amen.

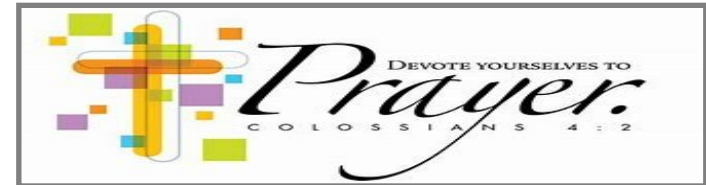
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection



Our Extended Family and Friends

Family of Gladys Martin (died on 5/14, family to Nowell's)
Joan Kramer, healing (friend of Scot and Linda Williams)
Kevin Hathcock, viral meningitis, improving (Safrit's family)
Evelyn Miller (Micky Ward's mother)
Frank Guldner, healing
Phyllis Horton, recovering at home (friend of Millie Hawbecker)
Brad Eaton, Fredi Hallman's son in law—healing from heart issues
Dan Huber, improving (Safrits)
George Combes, healing and care (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)
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

Laura Sloan, surgery, healing
Lynne Williams, healing and rehab
Jan Day, knee surgery, healing and rehab
Scot Williams, healing
Martha Murtiashaw, healing
Eddie Harper, colon cancer/healing
Tiffany Chapman, healing from surgery
Bob Beck, healing back injury
Dave Lewis, healing
Frieda Cobb, healing
Robert Campbell, healing
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, rehab Lila Doyle
Doug Deane, hospice at home
Betty Sosebee, Residence at Park Place
Jeanne Welch, Rehab
Jack Campbell, home
Peg Turner, The Oaks
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
All military Personnel

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.**

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: *“Come and See”*

1. Come and see the glory of the Lord.
Come, behold the Lamb.
Come and see the mercy of the King,
bowing down before him.

Refrain

For he is Lord above the heavens,
Lord in all the earth, Lord of all the angels
worthy to be served.
Alleluia. Alleluia, Lord

2. Come and give thanks to the Lord.
Come, behold the Lamb.
Come and sing the praises of the King,
bowing down before him. *Refrain*

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

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Psalm: 68:1-10, 32-35 — *Read Responsively*

¹Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

²**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

⁵In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰**Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

³³**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

The Bell Tower—Ministry News



Today--WELCA Sunday-- the women of St. John's will serve as worship leaders and assistants at both services.

Joy Offerings will be received in a separate basket from the regular offering. Make checks payable to St John's Lutheran WELCA. These offerings will be taken to SC WELCA Convention in June.

Walhalla High School graduating Seniors will be recognized at the 11am worship with a handmade blanket made by members of St. John's Knitters and Crocheters.

If you would like to receive emails about WELCA information from Barbara Wilson, please respond to hickoryhollowbw@bellsouth.net or call/text 864-723-3376.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



9:00 am at Biggerstaff Christian Retreat Center

10:00 am Sunday School at St. John's Lutheran Church

11am at St. John's Lutheran Church

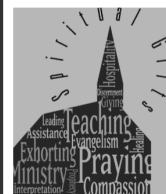


Bible Study for the Easter Season led by Vicar Emily Whitlow. Tuesdays at 10:00 am. We are exploring God's promises in Jesus' resurrection.



The Survivors will be hosting a speaker from Senior Solutions on Monday, June 5 at 12 noon at Biggerstaff. All are welcome to come. Please sign up at the spiritual ops table. We need a count, as we will be providing lunch.

Serving Today



Presiding Minister:

Lay Assistant:

Lector:

Greeters/Ushers

Musicians:

The Rev. Dr. Rachel Connelly

Grace Schmeelcke

Raeyanna Chapman

Barb Bowman and Linda Williams

Carla Padgett, Tom Ward,

Ray Burroughs, Dave Devoe

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 and share the communion meal.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

THE PASTORAL BLESSING

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.

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.**

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: *"The Trees of the Field" (repeat 2x)*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap,
will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

The trees of the field will clap their hands.

The trees of the field will clap their hands, while you go out with joy.

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.

³⁴Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Rachel Connelly

SONG OF RESPONSE: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"



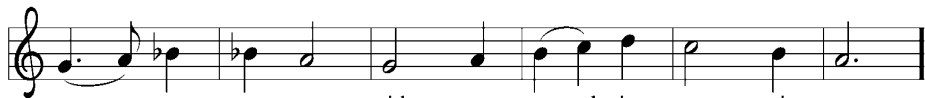
1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and
2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap -
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

Refrain



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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 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.

THE SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

PRE-COMMUNION SONG "Here is Bread"



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us,
2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us,
3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us,



he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine,
he is with us. Know his grace, find his peace,
he is with us. We'll pro - claim till he comes



Christ is with us here. here.
feast on Je - sus here.
Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Refrain



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is



life for - ev - er. In this mo - ment,



by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.