



# St John's

Sunday of the Transfiguration

February 15, 2026

---

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

---

- ❖ We are glad you are worshiping with us! If you're a visitor, please enter your name in the guestbook near the entrance and our pastor will reach out to you.
- ❖ A printed cross † is an invitation to make the sign of the cross on your forehead or body. We make the sign of the cross to remember our Baptism and the promise: "*You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*"
- ❖ **Bold print** indicates a speaking part for the whole assembly.
- ❖ Restrooms are located in the Narthex to the right of the front door and through the doors behind the choir to the left.
- ❖ A nursery is available for your use. Ask an usher for directions.
- ❖ Scripture passages are from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition (NRSVue). If you'd like to purchase a *Lutheran Study Bible*, copies are available in the church office.
- ❖ Today's liturgy is **Setting Four** from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

---

## ALTAR FLOWERS

---

Today's altar flowers are given by Rathel & Ellen Goodman to the glory of God and in celebration of their 39th wedding anniversary.

*Altar flowers are a meaningful way to glorify God and honor loved ones in worship. A gift of \$75 to the St. John's Flower Fund is encouraged. To sponsor altar flowers, please contact the church office.*

---

## PRAYER LIST

---

We invite you to join us in prayer for members and friends of St. John's. A printed prayer list is available in the Narthex and is emailed each morning at 4:30 a.m. in the *Daily Cycle of Prayer*.

*To add a name, please submit a request through our website or contact the church office.*

*Scan the QR code below to view the current list.*



---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### **TODAY IS TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

### **MONDAY NIGHT GREECE & TURKEY PILGRIM MEAL**

Join us at 6:00pm on Monday, February 16 for Greek food, trip photos, and scriptural reflections from the 2025 Greece & Turkey pilgrimage.

### **SHROVE TUESDAY MEAL**

Come enjoy pancakes, sausage and grits on Shrove Tuesday, February 17, 5:30pm to 7:30pm in Goins Hall. Sign up sheet for food prep. Enjoy Mardi Gras-themed fellowship as we prepare for Lent.

### **DRIVE-THRU ASHES**

On Ash Wednesday, Pastor Matt will be offering drive-thru ashes from the sanctuary steps from 8:30am to 9:30am.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

We will gather in the sanctuary for Ash Wednesday worship at 7pm on Wednesday, February 18.

### **COAT DRIVE IMPACT**

Thanks to all that donated coats to the coat drive which Paula Schupp sponsors each year for children of Cabarrus County. St. John's donated 20 coats!

### **HOMECOMING AT ST. JOHN'S**

Homecoming will take place Sunday, September 27, 2026. Please note the date change. Our preacher will be the Rev. Emily Hartner, Bishop of the North Carolina Synod.

### **LENTEN MIDWEEK MEALS & SERVICES**

Throughout the season of Lent (beginning Feb 25), we will have congregation meals at 6pm in Goins Hall and contemplative worship in the sanctuary at 7pm.

---

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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

---

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Come, Now Is the Time to Worship*

Doerksen

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Let us pray.* God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*Arise, Your Light Has Come*

ELW #314



- 1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
- 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
- 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
- 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

## 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.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Assisting minister*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

*All*



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray.* O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

---

## ✠ WORD ✠

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

---

## TIME FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

*Children are invited to come forward for a conversation with the pastor.*

## FIRST READING: EXODUS 24:12-18

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 2

We read Psalm 2 responsively.

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations <sup>1</sup> in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter <sup>1</sup> empty threats?

<sup>2</sup> **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes <sup>1</sup> plot together, against the Lord and against the <sup>1</sup> Lord's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> "Let us break their <sup>1</sup> yoke," they say;  
"let us cast off their <sup>1</sup> bonds from us."

<sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heav- <sup>1</sup> en is laughing;  
the Lord holds them <sup>1</sup> in derision.**

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God <sup>1</sup> speaks to them,  
and in rage fills <sup>1</sup> them with terror.

<sup>6</sup> **"As for me, I have anoint- <sup>1</sup> ed my king  
upon Zion, my <sup>1</sup> holy mountain."**

<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- <sup>1</sup> gotten you.

<sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for <sup>1</sup> your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for <sup>1</sup> your possession.**

<sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an <sup>1</sup> iron rod  
and shatter them like a <sup>1</sup> piece of pottery."

<sup>10</sup> **And now, you <sup>1</sup> kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers <sup>1</sup> of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup> Submit to the <sup>1</sup> Lord with fear,  
and with trembling <sup>1</sup> bow in worship;

<sup>12</sup> **lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden <sup>1</sup> blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take ref- <sup>1</sup> uge in God!**

## SECOND READING: 2 PETER 1:16-21

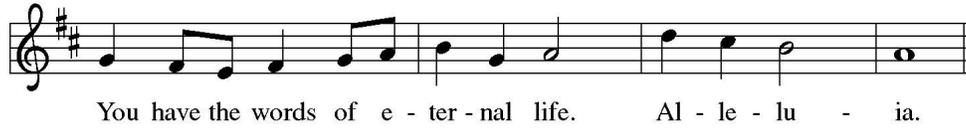
A reading from Second Peter.

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

The Rev. Matt Hansen

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus on the Mountain Peak*

ELW #317



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in  
 2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -  
 3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came, God pro - claim - ing  
 4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,  
 li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law  
 in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!  
 sing be - fore him, first and last and on - ly One.



join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.  
 shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:  
 Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der:  
 All cre - a - tion shall a - dore him!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## THE NICENE CREED

With the whole Church, we confess our faith.

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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Formed by the word and promise of God, let us pray that the merciful glory of God, manifest in all the earth, may drive away all darkness as we say, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the church of Christ, that knowing now only in part, we may wait in humility and joy to see your full light. and that God's providence may lead all people from death into life.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who minister in your name, that they may speak clearly of your Christ in their words and actions, so that our lives may be transformed, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those just beginning to walk the path of Christ, and those who have long tread that path, that we may always remember that faith is a journey, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the earth and for their leaders, that they may know and practice the ways of peace, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who seek you, knowingly or not, that they will find the everlasting mercy and never-ending love of the One who has called them by name, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and suffering, and all who have asked our prayers, that they may find healing and wholeness, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, that may endure in your loving care until they rise again in the new age of Christ, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are present on mountaintops and in valleys, be with us always and deliver us into the peace of your promise, abundant and eternal life, that we may be emboldened to love and serve without fear. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

---

## ✠ MEAL ✠

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

---

### OFFERTORY

*Holy Ground*

arr. Larson

### OFFERING

You may give online, by visiting [www.stjohnsconcord.com/give](http://www.stjohnsconcord.com/give) or by texting “give” to (704) 706-2115.

### OFFERING SONG

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

ELW #885

Musical notation for the offering song, consisting of three staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

### OFFERING PRAYER

*Let us pray.* God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. **Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

### PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE *(continued)*

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*As our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to say: 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.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

## DISTRIBUTION

- ❖ *You are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please come forward during the distribution with your arms crossed.*
- ❖ ***Please note: The homemade communion bread is gluten, dairy, and nut free.** If you prefer a wafer, please indicate by raising a finger as you approach the pastor.*
- ❖ *Grape juice, instead of wine, is also available.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray together. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

---

## ✠ SENDING ✠

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

---

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*How Good, Lord, to Be Here!*

ELW #315



- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
- 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
- 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
- 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak*

arr. Martin

---

## SERVING TODAY

---

**The Reverend Matt Hansen** *Pastor*

**Catherine Ritch** *Organist*

**Patti Fletcher** *Lector*

**Jim & Susan Hayes** *Communion Assistants*

**Davis & Roman Dorton, Troy Miller & Bob Shuping** *Ushers*

**Rowland Family** *Livestream Support*

**Tina Suther & Meredith Dorton** *Nursery Attendants*

**Anne Shuping** *Altar Guild*

**Angela Ferguson** *Teller Lead*

---

## CONTACT US

---

### BY PHONE

**Melinda Redding, Church Office** (704) 436-6081

**Melinda's Mobile** (704) 213-0784

**Pastor Matt's Mobile** (612) 704-2828

### ONLINE

**Office Email** [office@stjohnsconcord.com](mailto:office@stjohnsconcord.com)

**Pastor Matt's Email** [matt@stjohnsconcord.com](mailto:matt@stjohnsconcord.com)

### ON-SITE

**Address** 100 St. John's Church Rd, Concord, NC 28025

**Church Office Hours** Mon-Thu, 8am-1:30pm; Fri, 8am-Noon

**Pastor Matt's Office Hours** Mon-Thu, *by appointment*.

↔ *Please note: Pastor Matt observes Sabbath every Friday* ↔

---

*The mission of St. John's Lutheran Church is to share God's love through revitalization, community, and outreach.*

