



# St John's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Day of Pentecost  
May 24, 2026

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

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- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Today's liturgy is **Setting Ten** from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

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## ALTAR FLOWERS

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Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the people of St. John's.

*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.*

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## HOLY COMMUNION

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- ❖ 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.

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## PRAYER LIST

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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.*



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **TODAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY!**

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

### **FAITH NIGHT AT THE CANNONBALLERS**

May 29th is Faith Night at the Cannonballers. We have a group of 20 tickets available. The cost for each ticket is \$13. Please let the church office know if you want tickets.

### **THRIVENT-SPONSORED LUNCH AND BENEFITS PRESENTATION**

Following worship on June 7th, Thrivent will host a complimentary luncheon and go over ways to utilize your member benefits and help ministries like St. John's. The event will take place in Goins Hall. If you are interested in attending, please let the church office know.

### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

At its May meeting, the Congregation Council approved summer hours for the church office. The office will be closed on Fridays until St. John's Preschool resumes classes this fall. Office hours Monday through Thursday remain unchanged (8am to 1:30pm). Pastor Matt's office hours are also unchanged. As always, Pastor Matt's voicemail is monitored daily for pastoral care concerns. Please don't hesitate to reach out!

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## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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

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### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us; for Dutch Buffalo Creek, Cold Water Creek, and the Rocky River. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**


*Refrain*



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;




day when our Lord was raised, break - ing the king - dom of death.



*Easter* 1 All the fair beau - ty of earth from the  
*Ascension* 1 He who was nailed to the cross is . . .  
*Pentecost* 1 Bright and in like - ness of fire, on . . .  
 3 God the Al - might - y, the Lord, the . . .  
 5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r, now . . .




death of the win - ter a - ris - ing! Ev - 'ry good  
 rul - er and Lord of all peo - ple. All things cre -  
 those who a - wait his ap - pear - ing, he whom the  
 rul - er of earth and the heav - ens, guard us from  
 flow in us, fount of our be - ing, light that en -




*Refrain*  
 gift of the year now with its mas - ter re - turns:  
 at - ed on earth sing to the glo - ry of God:  
 Lord had fore - told sud - den - ly, swift - ly de - scends:  
 harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
 light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide:



*Easter* 2 Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the au - thor of  
*Ascension* 2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
*Pentecost* 2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
 4 Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our  
 6 Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and



life and cre - a - tion. Tread - ing the path - way of  
 glo - ry of blos - som; heav - en its gates now un -  
 glo - ry of blos - som; heav - en its gates now un -  
 minds, great re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
 Au - thor of con - cord, pour out your balm on our



*Refrain*  
 death, new life you give to us all:  
 bars, fling - ing its in - crease of light:  
 bars, fling - ing its in - crease of light:  
 preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:  
 days; or - der our ways in your peace:

## 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



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 “Wor - thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex - alt - ed thus!”
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow’r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



- ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
“Wor - thy the Lamb,” our lips re - ply, “for he was slain for us!”  
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray.* O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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## ✠ WORD ✠

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

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### TIME FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

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

#### FIRST READING: ACTS 2:1-21

A reading from Acts.

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

Christ is risen! This is the Word of life. **Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM 104:24-34, 35b

*We read a portion of Psalm 104 responsively.*

- <sup>24</sup> O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.
- <sup>25</sup> **There is the sea, great and wide;  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.**
- <sup>26</sup> There go the ships  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.
- <sup>27</sup> **These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;**
- <sup>28</sup> when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
- <sup>29</sup> **When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.**
- <sup>30</sup> When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the ground.
- <sup>31</sup> **May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works—**
- <sup>32</sup> who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
- <sup>33</sup> **I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**
- <sup>34</sup> May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.
- <sup>35</sup> **Let sinners be consumed from the earth,  
and let the wicked be no more.**  
**Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Praise the Lord!**

## SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3b-13

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>3b</sup> No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

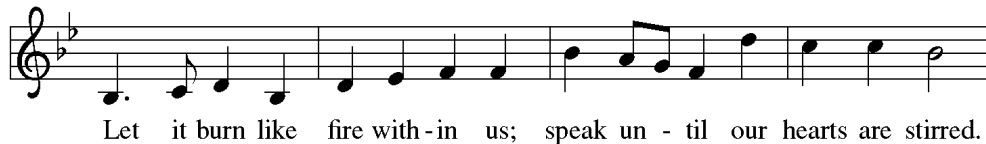
<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

<sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Christ is risen! This is the Word of life. **Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-23

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

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Matt Hansen

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Gracious Spirit, Hear Our Pleading*

ELW #401



*Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.*

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



*Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.*  
It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.  
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.  
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

*Refrain*



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,  
nor rootless liberty;  
turn disquiet to contentment,  
doubt into certainty. *Refrain*

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,  
unswayed by earth's allure.  
Ever grant us zealous fitness,  
which you alone assure. *Refrain*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole Church, we confess our faith.

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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

## PEACE

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

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## ✠ MEAL ✠

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

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## OFFERING

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

## OFFERTORY

*Speak, O Lord*

Getty, Townsend

## OFFERING SONG

*Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a -bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Let us pray together.* Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

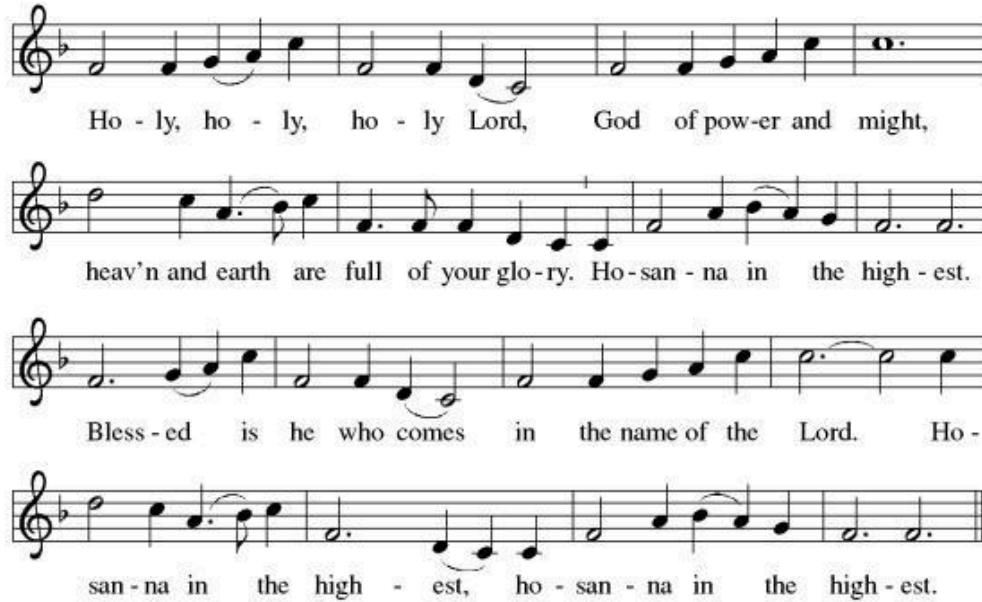
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray together.* Holy God, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. **Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

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## ✠ SENDING ✠

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

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## BLESSING

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

# SENDING HYMN

## *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life*

ELW #399



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -  
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you  
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -



a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -  
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to  
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -



wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.  
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.  
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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## SERVING TODAY

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**The Reverend Matt Hansen** *Preaching & Presiding*  
**Austin Burns** *Guest Musician*  
**Deane Moorehead** *Lector*  
**Diane Miller, Dianne McCord, Jennifer Suther** *Communion Assistants*  
**John DeVitto, Kevin Edwards, Charles Eudy** *Ushers*  
**Volunteers needed!** *Livestream Support*  
**Hartsell Family** *Nursery Attendants*  
**Diane Miller** *Altar Guild*  
**Janet Lentz** *Teller Lead*

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## CONTACT US

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### BY PHONE

**Church Office** (704) 436-6081 *(Please leave a voice message)*

### ONLINE

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

**Bulletin Announcement Email** [announcements@stjohnsconcord.com](mailto:announcements@stjohnsconcord.com)

### ON-SITE

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

**Church Office Hours** Mon-Fri, 8am to Noon

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

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

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

