



# St John's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday after Pentecost  
June 14, 2026 - *Summer Worship Pattern*

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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 by Terry and Linda Austin to the Glory of God and in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary on June 18.

*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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## A NOTE FROM PASTOR MATT HANSEN

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People of St. John's:

In this week's Gospel text, Jesus looks out at the crowd and his heart breaks. The Greek word Matthew uses (*splagchnizomai*) means something like compassion from the gut, from your intestines. It's visceral. Jesus sees people who are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd, and something moves in him at the deepest level.

Then Jesus does something, at least by our normal standards, that is surprising. Jesus turns to a ragtag group of disciples — fishermen, a tax collector, a zealot, one who will later betray him — and *sends* them. These are the twelve disciples, the first apostles or ones “who are sent.” Unlikely people, gathered by an unlikely teacher and entrusted with an unlikely mission.



That mission is worth paying attention to. The authority Jesus gives is not the kind our world prizes. It is not power over others, status, political influence, or control. It flows directly from his *compassion*. “Freely you have received; freely give.” The mission is shaped entirely by the grace that started it.

God keeps doing this: gathering people we would not have chosen, giving them gifts they did not earn, and sending them into a harvest that was never really theirs to begin with.

*We* are those people. And the harvest is all around us. What a strange and wonderful thing!

Week after week, Christ gathers us, fills us with his mercy, and sends us back into the world to bear witness to the compassion that first found us. That is why we get the great joy of *sharing God's love*.

Walking alongside you, I remain,  
Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **VIRTUAL FATHER'S DAY BOUQUETS**

What better way to remember or honor a dad that you love, than with a virtual bouquet? Complete the form below and submit a donation of any size to the altar flower fund. Virtual bouquets will be listed in the bulletin on Father's Day. Please submit forms no later than Tuesday, June 16.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

It is time to start volunteering for 3rd quarter worship leadership. The signup sheet is in the Narthex but, as always, please feel free to contact the church office with your choices.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO CARTER ROWLAND**

Carter Rowland made Chancellor's List for the fall and spring semesters at UNCC. Carter also received an engineering scholarship for next year. He will be completing an internship in Winston Salem this summer. St. John's celebrates with you Carter.

### **THANK YOU FROM ELIZABETH MILLS**

Dear St. John's Family, Thank you so much for the Lutheran Study Bible. I have been blessed with a wonderful church family. Thank you for thinking of me during this exciting time. I appreciate your support and prayers. Love, Elizabeth

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## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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

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### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*Earth and All Stars*

Arr. M. Burkhardt

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, **Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*Spread, Oh, Spread Almighty Word*

ELW #663



- 1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
- 2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
- 3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
- 4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav-en's gifts ex - tend to all.  
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.  
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray.* God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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: EXODUS 19:2-8a

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>2</sup>[The Israelites] journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup> Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup>So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup>The people all answered as one, “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:1-8

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

<sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:35—10:8

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

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

<sup>10:1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, <sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup> Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Matt Hansen

HYMN OF THE DAY

*In Christ Called to Baptize*

ELW #575



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace  
2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,  
3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach  
4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.  
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.  
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.  
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,  
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.  
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise  
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.  
One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.  
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.  
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

## 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**

Trusting in the compassion of Christ, who sees the harassed and helpless and gathers workers for his harvest, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Compassionate God, you continue to call and send your church into the world. Strengthen pastors, deacons, missionaries, teachers, and all the baptized to proclaim the good news of your kingdom with humility, courage, and joy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherding God, look with mercy upon all who are weary, burdened, lonely, or lost. Gather those who feel forgotten, excluded, or without direction. Remind them that they are seen, known, and loved by you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of justice and peace, guide the leaders of nations and communities. Grant wisdom to those entrusted with authority, and teach us to seek the common good above personal gain. Bring an end to violence, hatred, and war. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the harvest, bless the work of farmers, laborers, teachers, caregivers, first responders, and all whose daily efforts serve their neighbors. Help us recognize opportunities to share your love through everyday acts of service and kindness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, stretch forth your hand to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those we name before you now. Bring comfort to the sick, hope to the discouraged, strength to caregivers, and peace to all who await your healing presence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, bless the ministries of this congregation. As summer schedules shift and routines change, keep us rooted in worship, prayer, and fellowship. Continue to make St. John's a place where your compassion is known and your grace is freely shared. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of every generation, we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us and faithfully answered your call. Keep us steadfast in faith until we join them in the eternal harvest of your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **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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### OFFERTORY

*Freely, Freely*

Carol Owens

### 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

*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.* Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. 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 on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

## COMMUNION SONG



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray together.* Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. 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

*I Love to Tell the Story*

ELW #661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

### DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Festival Partita on "Now Thank We all our God"*

setting- J. Behnke

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## SERVING TODAY

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**The Reverend Matt Hansen** *Pastor*

**Connie Burleson** *Guest Musician*

**Fletcher Family** *Lector*

**Patti & Hailey Fletcher, Gerald Cline** *Communion Assistants*

**Hartsell Family** *Livestream Support*

**Bob Cavalline, Rick McRorie, Ken & David Rowland** *Ushers*

**Patti & Hailey Fletcher** *Altar Guild*

**Larry Allman** *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)

### 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.*



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