



St John's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
June 28, 2026 - *Summer Worship Pattern*

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.
 - ❖ Today's liturgy is an abbreviated form of **Setting Ten** from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.
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ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's **altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the installation of Brittany Perry as Director of Discipleship & Outreach by the people of St. John's.

The stand flowers are given by Russ and Leah Mills to the glory of God and in honor of Peter and Meredith Lawing who were married yesterday at Hawthorne Lane United Methodist Church in Charlotte.

HOLY COMMUNION

- ❖ 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

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.



✠ GATHERING ✠

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

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.**

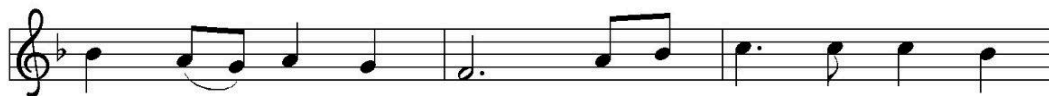
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

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. O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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: JEREMIAH 28:5-9

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

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

SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:12-23

A reading from Romans.

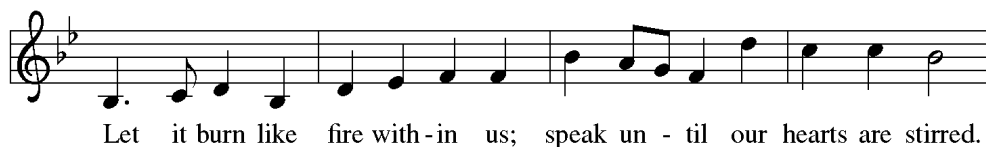
¹²Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:40-42

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

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

SERMON

The Rev. Matt Hansen

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Church of Christ, In Every Age

ELW #729



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

✠ RITE OF INSTALLATION ✠

PRESENTATION

After prayerful deliberation, the Congregation Council of St. John's Lutheran Church, has appointed Brittany Perry to serve in the position of Director of Discipleship & Outreach.

ADDRESS & QUESTIONS

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You come among us as one invited to render a particular service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and good works. Brittany, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Trusting in God's care, will you seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. **Amen.**

The people stand.

People of God, will you receive Brittany into this ministry as one sent to serve in the church of Jesus Christ? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Will you pray for her, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Brittany, I now declare you installed as Director of Discipleship & Outreach at St. John's Lutheran Church. Almighty God ✠ bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be a faithful servant of Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, as you called apostles and evangelists, pastors and deacons to instruct, comfort, admonish, and care for us, so you have called Brittany. Fill her with wisdom and patience, with love, and with faithfulness to your word, that she may with gladness teach, comfort, counsel, and guide your people to maturity in Christ Jesus, your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

People of God, I present to you, Brittany Perry, your Director of Discipleship & Outreach. Let us welcome her in the name of Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in the promise that whoever welcomes Christ welcomes the One who sent him, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Gracious God, you send your people into the world bearing the good news of Jesus Christ. Strengthen your church to receive and welcome one another in your name. Make us a community marked by generosity, kindness, and hospitality, where strangers become neighbors and neighbors become friends in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of mission and discipleship, we give you thanks for the gifts you continue to provide for your church. Today we pray especially for Brittany as she begins her ministry as Director of Discipleship and Outreach at St. John's. Fill her with wisdom, creativity, patience, and joy. Bless her relationships with children, youth, adults, families, volunteers, and community partners. Through her work, deepen faith, strengthen disciples, and draw new people into the life of your church. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of welcome, remind us that even the smallest acts of kindness matter in your kingdom. Open our eyes to those who are lonely, overlooked, grieving, or searching for hope. Make us generous with our time, our resources, our encouragement, and our compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, guide leaders, governments, and communities toward justice and peace. Where there is division, bring understanding. Where there is despair, raise up signs of hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, we pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We remember especially those on our prayer list, those recovering from illness or surgery, those facing difficult diagnoses, those struggling with anxiety or depression, and those who care for loved ones. Surround them with your comfort and steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of reconciliation, help us receive one another as gifts. Guard us from cynicism, suspicion, and division. Teach us to see Christ in one another and to work together for the sake of your mission. Bless the ministries of St. John's, especially our preschool, our outreach efforts, and all who serve in leadership – lay and ordained. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of eternal life, we thank you for the saints who welcomed Christ and served faithfully in their generation. Keep us steadfast in faith until that day when we join them at your heavenly banquet. 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 Lord. **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

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

by Robinson/Wyeth

OFFERING

You may give online, by visiting 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 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!

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.**

✠ 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

Build a Longer Table

ACS #1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Matt Hansen *Pastor*

Deacon Brittany Perry *Director of Discipleship & Outreach*

Shannon Nesbit *Guest Musician*

Fletcher Family *Lector*

Patti & Hailey Fletcher, Gerald Cline *Communion Assistants*

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

Patti & Hailey Fletcher *Altar Guild*

Larry Allman *Teller Lead*

CONTACT US

BY PHONE

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

ONLINE

Office Email 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* ↔

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



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