



## Youth Sunday

### The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, A.D. 2025

#### Welcome to Youth Sunday!

We are so glad you're here this morning as we celebrate a powerful milestone—both the end of an incredible youth programming year and of course, our graduating seniors!

Whether you've been at St. John's your whole life, or just joined recently, this morning is about looking back with gratitude, looking forward with hope, and pausing to honor the amazing journey we've taken together. To our seniors: We are so proud of the leaders you've become, and we can't wait to see how you carry the light of your faith and values into the next chapter. Today, let's worship, laugh, reflect, and cheer each other on as we close this season well—and celebrate all God has done *in and through* our group.

Today we celebrate our wonderful students that participate in our church in some way—weekly EYC attendance, serving as acolytes during worship services, serving as an intern with our younger parishioners, or serving on our international mission team.

As we reflect on this past year, we also want to take a moment to honor the memory of John Chittick, a beloved member of our youth family whom we lost this year. John brought so much light, joy, and kindness to this group, and his impact is still felt deeply in our hearts. Though he is no longer with us in person, his spirit continues to be part of who we are.

Thank you for being here today!

Rachel Micheals, Youth Minister



# 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

## The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

*Adagio*

Felix Mendelssohn

Hymn 48

*O day of radiant gladness*

Woodbird

76. 76. D

O day of radiant gladness, O day of joy and light,  
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;  
this day the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,  
sing, "Holy, holy, holy," to the great God Triune.

This day at the creation, the light first had its birth;  
this day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;  
this day our Lord victorious the Spirit sent from heaven,  
and thus this day most glorious a triple light was given.

This day, God's people meeting, his Holy Scripture hear;  
his living presence greeting, through Bread and Wine made near.  
We journey on, believing, renewed with heavenly might,  
from grace more grace receiving on this blest day of light.

That light our hope sustaining, we walk the pilgrim way,  
at length our rest attaining, our endless Sabbath day.  
We sing to thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;  
the Church her voice upraises to thee, blest Three in One.

—*Sts. 1-2, Christopher Wordsworth, +1885, altered; st. 3 Charles P. Price, +1999; st. 4, Hymnal 1982.*

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Easter Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Book of Common Prayer, Page 355

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Easter Invitatory: Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum* (Wyton metrical setting, WLP, Hymn 880)

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1. God's Pas-chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore with  
2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain; death has no  
3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead: though Ad-am's

6  
joy more we do - keep the Eas - ter feast; for - sak - ing sin, we  
sin had doomed all flesh to die, Through in Christ's new life shall

11  
share the bread of truth. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin and live to God. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
all be made a - live. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

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Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughan Williams, +1958. © Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-711238.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18

NRSV

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

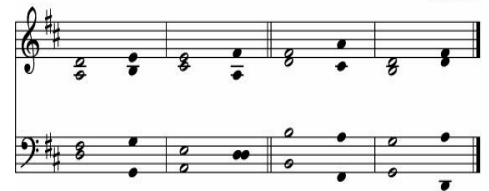
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Psalm 148 *Laudate Dominum* (spoken at 8:00)

Page 805

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Praise the LORD from the /heavens; \*  
    **praise him in the /heights.**
- 2 **Praise him, all you /angels of his; \***  
    **praise him, all his /host.**
- 3 **Praise him, sun and /moon; \***  
    **praise him, all you shining /stars.**
- 4 **Praise him, heaven of /heavens, \***  
    **and you waters above the /heavens.**
- 5 **Let them praise the Name of the /LORD; \***  
    **for he commanded, and they were cre/ated.**
- 6 **He made them stand fast for ever and /ever; \***  
    **he gave them a law which shall not pass a/way.**
- 7 **Praise the LORD from the /earth, \***  
    **you sea-monsters and all /deeps;**
- 8 **Fire and hail, snow and /fog, \***  
    **tempestuous wind, doing his /will;**
- 9 **Mountains and all /hills, \***  
    **fruit trees and all /cedars;**
- 10 **Wild beasts and all /cattle, \***  
    **creeping things and wingèd /birds;**
- 11 **Kings of the earth and all /peoples, \***  
    **princes and all rulers of the /world;**

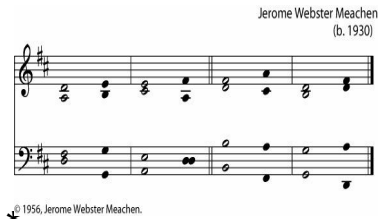
Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.



- 12 Young men and /maidens, \*  
old and young to/gether.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the /LORD, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and /heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal /servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
**Halle/lujah!**



## New Testament Lesson: The Revelation to John 21:1-6

NRSV

Then I (John) saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

(8:00) Gospel Alleluia  
Sung by all



(10:15) Hymn 624

*Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest*

Ewing

**Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,  
beneath thy contemplation sink heart and voice oppressed:  
I know not, oh, I know not, what joys await us there;  
what radiancy of glory, what bliss beyond compare!**

76. 76. D

**They stand, those halls of Zion all jubilant with song,  
and bright with many an angel, and all the martyr throng:  
the Prince is ever in them, the daylight is serene;  
the pastures of the blessed are decked in glorious sheen.**

**There is the throne of David; and there, from care released,  
the shout of them that triumph, the song of them that feast;  
and they who with their Leader have conquered in the fight,  
for ever and for ever are clad in robes of white.**

**Oh, sweet and blessed country, the home of God's elect!  
Oh, sweet and blessed country that eager hearts expect!  
Jesus, in mercy bring us to that dear land of rest,  
who art with God the Father, and Spirit, ever blest.**

—*St. Bernard of Cluny (12<sup>th</sup> century); translated by John Mason Neale, +1866. Public domain.*

## The Holy Gospel: John 13:31-35

NRSV

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am

going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

(10:15) Reflections

The Sermon

The High School Class of 2025

(8:00) The Rev. Peter M. Floyd

(10:15) Ms. Rachel Micheals, Youth Minister

The Nicene Creed

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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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.**

The Prayers of the People for Youth Sunday

St. John's EYC of 2022

Let us pray for the Church and for the world:

God of love, gather all people as one human family; guide our St. John's community, our city, our country, and the world; help us to be kind to all people, all creatures, and the earth; be with those who are sad, in need, or in any trouble.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church: strengthen and unite us. We pray for every leader in our churches around the world—and our own leaders in our diocese and at St. John's. Give them your wisdom and discernment as they lead. As the gift of leadership and vision in your Church comes from Holy Spirit, give all those who seek guidance your strength and understanding, so that the Church may bring you glory for generations to come.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of wisdom and guidance, give us open doors, open minds, and open hearts that we might accept, learn from, and love everything and everyone you have given us. Help us to share our lives and what we have. Be with us as we continue to learn and grow in our variety, differences, and what we share. Help us to learn from those who demonstrate your joy and wonder, your mystery and hope. *Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, we lift before you parents, friends, advisors, family, and all who love and serve our youth. Pour out your Spirit on them; help them to be people of trust and reconciliation. Help them to see our youth in their strength and freedom as fellow travelers with them toward you. Give them the wisdom to be the community our youth need today and in their young adult years to come. *Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we bless your Name for the work of our youth this year. Accept all they have done and weave it into the bright tapestry of their lives. Be with our youth as they rejoice in their accomplishments, make strong and enduring friendships, and grow in knowledge of you. Lead them to new challenges and give them the satisfaction of becoming more than they ever dared to hope. *Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. May we find serenity in your presence and purpose in doing your will. When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. We especially remember and pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

*Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have died. We thank you for their good lives. In Christ, grant us, with them, a place in your eternal kingdom. Today we remember especially \_\_\_\_\_. *Silence*  
Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## Confession of Sin and Absolution

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*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Absolution . . . Amen.

## The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*(All gathered may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.)*

**Birthday/Anniversary Prayer—O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* celebrate(s) another year. Grant that *they* may continue to grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(10:15) Recognition of Senior Acolytes—Betsy Diman, Charlotte Harrington, Jackson John, Beau Watson

## The Holy Communion

(10:15) Offertory Anthem

*And I saw a new heaven*

Edgar L. Bainton

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.—*Revelation 21:1-4, King James Version*

Hymn 174, st. 1

*At the Lamb's high feast we sing*

Salzburg

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,  
who hath washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;  
praise we him, whose love divine gives his sacred Blood for wine,  
gives his Body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.**

77. 77. D

—*Latin, 1632; translated by Robert Campbell, +1868, altered. Public domain.*

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

*The people stand.*

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sins of the world.

By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

From *A Community Mass* by Richard Proulx, +2010  
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Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The service  
 continues on page 10.*



# Congratulations, 2025 High School Graduates!

Cameron Aldrich

Cam graduated in February 2025 from South Meck High School. He plans to attend Appalachian State University in the fall. He will major in Business Management Innovation and Entrepreneurship with a minor in Cyber Security. He joined St. John's in 2015 and had his first Communion and Confirmation here. He attended Sunday School throughout his life and was very involved in EYC until the past two years when he started working. At South Meck, he was in ROTC for 3 years.

James Chittick

James is a senior at Providence High School planning to attend Appalachian State in the fall, possibly majoring in Finance or Business. Growing up at St. John's, he has been baptized, made his first Communion, and was Confirmed here. He was in the Cherub choir from age 4 through first grade, attended VBS, and has been involved with EYC since sixth grade. James participated in 30 Hour Famine/Fill the Bowl events, local and regional mission trips, was part of the Belize mission team last year, and is excited to be returning to Belize with the mission team this summer.

Betsy Diman

Betsy is graduating from Providence Day School and will attend the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, majoring in Biology. She was baptized and confirmed at St. John's and also attended St. John's Pre-school. Betsy enjoyed volunteering at Vacation Bible School and serving as an acolyte since the 6th grade. In high school she participated on the track team, throwing the shot put and discus, loved theater, is a member of the National Honor and the Cum Laude Societies, was a National Merit Commended Student, and was awarded the North Carolina Seal of Biliteracy in French. Betsy worked as a nanny and volunteered with Big Brother/Big Sister. She is thankful for the community at St. John's which gave her a sense of belonging and faith.

Charlotte Harrington

Charlotte has been a member of St. John's since the age of two and has enjoyed EYC, the handbell choir, and seven years as an acolyte. She spent several years in cheerleading and now enjoys ballet and working as a bobarista at Kung Fu Tea. Charlotte will graduate from Covenant Day School and pursue a double major in art and criminology at Anderson University this fall.

Jackson John

Jackson is a senior at South Mecklenburg High School and plans to attend Appalachian State University to study media marketing and journalism. #GoNeers! Jackson played on the JV football team and golf team and hosted the school's daily *Sabre News* telecast. Jackson was baptized at St. John's and has remained an active member ever since. He's been part of the acolyte team since 6th grade and has been involved in EYC just as long. Now, he proudly serves as a Junior Advisor for EYC—a role he deeply loves. EYC has been a meaningful part of Jackson's faith journey, helping to shape and strengthen it over the years. Thank you, St. John's, for loving and supporting this amazing young man so hard!!



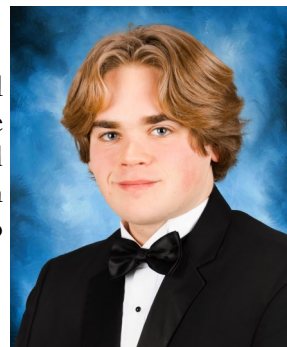


# Congratulations, 2025 High School Graduates!



Robert Spencer Kendrick

Robert is a South Meck High School senior and will attend UNC Chapel Hill in the fall, hoping to pursue a law degree. While in high school, he played football and spent most of his spare time working at Cedarwood golf course. He has been in the EYC program since he was in the 7th grade and is super grateful for all the amazing people he has been able to meet through the program!



Jackson Pendleton

Jackson is a senior at Fort Mill High School and will be attending the University of South Carolina to study mechanical engineering. He was actively involved in the Beta Club, Chemistry Club, Interact Club, and Engineering Club, and was awarded the title of "Big Man on Campus" during his senior year. Jackson participated in Model UN and Science Olympiad. Jackson has been a dedicated member of the Episcopal Youth Community (EYC), where his enthusiasm and leadership have made a lasting impression. He also participated with the cherub choir and the RSCM Treble Youth Choir. Jackson will go to Belize with the mission team in July.



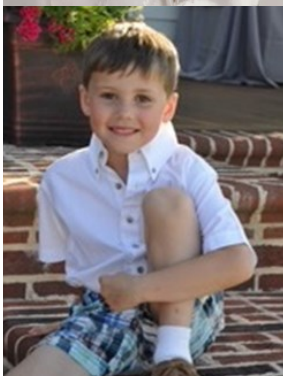
Thomas Pendleton

Thomas is a senior at Fort Mill High School. He has been a member of the Beta Club and Chemistry Club and served as president of the Culinary Club for two years, where he shared his passion for cooking. Thomas will attend the College of Charleston this fall to study psychology. At St. John's he was involved with the choir, Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) as a Junior Advisor, and loved his time as an intern with the children's ministry. Inspired by these experiences, Thomas plans to use his psychology degree to work with children and make a positive impact in their lives. Thomas will also go to Belize with the mission team.



Zoe Pounder

Zoe Pounder is graduating from Charlotte Catholic High School. In the fall she plans to attend the University of Mississippi, "Ole Miss," where she will major in business. Zoe was a four-year varsity lacrosse athlete. She competed in the state championship game in 2023 and 2024 and was named to 2<sup>nd</sup> team All State in 2024.



Robert Knight Watson

Beau is a senior at South Mecklenburg High School with a clear vision for his future. He plans to begin his postsecondary education at Central Piedmont Community College, studying automotive engineering, before transferring to Appalachian State University to pursue a degree in Business. His ultimate goal is to run his own car restoration garage. As a high schooler, Beau achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout and played baseball for two years. A lifelong member of St. John's, he has been actively involved in the church community through Sunday School, Junior EYC, and by serving as an acolyte.




## The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction anthem: Be known to us, Lord Jesus (Mode 6; adapted by Mason Martens)


S-171

*Antiphon: Cantor; then All*




Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor*




1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,




is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

*Cantor*



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

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## Invitation to Communion

*All baptized Christians, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Please stand to receive Communion. The bread will be placed on your palm. Then you may depart or wait to receive the cup, grasping the base to guide it to your lips. If you want the minister to dip the wafer in the wine, please keep the bread in your hand, and s/he will dip the wafer and place it between your fingers or on your tongue. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you would like to receive gluten free bread, please tell the priest. If you need Communion brought to your seat, please tell an usher.*

## (10:15) Communion Hymns

Hymn 463

*He is the Way*

Hall

**He is the Way. Follow him through the Land of Unlikeness;  
you will see rare beasts and have unique adventures.**

Irregular

**He is the Truth. Seek him in the Kingdom of Anxiety:  
you will come to a great city that has expected your return for years.**

**He is the Life. Love him in the World of the Flesh:  
and at your marriage all its occasions shall dance for joy.**

—*W. H. Auden*, +1973. Copyright ©1972 by Faber & Faber Ltd. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711238.

Hymn 487

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*

The Call

**Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath;  
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.**

77. 77

**Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast;  
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.**

**Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move;  
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.**

—*George Herbert*, +1633. Public domain.

Hymn

*Ain't no grave (gonna hold my body down)*

Claude Ely

*Refrain:* Ain't no grave gonna hold my body down, ain't no grave gonna hold my body down.  
When I hear that trumpet sound I'm gonna get up out of the ground.  
Ain't no grave gonna hold my body down.

Go down yonder, Gabriel, put your foot on the land and sea;  
Oh, Gabriel don't you blow that trumpet until you hear from me.  
I looked way over yonder, and what do you think I see?  
I see a band of angels, and they're coming after me. *Refrain*

Then I looked way down the river, saw the people dressed in white;  
I knew it was God's people 'cause I saw them doing right.  
I looked way over yonder, and what do you think I see?  
I see a band of angels, and they're coming after me. *Refrain*

Going down to the River Jordan, and I'm gonna bury my knees in the sand,  
holler "Hosanna" 'till I reach the promised land.  
Oh, meet me, King Jesus, meet me, won't you meet me in the middle of the air?  
If these wings should carry me, I'll follow you anywhere. *Refrain*  
—Claude Ely, +1978. Led by Joe Beach, guitar

Hymn 213

*Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise*

Middlebury  
669. 669

Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise and rejoice in the day thou wast born;  
on this festival day, come exulting away, and with singing to Zion return.

Now with singing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our heavenly Father bestowed,  
while his grace we receive from his bounty, and live to the honor and glory of God.

For the glory we were first created to share, both the nature and kingdom divine!  
Now created again that our lives may remain, throughout time and eternity thine.

We with thanks do approve the design of that love which hath joined us to Jesus' Name;  
so united in heart, let us nevermore part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.

Hallelujah we sing, to our Father and King, and his rapturous praises, repeat:  
to the Lamb that was slain, hallelujah again, sing, all heaven, and fall at his feet.  
—Charles Wesley, +1788. *Public domain.*

Commissioning of Home Communion Visitors

*When Communion is to be taken to homebound parishioners, Eucharistic ministers will be sent forth from our gathering with the consecrated bread using these words:*

*Celebrant:* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Body and Blood of Christ.

*People:* We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, and one cup.

Postcommunion Prayer

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Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*The Celebrant may bless the people.*

Hymn 379

*God is love, let heaven adore him*

Abbot's Leigh  
87. 87. D

God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him and exalt him with one voice.  
God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heaven above,  
God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love; and Love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace:  
with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race.  
And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod,  
then we find that selfsame aching deep within the heart of God.

God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life,  
God's eternal loving-kindness guides us through our earthly strife.  
Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is Love, so Love for ever o'er the universe must reign.

—*Timothy Rees, +1939, altered.*

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The Easter Dismissal: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Voluntary

*God of grace and God of glory*

Paul Manz

*The flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God by **Rachel Micheals**  
in honor of our amazing **Episcopal Youth Community advisors.***

**Looking ahead to the Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 25**

Acts of the Apostles 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation to John 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29









## PARISH LIFE at St. John's

News and Announcements

Priceless!

**Welcome to worship!** We pray that our time of worship will express praise and thanks to God for the gift of Christ, and help you live a more faithful and abundant life.

**If you are a visitor,** please know that we are delighted that you are here. We know that following the beautiful and ancient worship of the Episcopal Church is not always easy for those unfamiliar with the Anglican tradition. Please do not feel obligated to do anything but to enjoy the service reverently and expectantly.

**We invite newcomers** to fill out a visitor's card, found on the table in the back, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our ushers or clergy.

**If you have young children,** please know they are more than welcome at St. John's. Changing stations are available in the bathrooms. A nursery for children ages 3 and younger is available in Room 208 on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please see an usher to help you locate the nursery. After today the nursery is closed for the summer.

**Please be advised** that the 10:15 Sunday Service is live-streamed to St. John's web site, Facebook and YouTube accounts.

**Children** (age 3 to first grade) are invited to meet in the Children's Chapel. **Explorers** (grades 1-5) meet in Room 208. Both groups meet at 10:10 a.m. and join the service during the Peace each Sunday. After today these offerings are not offered until the fall.

**Lectio Divina** Bible study meets via Zoom each Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Zoom link is in the weekly announcements.

**Graduating Seniors** will be honored at EYC tonight at 6:00 p.m.

**All women are invited** to the Women's Craft group, Sunday, June 8, 2:00-4:30 p.m. Bring your own craft and join in time together to craft in faith with hope and joy. Bring a light snack to share in Room 304.

**Summer Choir** begins June 15! Every Sunday through Labor Day singers ages 8-88+ are invited to sing in the summer choir. Rehearsal begins at 9:30 a.m. to prepare hymns and an easy anthem for the 10:15 a.m. service. There's no weekday rehearsal or long-term commitment. Come join us!

**The Way Forward Presents Forward Facts:** To paraphrase Thomas Paine in 1776, these are the times that try people's souls. As Paine also wrote: "When a people agree to form themselves into a republic . . . it is understood that they mutually resolve and pledge themselves to each other, rich and poor alike, to support this rule of equal justice among them . . . (and) they renounce as detestable, the power of exercising, at any future time any species of despotism over each other, or of doing a thing not right in itself, because a majority of them may have the strength of numbers sufficient to accomplish it"—*Thomas Paine*. The Way Forward meets in Room 204/205 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 21.

**In case of emergency Heartstart Defibrillators** are available in the hallway between the Children's Chapel and the kitchen, near the entrance downstairs, and on the third floor. Instructions are printed inside the box.

**Stephen Ministers** are lay congregation members trained to provide one

-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. For more information, or to request a Stephen Minister, contact Deacon Wendy Merrill.

**Donors needed for Sunday Altar flowers:** June 1, June 22, July 20, August 17, and August 31 are available days. Register at [tinyurl.com/ydyjpunt](https://tinyurl.com/ydyjpunt) and give the dedication. Contact Charlotte Pfeifer with any questions.

**Crisis Assistance Ministries** – Volunteers needed the second Wednesday of each month, especially younger participants! Contact Kay Norwood to help. Next volunteer day is June 11.

**Hagar's Basket** served 277 families April 19. Please help by giving \$money\$ or donating personal hygiene items or cleaning products. Collection bins are near the door with the blue awning. Stocking day is Thursday, June 12; distribution day is Saturday, June 21. Contact Erin Richardson to volunteer.

**Nourish Up** (Loaves & Fishes at Galilee Center) needs canned goods and volunteers. Contact Louise Palmer to join.

**Let Us Pray** - The Intercessory Prayer Team would love to pray for you! Fill out a prayer card or e-mail [jpdigcharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:jpdigcharlotte@gmail.com) All requests are confidential. New team members are welcome. Contact the e-mail address to join the team today!

**Roof Above** – St John's provides a meal at Roof Above each quarter. To learn more contact Tim Comin.

**Operation Sandwich** – to host an event contact Karen Linz.

**Lost and Found** is located near where you received your bulletin.

**Ms. Jenny is moving on!** After 20+ years of devotion as Preschool Director, Jenny Taylor is moving on to her next adventure in life. Please join us at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, June 1 in Tilson Hall to celebrate with a light fare of quiches, pastries, and refreshments. We are receiving contributions for a travel fund for her and her husband Jeff to fulfill their dreams of travel and adventure in the coming years. “Life is an adventure, not a destination”—*Ralph Waldo Emerson*.

## Prayer List

*Please note that names on the printed prayer list will appear in the bulletin for four weeks but will continue to remain on the Intercessory Prayer Group's ongoing list until they are notified to remove the name.*

**Pray for members:** Christ Koconis, Vann Taylor, Louise Cooke, Sid Leeds, Phil Hoekwater, Shep Arthur, Tressa Pearson, Carol Miller, Vic Howie, Bill Dudley, Ray Malarkey, Yvette Charles, Jane Powell, Jean Stafford, Kate Futch, Nancy Hawgood, Fred Armstrong, Judy DiGregorio, Lars Swiggum, Carrie Bowers, David Griffith, Sally John, Carol Fletcher, Elizabeth Morris, Susan Lassiter, Ted Robinson, Anna-Louise Fitzgerald, Carol Lomax Fortenberry, Cierra Burdick, Pat Rodgers, Dan Robertson, Ron Kohl, Beth Gordon, Will Correll, Howard Wallace, Lucy Rogers, **Wade Carpenter**



To request a Stephen Minister, contact Deacon Wendy Merrill, 704-962-8970.

To receive Communion at home, contact Becky Maness, [bmaness2@gmail.com](mailto:bmaness2@gmail.com) 

**Pray for friends and relatives:** Louis George (father of Sharon George), Catherine Martin (daughter of Bill & Mary Jo Dudley), Ted Hyde (brother of Sally Mueller), Sheri Hernandez (niece of Ginny Pincus), Karah Prokay (daughter of Kathy Prokay), Mike Waller (husband of Mary Waller), Ron Bromley (father of Leslie Peterson), Judy Alterman (sister of Toby Wilber), Bette Skaggs (sister of Toby Wilber), Janet Woodward (twin sister of Judy DiGregorio), Mike Wallace (brother of Kelly Simmons), Harriet Huie (mother of Candler Tindall), Bobby Marshall (friend of Bill Nuttall), Gloria Smith (friend of Kenette Robertson), Cecil Howard (friend of John & Ann Horn), **Mary Anschuetzh** (friend of Laura McGinnis), **Andi Payet** (friend of John & Pat Rodgers), **John Ambrose** (son-in-law of Toni Robinson), **Ken Shiflet**, **Aeron Taylor** (grandson of Janet Chittick)

**Pray for those in military service:** Ryan Livingston, Dan Sullivan, Jim Myrick, Bernard David, Damien Mitchell, Kevin Dellicker, Michael Berger, Mark Lenhart, Geoff Sey, Thomas Everett, Evan John, Brandon Wilson, Michael Taylor McCormick, James Simpson, David Bell, Steven Placke, Thomas Jones, Jr., Thomas Cooper, Tyler Thomas, Pat Carter, Joe Rader, Tommy Heagney, Angelo DeMatteo, Ryan Harwell, John Piñeda, Jonathan Conlan, Aidan McKenna, Tom Clapp, Ben Nason, Luke Johnson, Jesus Ramirez, Robert Henderson, Evan Pounder, Willard Dellicker, Nolan Hernandez, Avery Spratt, Clay Liles, Will Watkins, Connor Klein

**Pray for those who have died:** **Don Lassiter**, **John Clark**, Billy Crowe (friend of Bill Nuttall), Tom McGinley (father of Fran McGinley), Carrol McIntire, Tom Carpenter (former member), Yvonne Floris (niece of Yvette Charles)

**Pray in thanksgiving for birthdays and anniversaries, May 18-24**

**Birthdays:** Lynn Baldelli, Ford Barton, Derek Bast, Susannah Beach, Catherine Emigh, Sara Emigh, Bob Farnham, Tracey Gillespie, Ashley Hewitt, George Hunt, Kate Longo, Silas Morgan, Sam Orr, Ted Peterson, William Sigmon, Robert Stafford, Hallie Walker, Lara Woodley

**Anniversaries:** Benson & Mary Denooyer, Andrew & Laurie Diman, Van & Susan Firth, Joe & Sally Mueller, Dan & Charlotte Pfeifer, Ted & Leslie Peterson, Art & Christy Watson

**\*Bold print = newly added this week**

## How to Receive Communion

To receive the bread alone.



To drink from the chalice, please help guide it to your lips.



To receive a blessing only (no bread or wine) or to decline the chalice.



### For Intinction

Please leave the bread in your hands. The chalice bearer will take it from you dip it in the wine, and return it to you. Do not attempt to dip the bread in the chalice yourself.



To receive gluten free bread, just ask the priest.



### Clerics

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd, Rector  
The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Senior Associate Rector  
The Rev. Wendy Merrill, Deacon

### Musicians

Mr. Alan C. Reed, Organist and Choirmaster  
Ms. Angela Swicegood, Assisting Organist  
Ms. Tracy Reed, Assistant for Children's Choirs  
Ms. Madeline Seconi, Soprano Section Leader  
Mr. Greg McAbee, Master of the Choirs of Bell and Chime  
Mr. Jamey Graves, Parish Administrator & Music Associate

If you would like to contribute digitally to the general offering, just scan the QR code below with your smart phone.



You may also pay from our web site or mail a check to the church office.

### Vestry

Fred Alexander (Sr. Warden), Brian Emigh, Mary Jane Gommel, Bill Grant (Treasurer), Kathleen Harrington, Grant Hawgood, John Horn (Jr. Warden), Suzy Johnson (Clerk), Greg McAbee (Endowment), Steve Nason, John Newton, Cindy Winslow (Pre-school board)



St. John's  
Episcopal Church

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St. John's is a parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

May 18, A.D. 2025