



**WELCOME TO  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
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[www.stjohnsws.com](http://www.stjohnsws.com)

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY**

**April 16, 2017 – 10:45 a.m.**

*Worship with Holy Communion*

**St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven  
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.**

Easters come and go, and it seems that little changes. Or does it? What we sing and celebrate today is already ours. We were baptized into His death and raised with Christ to new and everlasting life. Easter is the celebration not only of Christ's victory but also of our own victory in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Christ is risen, and we with Him. It is a victory already ours but not yet fully complete in us. Part of Christian life is seeing who we are and the life we live in the context of the baptismal miracle of new identity and new life that we have been given. Every day we grasp this gift by faith and remember it is "for me." We wear a new name and are heirs of an eternal victory and a life that death cannot overcome. How might our lives change if we lived out this glorious Easter truth more than one day a year?

### † Prayer Before Worship †

Mighty Lord, Your own Son left the darkness of the grave to rise and show forth His glorious body as the firstborn of the dead. As You have united us to the cross of Christ by Baptism, so raise us up to newness of life that we may recall our Lord's resurrection with joy and live it out by the power of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prelude**      **"Now Thank We All Our God"**      arr. J.S. Bach/Claude Means

*(Please Stand)*

**Welcome & Sharing of the Peace**  
**Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Processional Hymn #457**      **"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!<br>Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!<br>Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!<br>Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!         | 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!<br>Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!<br>Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!<br>Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia! |
| 3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!<br>Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!<br>Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!<br>Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia! | 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!<br>Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!<br>Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!<br>Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!           |

## Invocation/Confession/Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!”

**C: Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!**

P: “They have taken my Lord away, and I don’t know where they have put Him!”

**C: Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!**

P: “Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hands into His side, I will not believe it.”

**C: Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!**

P: Jesus said, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

**C: Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!**

P: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

**C: We confess: “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”** (Mark 9:24)

P: Indeed, God has given us the gift of belief through the water and the Word in our baptism, He has spoken to us through His Word, and we will receive His very body and blood in Holy Communion. Our lips claim belief, but so many times our lives display unbelief.

**C: Let shouts of joy and victory resound in the house of the Lord! For His right hand has done mighty things – the power of the Lord has won the victory and we shall not die, but live and proclaim to the world what the Lord has done!**  
(Psalm 118:15-17)

P: Death, where is your victory?

**C: Defeated by the right hand of God!**

P: Death, where is your sting?

**C: Defeated by the power of the Gospel!**

P: And who is this champion that has defeated death?

**All: Jesus Christ our Lord! All praise and thanks to God for the victory He gives us in His Son, Jesus.**

P: Then let the celebration begin!

**C: He is risen indeed!**

### Hymn of Praise #465 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds<br>In praise of love that still abounds:<br>“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”<br>Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!<br>Repeat their song of glory here:<br>“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”<br>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,<br>Therefore our heart with rapture sings:<br>“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”<br>Now still He comes to give us life<br>And by His presence stills all strife.<br>Christ has triumphed! He is living!<br>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;<br>Set heart and will on things above<br>That we conquer through Your triumph;<br>Grant grace sufficient for life's day<br>That by our lives we truly say:<br>“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”<br>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!              | 4 Adoring praises now we bring<br>And with the heav'nly blessed sing:<br>“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!”<br>Be to the Father and our Lord,<br>To Spirit blest, most holy God,<br>All the glory, never ending!<br>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!                             |

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*(Be Seated)*

### First Reading

**Acts 10:34-43**

*(They hanged Him on a cross, and God raised Him from the dead.)*

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one

appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Lesson**

**Colossians 3:1-4**

*(If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above.)*

<sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn of Response #480 “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”, verses 1-2**

He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;  
He opened death’s prison, th’incarnate, true Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song  
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.

The foe was triumphant when on Calvary  
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and jeer,  
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.

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*(Please Stand)*

**Easter Gospel**

**Pastor Tom**

*(Be Seated)*

**Children’s Message**

**Pastor Tom**

## **Hymn of the Day #480 “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”, verses 3-5**

But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,  
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.  
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;  
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.

O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.  
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;  
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.

Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;  
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.  
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:  
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

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## **Sermon – “The Greatest Thing God Ever Did”**

### **Offering**

Please take this time to sign the Pew Pads in your row and pass them down. We thank God for our visitors and guests. Please share your e-mail with us so that you can receive a weekly note of activities/announcements. Thank you for worshiping with us!

### **Offertory Anthem “Hallelujah!” from *Messiah***

Georg Friedrich Handel

*(Please Stand)*

### **Offertory Hymn #781 “We Give Thee But Thine Own,” v. 1**

### **The Confession of Faith**

**We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. His sovereign power has raised His Son from the dead and His eternal love has given us eternal life. He is indeed the Father Almighty.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and came to earth as a human, born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered and died and went down to hell, announcing the victory of Almighty God over the evil one; the battle was over, and on the third day He rose from the dead and is alive!**

And we believe this by the power of the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who calls, gathers and enlightens us and the whole Christian Church on earth. By His guidance, we will fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who, for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. And we believe Jesus will come again and take us home to live with Him forever. This is the message of Easter – this is the basis of our faith! Thus we believe and confess with our mouths, Alleluia! Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

## The Words of Institution

*(Be Seated)*

## Distribution of Holy Communion

### TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER.

St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.) Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.

Distribution Hymns: #475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"  
#469 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"  
#478 "The Day of Resurrection"

*(Please Stand)*

## Blessing

## Closing Hymn #474 “Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

- 1 Alleluia!  
Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb,  
Heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! Refrain
  
- ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise:  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!
  
- 2 Walking the way,  
Christ in the center  
Telling the story to open our eyes;  
Breaking our bread,  
Giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain
  
- 3 Jesus the vine,  
We are the branches;  
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
Heaven to earth,  
Christ to the people,  
Gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain
  
- 4 Weeping, be gone;  
Sorrow, be silent:  
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing:  
“O grave, be open!”  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain
  
- 5 City of God,  
Easter forever,  
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
River of life,  
Saints and archangels,  
Sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

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## **The Easter Flowers 2017**

When Jesus our Savior died on the cross at Calvary, “At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.” (Matt. 27:51) At that moment we were given immediate and constant access to God through Christ, “Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:19-23)

God says through the Apostle Paul in 2 Cor. 5:17-21, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And He has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”

If that were not enough, He promised not to leave us as orphans (John 14:18), He included us in His “one-ness” (John 17:20-24), and sent His Holy Spirit to live in us (Romans 8:9-11), and produce fruit in us (Gal. 5:22-23).

God is not just great – HE IS TOTALLY AWESOME – and His glory spans the universe and beyond! My prayer for all of us is that we get so focused on Jesus in our worship that we forget where we are! May the proclamation of the angel on the first Easter – “He is risen” greet you in the morning and tuck you in at night your whole life long!

*Karl Hastings, Jr.*

**Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God in praise of our Risen Savior by Mark and Beth Meier.

**Our Easter Lilies are given to the Glory of God by:**

Don and Clare Adamick

Jeanne Blizard, in memory of Richard Blizard

Bob and Martha Burke

Dot Cleary, in memory of Bob Cleary

Pastor Tom & Gwen Clocker, in memory of grandparents, Gwen's parents and brother

Jane Davidson, in memory of Dewey and Debbie Davidson

Joan Happel, in memory of Loren Happel

Arden and Glenda Lackey

Nancy Livengood, in memory of Jim Livengood

Dale and Alice Mierisch

Mary Rochester, in memory of Virgil and Lucille Schmidt

**Today's Ushers:** Ryan Davidson, Bob Hoisington, Stephanie Kiel, Holly Wilson

**Worship Assistants:** Steve Anderson, Bruce Sawicki

**Altar Guild for April:** Gayle Barcio, Anita Hoisington, Tina Kottlowski, Mary Rochester

**Lock-ups for April:** Don Henderson, Glenn Rullman

**Pew Pads:** Please remember to sign the pew pads. Thank you.

**Nursery is available** in Preschool Room 106 during the 10:45 Worship Service for children ages 3 and under.

**Crisis Control Item for April:** Canned fruit

**The Sermons** are available on-line at <http://stjohnsww.com/weekly-sermons-2/>

**St. John's Prayer and Care Notes** are distributed each Saturday. If you would like to receive this document and be listed on the email distribution, please send a request to:

- Dale Mierisch at [wb9szl@triad.rr.com](mailto:wb9szl@triad.rr.com) and include "St John's Prayer and Care Notes Subscription" in the subject line of your email.



***Our Sunday Worship*** - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
*Holy Communion is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Sundays,  
at 10:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays, and at both services  
if there is a fifth Sunday in the month.  
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:45 a.m.*

***A Great Place to Grow in Christ***  
*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a  
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.  
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

**Pastor Thomas Clocker, 301-732-9203, revclocker@gmail.com**  
**Mark Edmiston, Principal**  
**Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations**  
**Sonia Davidson, Director of Preschool**  
**Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship**  
**Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship**