



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

2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-725-1651

www.stjohnswns.com

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 31, 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.**

(Restrooms: Exit the left-side door on the pulpit side. Go straight thru the Fellowship Hall and the two doors leading to our school building. Restrooms are on your right in the school lobby)

Prelude A Medley of Carols

Janel Harkins

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace We take a moment to greet one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ (often with the words “God’s peace be with you”). We enjoy this part of our worship; however, you are free to participate, or not, in any manner with which you are comfortable. *(Please Remain Standing)*

If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so

(Please Rise)

Processional Hymn: #412 “The People that in Darkness Sat”

Invocation/Confession/Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Psalm 130

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord;

² Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive

To the voice of my supplications.

³ If You, Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But *there is* forgiveness with You,

That You may be feared.

⁵ I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

And in His word I do hope.

⁶ My soul *waits* for the Lord

More than those who watch for the morning—

Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the Lord;

For with the Lord *there is* mercy,

And with Him *is* abundant redemption.

⁸ And He shall redeem Israel

From all his iniquities.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson: Luke 2:25-32 (Simeon)

²⁵ And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸ he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

²⁹ "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,
According to Your word;

³⁰ For my eyes have seen Your salvation

³¹ Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

³² A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles,

And the glory of Your people Israel."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Alleluia – Congregation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Alleluia Verse - Choir



These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that
Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia – Congregation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Luke 2:36-40 (Anna)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶ Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, ^a who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day. ³⁸ And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, ^b and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

³⁹ So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their *own* city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, ^[c] filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: #936 "Sing Praise to the God of Israel"

Sermon: "What Are You Waiting For?"

Offer Unto the Lord! The Bible gives these guidelines on our financial giving:

1) *"First Fruits": i.e. Set aside a portion for God FIRST. He gets the best, not the leftovers.*

- 2) *“Portion/Percentage giving”*: Give to God a percentage of our gross income; the Old Testament *“tithe”* was 10%; certainly *“this side”* of the cross we should be just as motivated, or more so, than the Old Testament believers!
- 3) *“God’s Blessings”*: God promises if we are faithful in our giving, He will pour out blessing/abundance to us overflowing!

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 worshipping with us!

Offertory Anthem “The Journey of the Magi”

arr. K. Lee Scott

(Please Stand)

Offertory Hymn #805 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

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.

Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad in your pew.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless

blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Lord's Prayer

**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.

The Words of Our Lord

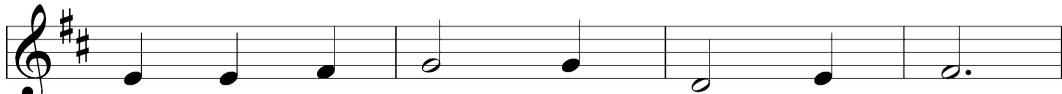
Agnus Dei



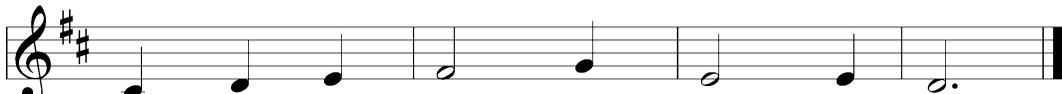
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be Seated)

Distribution Hymns: #624 "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"
#395 "O Morning Star How Fair and Bright"

(Please Stand)

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Nunc Dimittis



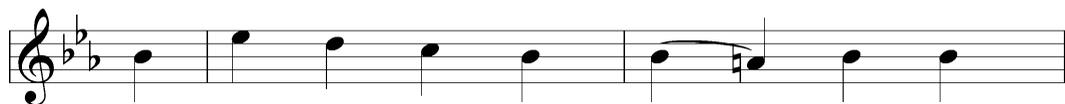
C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn: #937 “Lord Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”

Postlude “How Brightly Shines the Morningstar”

Johann Christoph Bach

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Keith & Clara McKenzie

Today’s Ushers: Holly Wilson, Ryan Davidson, Butch Roberts, and Stephanie Kiel

Worship Assistant: Early Service – Rich Essbach, Tom Baldwin; Late Service – Dale Mierisch, Larry Bowman

Lector: Early Service – Rachel Orsborn, Late Service – Stephanie Guelzow

Altar Guild for December: Tina Kottowski, Claudia Essbach, Jackie Downey, and Mary Rochester

Lock-ups for December: John Williams and Don Adamick

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

Crisis Control Item for December: Sugar/Flour/Baking Items. The collection basket is in the Narthex.

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 and include “St John’s Prayer and Care Notes Subscription” in the subject line of your email.
- You may also send your prayer requests to Dale at this address.



Our Sunday Worship - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:30 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 8th 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

Church Office Hours Monday through Thursday,
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.