



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

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

www.stjohns_ws.com

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 18, 2018 – 10:45 a.m.

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

Service for the Commemoration of Faithful Departed

Today we remember, with thanksgiving to God, loved ones who have gone before us. We thank God for the blessing that they were. We thank God for the gift of eternal life in Jesus. Christmas is around the corner. Someone said of Christmas, "Jesus came from heaven to earth so that we may go from earth to heaven!" Thank God for the indescribable gift of eternal life in and through our Savior!

Prelude "Behold a Host"

set by John Ferguson

Welcome

We are delighted to have you with us as we celebrate God's love for us in Jesus! If you have any questions or needs please feel free to ask an usher, Pastor Tom, or anyone here at St. John's.

As We Worship

Prepare for worship in stillness and prayer.

Enjoy worship by lifting your voice and heart to God.

Close worship by enjoying the fellowship of one another.

After worship, the service begins! Go out and serve the Lord in all areas of life!

"I urge you, in view of God's mercy to you, present yourselves as living sacrifices to God, this is your spiritual act of worship." — Romans 12:1

Please silence all devices. If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so.

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)*

(Please Rise)

Processional Hymn: #670 "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Call to Worship: “Forever With Christ” John 14:1-3; Revelation 21:4-5; 22:5 12, 20b

L: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

C: In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you.

L: I am going there to prepare a place for you.

C: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me.

L: There will be no more death.

C: No mourning or crying or pain,

L: For the old order of things has passed away.

C: I am making everything new!

L: There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun.

C: For the Lord God will give them light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

L: Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Confession (In Unison)

O, Almighty God, we do confess that we are not worthy to live forever with You in the Holy Joy that is heaven. We do not deserve Your eternal love and blessing – not by who we are, or by what we have done. But, by faith, we rejoice in Your forgiveness and grace in Jesus. We claim the gift of eternal life, purchased for us through His precious blood. For the sake of Your Perfect and Beloved Son – grant us, everlasting life in heaven.

Forgiveness of Sins (Pastor)

Jesus, our Savior, has opened the door of heaven – for us. He has removed the sin that barred our way. He has defeated death and turned it into victory. Rejoice – in and with Jesus – God has freely given you – the gift of eternal life. Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:17-20

¹⁷ The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.”

¹⁸ “I will remove from you
all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals,

which is a burden and reproach for you.

¹⁹ At that time I will deal
with all who oppressed you.

I will rescue the lame;

I will gather the exiles.

I will give them praise and honor
in every land where they have suffered shame.

²⁰ At that time I will gather you;
at that time I will bring you home.

I will give you honor and praise
among all the peoples of the earth

when I restore your fortunes^[a]

before your very eyes,"

says the Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:13-16

¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ **Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one.** Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father’s house are many mansions;^[a] if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.^[b] ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive

you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

⁵ Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**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: #748 “I'm But A Stranger Here”

Sermon: "Home for the Holidays"

Sermon Text: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: **and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

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 "tithing" 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 worshiping with us!

Offertory Anthem "Laudate Dominum K.V. 339" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Madelyn Ward, soprano

(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.

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (See insert)

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

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

(Be Seated)

Distribution Hymns: #676 "Behold A Host Arrayed in White"
#684 "Come Unto Me, Ye Weary"
#673 "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

(Please Stand)

Post-Communion Collect

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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: #677 “For All the Saints” (vs. 1-3, 7-8)

Postlude “Sine Nomine”

set by Arthur Hutchings

Thanksgiving Eve Service – Wednesday, November 21, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

(No meal prior to service)

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Fran Johnson in memory of her husband Jim – gone one year on 11-6-17.

Today's Ushers: John Williams, Bob Sparks, Lisa Little, Larry Bowman

Worship Assistant: Early Service – Bill Thorpe, Tom Baldwin; Late Service – Dale Mierisch, Don Henderson

Lector: Early Service – Rachel Orsborn, Late Service – Nathan Kottowski

Altar Guild for November: Sue and Ted Frake, Stephanie Guelzow, Claudia Essbach

Lock-ups for November: Glenn Rullman, Brad Honeycutt

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

Crisis Control Item for November: Cooking Oil

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.

(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)



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.



Advent and Christmas Services

Wednesday Advent Worship at 7:00 p.m.

- December 5, 12, & 19

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018

- at 5:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2018

- at 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31, 2018

- at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion