



CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA
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Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:30am to 1:00pm

Additional St. John's Staff

Ray Burroughs, Facilities Manager
Joan Lewis, Spiritual Gifts Coordinator
Cathy Plowden, Congregational President

WELCOME TO church

Our tithes and offerings are an important part of our faith journey.

- Electronic offerings may be given through the GIVELIFY app.
- You may also go to our website: www.stjohnswalhalla.org and click on the "Give Now With Givelify" button
- Another option is to scan this QR code to go directly to our Givelify page.



St. John's Lutheran Church

9 am Worship Service

All Saints Sunday November 1, 2026



Welcome!

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

Welcome to Worship!

PRE-GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG *"Holy Ground"*

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now. We are standing in his presence on holy ground.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Holy God,

we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God’s grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.



The Bell Tower— Ministry News



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

TODAY is All Saints Sunday on the church calendar. It is a day devoted not to specific saints but to all saints. After worship we will process to the cemetery to honor our members who died over the past year.



MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Starting at 6:00pm on **Monday, November 2** and going through Monday, November 23, Evening Bible Study will be studying the Gospel of John for four weeks. Everyone is welcome to come learn and engage in deep, faith-forming conversations.



TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: A 6 week Study on Luther and the Small Catechism at 11am in the Sanctuary. Led by Pastor Rachel.



NOVEMBER FOOD DRIVE

Each week in November, St. John's will be taking food donations for St. Luke Food Pantry. For the **week of November 1** we need: **BOXED PASTAS, SOUP CANS** (any kind). Please bring your donations to the Gathering Area.



MEETUP & CONNECT NEWS

Saturday, November 7 at 9am: Join Jeff and Torrie Landon at Keowee Toxaway State Park to hike Raven Rock Loop Trail. There will be a carpool leaving St. John’s at 9am or you can meet at the parking lot of Keowee State Park at 9:40am. This is a 4.4 mile moderate hike.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 10am



The Annual Congregation meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 10:00am in the fellowship hall. Key action items include: adoption of the 2027 Ministry Budget and election of Council Members. At this meeting we will also be voting to accept proposed changes to St. John’s Congregation Constitution and Bylaws.

Our Church Family

Nora Fields, hospitalized in MUSC Charleston
Jeri Klaren, healing
Tom Ward, healing, recovery
Bill Brackett, healing
Sandy Yuda, healing (AnMed Rehab)
Wilma Cobb, healing
Gary Cabbage, healing
Michael Pode, healing
Deb Blackmore, healing
Tina Barrett, healing
Tiffany Chapman, healing
Charlie (health) & Debbie (lung cancer) Busch

Those Grieving

Anne Craig and family (death of her brother, John)
Millie Hawbecker (death of her sister, Betty Alexander)
Ryan Rabb and family (death of his mother Bonnie Blanchett)

Our Elders at Home or Assisted Living

Andera Stroud, Foothills
Thelma Miller, The Residences (Wells Highway)
Brenda Cantrell, home
Linda Humphries, home
Frances Carter, home/hospice
Marie Palmatier, home
Lynne Williams (Pawleys Island)

Other Prayer Concerns

For those affected after recent school shootings.
For those affected by the fire in Walhalla.
For those affected by the flooding in Nepal & China and in the Grand Canyon.
For those affected by earthquakes in Japan & Columbia.
For those affected by military actions in the Middle East..
For our country amidst on-going nationwide violence.
For wisdom for military leaders involved in the events unfolding in the Middle East.
For those dealing with loss from recent natural disasters and severe weather.
For all those who have lost their jobs due to recent government changes.
For peace for our country and protection for our government officials.
For colleges & universities across our country.
For those dealing with loss and fear from gun violence.
For peace in the Middle East, and comfort to those impacted by violence.
For Bishop Wade Roof and Synod staff
All military Personnel

Our Extended Family and Friends

Linda Zygmont, healing (friend of Jan Long)
Nancy Deal, hospice (sister-in-law of McLeans's)
Kristen, healing (daughter of Robert Smith)
Archie Yusef, tests (great nephew of Sandra Pruitt)
Kyle Hollandsworth, job search (grandson of Millie)
Charlotte Eaker, breast cancer (sister-in-law of Ann Brackett)
Valarie Bentley (infant) hole in heart (Tina Barrett)
Mary Jane Rees, healing (mother of Rod Rees)
Bobbie Williams, hospice (aunt of Jan Day)
Susan Ward, cancer (daughter of Joan Lewis)
Barbara Williams, hospice (mother of Cathy Plowden)
Jon Fowler, brain cancer (cousin of Wilson’s)
Jean Deal, healing (sister-in-law of McLean’s)
Joan Kramer, successful treatment (friend of Williams’)
Riley Medlin, cancer diagnosis (WHS student)
Doug Scanlon, healing (friend of Grace Schmeelcke)
Maggie Ormes, healing (friend of Mary Sprouse)
Barbara Cary, comfort (sister of Dave Devoe)
Buffy McCarthy, healing (daughter-in-law Kathy Scherter)
Stephanie Williams, cancer/chemo (cousin/ Pastor Rachel)
Kathy Smith, liver cancer (cousin of Cathy Plowden)
Isabel Fogel, healing (granddaughter of Fogel’s)
Dwight Amic k, hospice (Stephanie Champion, step dad)
Danny Childress, comfort (nephew of Safrit’s)
Larry Smith, (friend of Jane Harris)
E. Christian Gauderer, hospitalized in Lisbon, Portugal (brother of Michael)
Janelle Gibson, healing (aunt of Jan Day)
Erica McKee Skinner, healing (friend of Tina Barrett)
Ben Harding, healing (brother of Allen Harding)
Chad Cobb (son of Wilma)
Kay Davis, recovery (mother of Stephanie Champion)
Kelsey Bowman, healing (daughter-in-law of Bowmans)
Lauren Bowman, Lyme disease (daughter of Gary and Barb Bowman)
Jacquelyn Moore, (niece of Kathy Scherter)
Bennie Smith, health (nephew of Wards)
Dohnvan (grandson of Kathy Scherter)
Dolorico Perez (father of Josie Perez)
Gina Daly, health (daughter of Bob Johnson)



OPENING SONG

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain
Yes, we'll gather at the river;
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day. *Refrain*

Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain*

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: 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.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN & YOUTH MESSAGE

Adriana McMurphy

THE FIRST READING

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Psalm 34:1-10, 22— *Read Responsively*

- ¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.
- ² **I will glory in the LORD; let the lowly hear and rejoice.**
- ³ Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; let us exalt God’s name together.
- ⁴ **I sought the LORD, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.**
- ⁵ Look upon the LORD and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.
- ⁶ **I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me and saved me from all my troubles.**
- ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and delivers them.
- ⁸ **Taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!**
- ⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ **The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**
- ²² O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

THE SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-3

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

SENDING SONG

“When the Saints Go Marching In”



1 Oh, when the saints go march-ing in, oh, when the
2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they

saints go march-ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that

num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.

5 Oh, when they crown him King of kings, 6 And on that hallelujah day,
oh, when they crown him King of kings, and on that hallelujah day,
O Lord, I want to be in that number O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown him King of kings. on that hallelujah day.



Serving Today

in Worship

Pastor:	The Rev. Dr. Rachel Connelly
Lay Assistant:	Adriana McMurphy
Lector:	Patty Shepard
Greeters:	Gary & Barb Bowman
Musicians:	Tom Ward, Ray Burroughs and Dave Devoe
Videographer:	Jason Dickard

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COMMUNION SONGS

"Sanctuary"

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary
Pure and Holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You.

Holy Spirit, fill this vessel
Make my heart to, burn within
Purify me, make my life be
A sanctuary for You.

"Welcome Table"

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table, I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
some of these days. (2x)

I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey, I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
some of these days. (2x)

I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river, I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
some of these days. (2x)

THE PASTORAL BLESSING

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Thy Word” (2x)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Pastor Rachel Connelly



SONG OF RESPONSE

“Blest Are They”



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the king-dom of God.
2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; they shall in - her - it the earth.
3 Blest are they . . . who show mer - cy; mer - cy shall . . be theirs.
4 Blest are they . . . who seek peace; they are the chil-dren of God.
5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, all . . . be-cause. . of me. Re -



Blest are they, full of sor-row; they shall be con - soled.
Blest are they who hun-ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they . . . shall see God.
Blest are they who suf-fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
joice, be glad, yours is the king-dom; shine . . . for all to see.



Re - joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you; ho - ly are you!



Re - joice and be glad! Yours is the king-dom of God!

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate and was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each prayer petition— God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE SHARING OF CHRIST’S PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always. **Congregation: And also with you.**

THE OFFERING

*Our gifts and offerings are gathered for the mission of the church.
Plates are passed by the ushers.*

THE OFFERTORY SONG

“We Are An Offering”

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives they are Yours: we are an offering

All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering,
we are an offering.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

All are welcome at the table of communion

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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 DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION