

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

May 17, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Ascension Sunday

**PRELUDE** (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**WELCOME** – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. Please see an usher.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: We are a community of faith that has been created by the love of God.

People: We are the people who have been set free by the world of forgiveness in Jesus Christ, and are therefore a people called to reach out to the sojourners in our midst and in other lands, people whose lives cry out for the warm embrace of fellowship.

Leader: We have come not to exalt our own goodness, but to praise the holiness of God.

People: We have come not to boast of what we have done, but to proclaim the redeeming work of Jesus Christ by extending the hand of community to all those on the margins.

All: With all our being, we will praise God and tell of God's goodness in our acts of kindness and love toward the "least" among us in our times.

*From The Uprooted Ones: Remembering Refugees*  
(Uniting Church in Australia), In *Welcoming the Stranger*,  
posted on the Minnesota Council of Churches

**\*HYMN I Have Decided**

**FWS 2129**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Psalm 96: 1-6**

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. <sup>2</sup>Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. <sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds

among all peoples. <sup>4</sup>For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. <sup>5</sup>For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. <sup>6</sup>Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS**

### **WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**UMH 95**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### **\*BLESSING THE OFFERING**

### **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **HYMN What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**UMH 526**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**Psalms 96: 7-13**

Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. <sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. <sup>9</sup>Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. <sup>10</sup>Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns." The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity. <sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. <sup>12</sup>Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. <sup>13</sup>Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes, he comes

to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

**MESSAGE “Disciples Transform the World”**

**\*HYMN Pass It On**

**UMH 572**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION Family Prayer Song (vs 1) FWS 2188**

**EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES**

**POSTLUDE**

**Music Director: Mike Nelson  
Videographer: Roger Vandegrift  
Liturgist: Pat Kern**



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## ☪ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☪

There will be a St. John's United Methodist Church, Church Conference after the Worship Service on May 31 to vote on an increase in salary and benefits for Pastor Shannon as she becomes a full-time pastor assigned only to St. John's and the Salisbury University Wesley Foundation.

**BIBLE STUDY** – Meets on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

**OUTSIDE CHURCH SIGN** – Please see Roger to donate.

**FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK** – Requests include mini ravioli or any Chef Boyardee products, soups, grape jelly, boxed juices, toilet paper, canned corn and canned beans. Donations due the first Sunday of the month.

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST FAMILY SUPPORT** – Requests include: rice, beans, corn flour, vegetable oil, sugar, spaghetti noodles and sauce, and feminine hygiene products. There are plastic containers on the far side of the social hall for donations.

### **UPCOMING DATES**

**May 19 (Tuesday) at 5:30 p.m. – Church Family Dinner at JoJos.**

Please note the change in date due to a conflict the restaurant had. Please let Jean Powell know if you plan to attend.

**May 24 – Family Fun Nights Meeting**

**May 30 – God's Kitchen**

**June 13 – Yard and Food Sale to benefit Missions Team** – Please start gathering items to donate and mark your calendars for the work date of Friday, June 12.

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

**NEWSLETTER** – Submit information by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to Paul Nelson at [pnelson37@gmail.com](mailto:pnelson37@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL HOUR** – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.