



# FOCUSED

August 7, 2022

**W**elcome to our guests! We are glad to have you here! If you have questions about our service, our church, our school or preschool, please talk with us or call the office at your convenience. Any of us would be glad to meet with you and visit. May God bless your time with us today.

**Series Theme:** Jesus' mission and the purpose of his journey was not to gain an earthly crown. Throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus makes clear that this world was not his real home. He teaches this world is not our real home either. Jesus is focused on heaven. His mission is to get us there by going to Jerusalem and making the ultimate sacrifice to pay for our sin. Nothing would stop him. Jesus was focused.

**This Week's Theme:** Last week Jesus warned against overvaluing earthly wealth. This week Jesus warns against undervaluing heavenly treasure. Last week, Jesus exposed the folly of greed. This week, Jesus exposes the folly of worry. Jesus focuses us, pointing to our Father who promises to care for us more than birds of flowers of the field. We can pursue heavenly treasure wholeheartedly, confident that our Father knows all we need.

🔗 **Connection Cards** We ask everyone, guests and members, to fill out the connection card that that is available in the pews or on the website. We care about you and this is the easiest way for us to stay in contact with you and our fellow believers who might have missed worship. There are also spots on the connection card for prayer requests and questions you might have. We love to read them and share in your struggles, praises, and questions as a family in Christ!

LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE!  
[saalem.lutheran.org/connect](https://saalem.lutheran.org/connect)

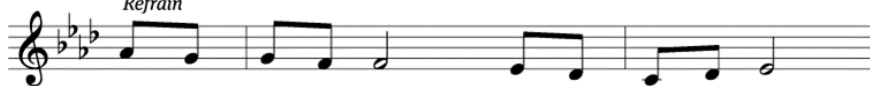


🔗 **Restrooms** are located at the end of the hallway leading away from the narthex.

🔗 **Cry-room** If you have a young child or nursing infant and are in need of a cry-room, you will find it across from the rest rooms. A television there allows you to watch the service.

🔗 **Hearing Support** Salem is equipped with an induction loop system, so please switch your hearing aid to T-coil to use it.



*Refrain*

Where your trea - sure is, there your heart shall be.



All that you pos - sess will nev - er set you free.



Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.



Where your trea - sure is, your heart shall be.



1 What do you gain from all your wor - ry,

2 Look at the ra - vens high a - bove you.

3 Be - hold the lil - ies in their splen - dor.

4 O lit - tle flock, do not be fright - ened;



what you should eat or what to wear?

They do not work their whole life through,

In grace and beau - ty are they dressed,

yours is the king - dom of the Lord.



There is no peace in stress or hur - ry.

and yet God feeds them and pro - tects them.

and yet so soon their bloom is fad - ed.

Give your pos - ses - sions to the need - y;



Do you not know that you are held with - in God's care?

So how much more will God pro - tect and care for you?

So how much more will those who look to God be blessed?

ob - tain a trea - sure in God's heav - en safe - ly stored.

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

**C: Amen.**

P: In that name, and with that faith—as dear children approaching a loving parent, as sinners redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, as believers filled with the Holy Spirit—let us confess our sins to God.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have lived for ourselves, denied our relationship with you, excluded ourselves from the family. We are helpless and alone. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and renew us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

P: “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” *John 3:16* Rejoice in the Lord; your sins are forgiven—in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Change my heart, oh God.\_\_\_\_ Make it ev-er true.\_\_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God.\_\_\_\_ May I be like You.\_\_\_\_

You are the pot - ter; I am\_ the clay.\_\_\_\_

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.\_\_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God.\_\_\_\_ Make it ev-er true.\_\_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God.\_\_\_\_ May I be like You.\_\_\_\_

## Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-6 (NIV)

*In faith, Abram treasured all the LORD's gracious promises.*

15 After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield, your very great reward."

2 But Abram said, "Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir."

4 Then the word of the Lord came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

## Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (NIV)

*The gift of faith allows us to see that treasure that is found in the city whose architect and builder is God.*

11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for.

3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. 9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as

did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. 12 And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

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.

## 121D

## Keep Me as the Apple of Your Eye

*Refrain*



*Tone*



I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—  
 where does my help / come from?  
 My help comes / from the LORD,  
 the maker of heav- / en and earth.  
 He will not let your / foot slip—  
 he who watches over you will not / slumber;  
 indeed, he who watches over / Israel  
 will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—  
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;  
the sun will not harm / you by day,  
nor the / moon by night.  
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—  
he will watch o- / ver your life;  
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going  
both now and for- / evermore.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.   Refrain**

## **Gospel: Luke 12:22-34 (NIV)**

*Jesus assures us we have a Father in heaven who knows what we need better than we do.*

22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. 24 Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! 25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? 26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

27 “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! 29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. 31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

32 “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## Children's Message



800

### How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,  
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he has said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 for I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
 the flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"



## Message:



**Focused Living Properly Values  
Heavenly Treasure**

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty.

From there 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,

## Thank Offering

*The members of Salem give an offering in honor of all God has done for us, and to support God's mission within our congregation and beyond. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to support this ministry.*

*You are our guest. Welcome!*

*We would love to make a meaningful connection with you. Please take one of the connection cards in the pew or follow the link to the electronic card and fill it out.*

*You can drop the card in the offering basket. Thank you!*

### Handbell Offering Anthem

### *How Firm a Foundation*

## Prayer Requests and Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## The Blessing

P: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.



1 By faith we see the hand of God  
 2 By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth  
 3 By faith the proph - ets saw a day



in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,  
 with the pow'r of his prom - ise in their hearts,  
 when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear



in the lives of those who prove his faith - ful - ness,  
 of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,  
 with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death



who walk by faith and not by sight. v. 2  
 a place where peace and jus - tice reign. Refrain  
 and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. v. 4



We will stand as chil-dren of the prom - ise; we will fix our



eyes on him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

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## **This Week at Salem**

<b>Sun, 8/7</b>	8am Worship 9:30am Worship 10:30am Quarterly Voters' Meeting
<b>Mon, 8/8</b>	1-6pm Blood Drive in Salem gym 6pm Evangelism Committee
<b>Tues, 8/9</b>	10:10am Bible Growth Group 6:30pm Elders & Education Committee Meetings 7:30pm Worship Committee Meeting
<b>Wed, 8/10</b>	1pm ORP Bible Study 6:30pm Open meeting for Sunday school
<b>Fri, 8/12</b>	Wedding of Kory Smart & Tori Guggisberg (Chippewa Falls, WI)
<b>Sun, 8/14</b>	8 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Worship With Communion

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### **Ministry Support**

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$12,381.55 for Current Expenses and \$858.93 for Missions. We pray God will bless us again this week. EFT or credit card service is available for giving on the mobile-friendly page of [salemlutheran.org/donate](http://salemlutheran.org/donate)

### **Quarterly Voters' Meeting Today (after the late service)**

All members are invited to attend this important meeting to learn about Salem's current and future ministry.

### **Salem Kickoff August 27th - Save the Date!**

Salem members and school families can save the date for a special event to celebrate a new year for our church and school. Saturday, August 27th, we'll have a shortened special worship service at 5pm followed by games and a picnic. Salem's fellowship committee will grill and provide the main meal about 6pm, with members invited to bring side dishes and salad to share. You can eat outside or at limited seating inside. Help us show school families the friendly face of Salem. Save the date and plan to join us!

## **Sunday School Planning & Help**

When the fall schedule returns in September we will be blessed to restart Sunday Bible study and Sunday school. Passing our faith on to the next generation is a core ministry of our church and Sunday school, in whatever form it will take, is a part of that important work. We are looking for members to help with planning, teaching, and assisting in our Sunday school program. If you are able to help talk to either pastor, or to Amy Stilwagon.

## **Red Cross Blood Drive - August 8**

Salem is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Salem Gym. Please schedule a time to donate at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). One pint of blood can help save 3 people. Please consider being a blood donor!



## **Job Openings**

We are still looking for a teacher's aide for first grade and second grade in our school. If you would like to apply please reach out to Mr. Klatt ([rklatt@salemlutheran.org](mailto:rklatt@salemlutheran.org)) for more details.

Our sister church in Woodbury (also Salem) is looking to fill two part-time assistant positions as well. Both positions are for Monday, Wednesday, Friday. One in the mornings 8:45-12:30pm and the other 2:45-5pm. A third position working 7am-8:45am M-F will be open starting in October. Talk to Jessie Wolfe or email [director@salemofwoodbury.com](mailto:director@salemofwoodbury.com) to learn more.

## **Card Shower for new teachers**

It might have gone under the radar, but Pastor Wolfe wasn't the only new worker God brought to our church this summer.

Teachers Luke and Allie Dorn will be installed at the late service September 11th. After the service, we'll have a reception in the church entry and outside. Members who would like to welcome them with a card are invited to bring one that Sunday or place it in the designated basket in the church entry beginning next week. Help us give thanks to God by showering our new teachers with support!

## **Our next worship series begins August 14th!**

*“Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem”* (Luke 13:22). Jesus knew that when he went to Jerusalem, he was going to die. With a sense of urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even if we don’t want to hear them. As Jesus teaches hard truth, he reverses the normal order of things. The Teacher’s life and work are the opposite of what one would expect. When the truth is hard to hear, the first temptation is to deny it. We cannot do that with Jesus’ teaching, for he never lies. When the truth is hard to hear, the second temptation is to simply ignore it. To do that with Jesus is to court eternal death. Jesus’ words contain an urgent warning: Listen! Take to heart what Jesus says! For through his Word, though it contains hard truths, God gives eternal life.



**8/14—We want peace, but God’s Word divides**

**8/21—The first will be last; the last will be first.**

**8/28—The humble will be exalted; the exalted will be humbled**

**9/4—Put down what you love; pick up what you loathe**

**9/11—The Found in Christ share him with the Lost, in every generation (Christian Education Sunday)**

**9/18—Serve God with money; you can’t serve God AND money**

**9/25—What seems to help in life fails in death; what seems to fail in life helps in death**

## **Rejoice**

On Sunday mornings when members & visitors enter our church doors, it brings joy. Thank God by signing up to greet them at the door. The sign-up sheet is on the back table. Of course, we can all be welcomers by watching for visitors & getting acquainted. Good Morning!

## **PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

(Also printed in the hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.



***Just a reminder that when you come to church for communion, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex so that the Vestrymen know how many elements to prepare for communion! We appreciate your help!***



*The flowers on the altar are in memory of Fred Stoller's parents, Alfred and Johanna, and Robyn Stoller's dad Kent Hadrits.*



14940 62nd St. N. - Stillwater, MN 55082  
651.439.7831

[www.salemlutheran.org](http://www.salemlutheran.org)

Ryan Wolfe, Pastor

Jake Schram Pastor

Lauren Schult, Pianist