

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



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Lord, Increase our Faith! Faith shown in persistent prayer

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Loving Savior, you promise to answer our every need and calm our every concern. Bless us with peace and hope as we sing your praises today in worship. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Disciples of Jesus need to learn how to pray. However, learning to pray is not like many of the other things we learn to do in our lives. Prayer is not something we learn to do once and then know how to do correctly for the rest of our lives. Learning to pray consists of a lifetime of persistence and struggle. But when we struggle with God in prayer, it is not an indication that something is wrong but that everything is right. Struggle is part of the very nature of prayer and at the heart of the blessings it brings in our lives of faith.

Our Worship Series: People use the word faith very casually. "You've got to have faith." "Keep the faith." "Take a leap of faith." Jesus talks about faith in ways that are anything but casual. In thinking about his second coming, Christ wonders, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" Jesus' words force us to consider what true, saving faith is. They make us ask who could have such faith. Most of all, Jesus' words move us to run to our God and beg him for more of it. Lord, increase our faith!

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Worship Leader: Pastor Jake Schram

Piano: Madison Boerner

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Order of Worship





Please stand.

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

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.



THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

God, our refuge and strength, have mercy on your church as we come in prayer before you. Answer us not in judgment on our sins but in peace and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Genesis 32:22-30

In praying for blessings, Jacob literally wrestles with God.

²²That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. ²⁴So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. ²⁶Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

²⁷The man asked him, "What is your name?"

[&]quot;Jacob," he answered.

²⁸Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

²⁹Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

Second Reading

1 John 5:13-15

When we ask God for something that is according to his will, we can be absolutely confident we will receive it.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

M: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Luke 18:1-8

Jesus teaches us to be bold and persistent in our prayers.

¹Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ²He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

⁴"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Salem School Kindergarten & 1st Grade students

Refrain: There is no mountain high enough, no river wide enough, No ocean deep enough to separate me from God

Refrain repeated.

No desert dry enough, no jungle thick enough, No evil bad enough to keep me from my Lord. Refrain.

No king is great enough, no army large enough, No power strong enough to keep me from my Lord. Refrain 2x.



Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

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, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated.

Offering



Connect Card

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.



We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.

Give Online

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.

- M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.
- C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.
- M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.
- C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.
- M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.
- C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.
- C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

M: 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.

Hymn: Abide, O Dearest Jesus

CW 924



- 1 A bide, O dear est Je sus, a mong us with your grace
- 2 A bide, O dear Re deem er, a mong us with your Word
- 3 A bide with heav'n-ly bright ness a mong us, pre cious Light;
- 4 A bide with rich est bless ings a mong us, boun-teous Lord;



sin that Sa - tan may not harm us nor we give place. af - ford. and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and jov truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y your night. let in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your Word.

- 5 Abide with your protection among us, Lord, our strength, lest world and Satan fell us and overcome at length.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior, among us with your love; grant steadfastness and help us to reach our home above.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

WELS CONNECTION Video Newsletter

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

After worship, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the sanctuary. Sunday morning instead of Adult Bible study we hold our quarterly congregational meeting in the sanctuary between services. All members are invited to attend.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Increased faith demonstrated through total dependence Bible Readings: Deuteronomy 10:12-22; 1 John 2:15-17; Luke 18:18-30

Hymns: 816, 717, 667, 510

October is Mission Month!

WELS India Children's Homes and Gentle Shepherd School provide for over 400 needy children. Workers at the homes supply food, clothing, shelter, and God's Word to orphans and poor children. Gentle Shepherd School provides Christ-centered education for local impoverished children, most from non-Christian backgrounds. Supported by our prayers and donations, this ministry can provide basic necessities and



education that offer a better future to children in need. Most importantly, together, we provide the real hope of eternal life. Chaala danuvadalu, ధన్వ! Thank you!



For the past few years, Salem has collected donations to help this school and homes. Every year our members have responded generously to help spread God's love through the work of these brothers and sisters. If you would like to make a donation, give with a check made out to Salem or give electronically through EFT. Make sure either way to note your gift as "India mission." We will also have a special door offering for this mission after services on October 29th & 30th. May God bless and multiply our gifts!

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- **† Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- **†** Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for **hearing assistance**. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- **†** You will find a **connection card** in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers.
- **†** Salem members give an **offering** to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket at the entrance to the sanctuary or as it's passed during the service.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- **†** Children's bulletins & "quiet bags" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- † If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "cry room" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- **†** Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.

