

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Lord, increase our faith! Faith shown through total dependence on God

elcome! 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:** Blessed Lord, you know our needs before we can even bring them to you in prayer. Increase my faith this morning to trust in your guidance and protection. Hear my for Jesus' sake. Amen.
- **THEME OF THE DAY:** We naturally want to think that if we apply the right spiritual advice and effort, we can earn God's approval and eternal inheritance. But Jesus calls this unbelief! This week Jesus uses God's law for its chief purpose: to expose sin and crush our natural pride. In Christ's hands God's law is a powerful tool used to shape in us the faith he seeks—one totally dependent on God to do what only he can do, and save us as only he can save us.
- **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!
- A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

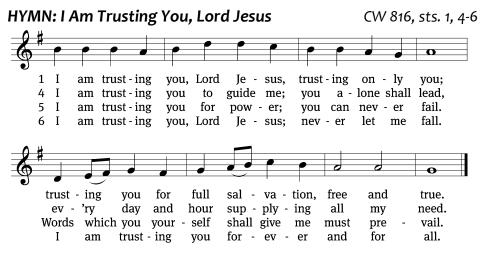
SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Jake Schram Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Organ: Robyn Stoller

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + www.salemlutheran.org + 651-439-7831 rwolfe@salemlutheran.org + jschram@salemlutheran.org

Order of Worship





Please stand.

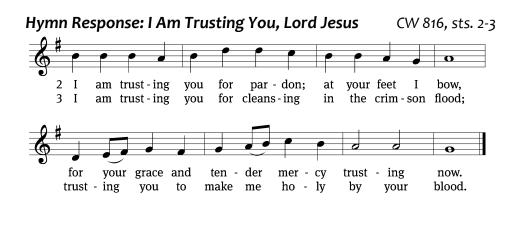
Minister: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen.

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.

Silence for meditation and reflection

- 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.

Lord, keep your household, the church, in continual godliness, and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; 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

Deuteronomy 10:12-22

In his farewell address, Moses reminds the Israelites that they always have been, and forever will, be totally dependent on God's grace.

¹²And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

¹⁴To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. ¹⁶Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer.

¹⁷For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. ¹⁸He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. ¹⁹And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. ²⁰Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. ²¹He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. ²²Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 John 2:15-17

The Apostle John encourages us to love and depend on our heavenly Father rather than relying on the world.

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 18:18-30

What is impossible with man is possible for God. That is why we are totally dependent on him.

¹⁸A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'"

²¹"All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.

²²When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²³When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?"

²⁷Jesus replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

²⁸Peter said to him, "We have left all we had to follow you!"

²⁹"Truly I tell you," Jesus said to them, "no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion





Sermon

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.
Polostad

Be seated.

Offering



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.



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



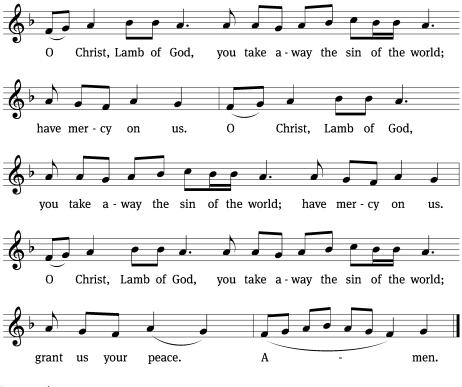
Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



Be seated.

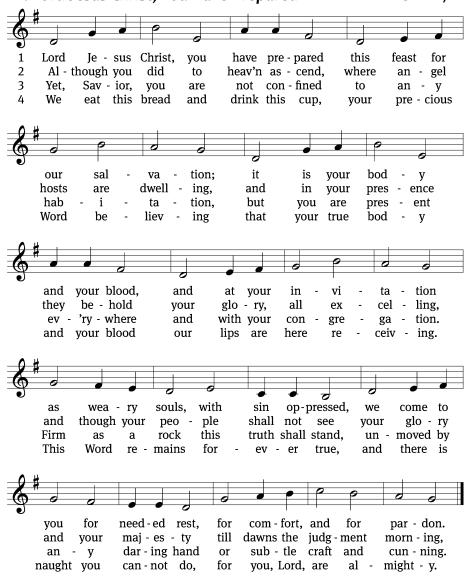
Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

HYMN: Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

CW 667



5 Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces: your body, Lord, is even now at once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be; your Word alone suffices me; I trust its truth unfailing. 6 Lord, I believe what you have said; help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears refreshes me and stills my fears and is my priceless treasure.

- 7 Grant that we worthily receive your supper, Lord, our Savior, and, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior that we are thankful for your grace and day by day may run our race, in holiness increasing.
- 8 For your consoling supper, Lord, be praised through out all ages!
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place the world against it rages.
 Grant that this sacrament may be a blessèd comfort unto me when living and when dying.

Please stand at the pastor's direction.

Response of Thanksgiving

- M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- C: His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

- M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
- C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26

Closing Prayer & Blessing

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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.



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

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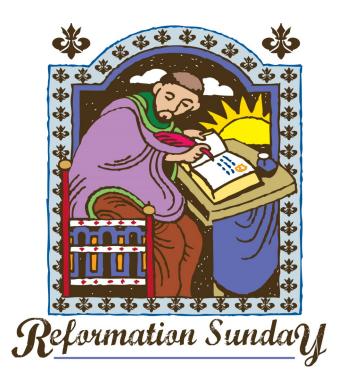
Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

After worship, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:10am in the sanctuary. At 9:15am adult Bible study begins in the fellowship hall downstairs and teen Bible study begins in the youth room at the end of the office hall.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Reformation Festival— The Truth will set you free Bible Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Galatians 5:1-6; John 8:31-36 Hymns: 863, 640

<u>Join us next week</u>



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.

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.

