

Third Sunday in Lent

March 11-12, 2023



# OUR GREATEST NEEDS



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

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

**W**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:** Savior Jesus, your blessing and grace alone brings me through another week and back to you. Hear my prayers and praise. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** A person can survive up to months without food, but only two to three days without water. Water is one of our greatest needs. Scripture uses this truth as a picture of our spiritual needs telling us, "My soul thirsts for God." Everyone has a deep spiritual thirst. In our heart of hearts, we all long for everlasting life. Unbelievers try to satisfy that deep thirst with worldly things, a strategy doomed for failure. Believers look to the One who has promised, "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." Once again we see Jesus meet one of our greatest needs. He alone possesses the water that satisfies those who are spiritually parched. He alone grants eternal life.

**OUR WORSHIP SERIES:** Our greatest needs are universal. We all live under the curse of sin, leaving us utterly helpless in our natural state. Left in sin, people are doomed to death, spiritually, physically, and eternally. Lent is the season of the Church Year where we wrestle with our greatest needs, but also find that in Christ, all our greatest needs are met. This Lent, the Spirit makes one thing clear: If you lack Christ, you have nothing. If you have Christ, you have everything you truly need.

**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 Jon Enter  
Piano: Madison Boerner

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe  
Soloist: Alli Dorn, Carolyn Forster

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + [www.salemlutheran.org](http://www.salemlutheran.org) + 651-439-7831

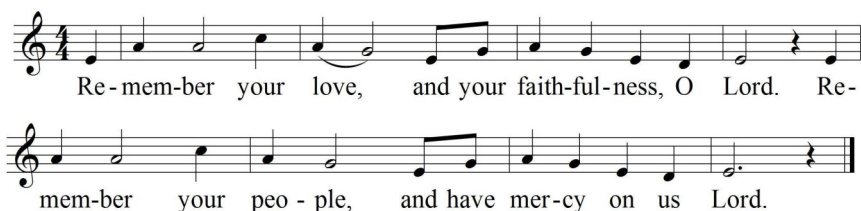
[church@salemlutheran.org](mailto:church@salemlutheran.org)

# Order of Worship



## Gathering Rite: Remember Your Love

All: Refrain



M: The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom should I fear? The Lord is my life and my refuge, when I call, God hears.

C: **(Sing Refrain)**

M: If you dwelt, O Lord, upon our sinfulness, then who could stand? But with you there is mercy and forgiveness and a guiding hand.

C: **(Sing Refrain)**

M: O Lord, hear the sound of my call and answer me. My heart cries out for your presence; it is you I seek.

C: **(Sing Refrain)**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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: 1. Lord Jesus, obedient in the desert: *(Sing line below)*

2. Christ Jesus, the promise of salvation: *(Sing line below)*

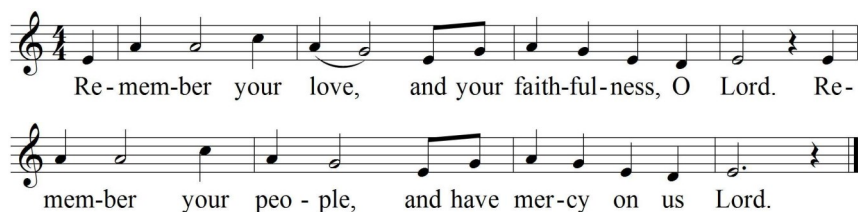
3. Lord Jesus, the flood of living water: *(Sing line below)*



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### All: Refrain



## THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, who rejoices to give mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

### First Reading

Joshua 3:1-8

*On the edge of the Promised Land, Joshua and the Israelites wait for God's miracle at the Jordan River.*

<sup>1</sup>Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over. <sup>2</sup>After three days the officers went throughout the camp, <sup>3</sup>giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. <sup>4</sup>Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it."

<sup>5</sup>Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

<sup>6</sup>Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people." So they took it up and went ahead of them.

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. <sup>8</sup>Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.' "

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

*We were like people dying of thirst, powerless to help ourselves. But God's love has been poured out into our hearts like living water.*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## (Sunday) Men's Choir Anthem

*Salvation Belongeth to Our God*

Arr. by Dr. A. Davison

Salvation belongeth to our God;  
Salvation belongeth to our God, our God, our God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, our Lord, our Lord. Alleluia. (Repeated)

*Please stand.*

*Jesus calls a Samaritan woman to faith, providing living water for her thirsty soul.*

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

<sup>11</sup>"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

<sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

<sup>17</sup>"I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup>The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

<sup>19</sup>"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

<sup>21</sup>"Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup>The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

<sup>26</sup>Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

## Children's Devotion

### Hymn of the Day: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

CW 703



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
Look un - to me; your morn shall rise and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

## Sermon

Based on Joshua 3:1-8

### "Crossing into the Unknown"

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.**

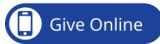
*Be seated.*

## **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.

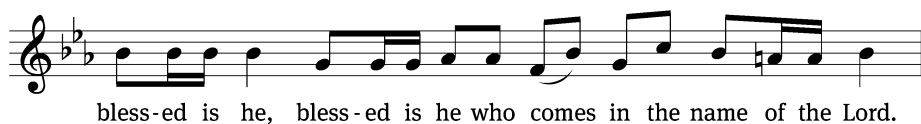
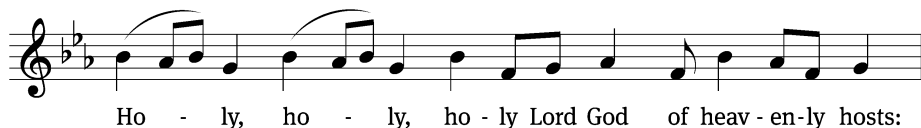
**C:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. 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

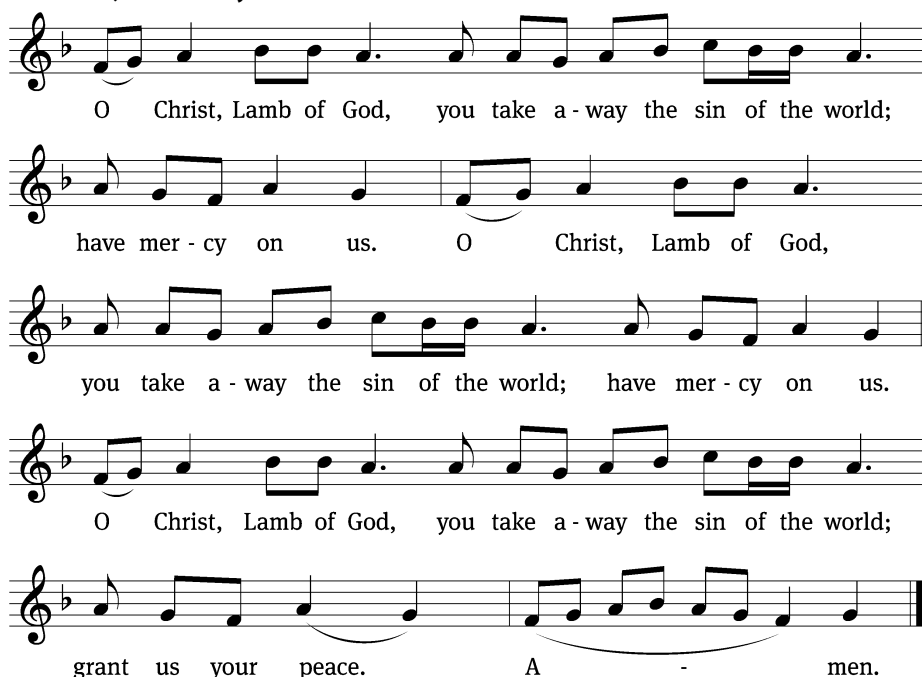
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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: The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

CW 677 sts 1-5



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, we cel - e -  
2 He blot - ted out with his own blood the judg - ment  
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be he gives a  
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve that in this  
5 A pre - cious food is this in - deed, it nev - er



brate with one ac - cord; it is our com - fort  
that a - gainst us stood; he full a - tone - ment  
sol - emn guar - an - tee; in this his ho - ly  
sup - per we re - ceive his ver - y bod - y,  
fails us in our need, a heav'n - ly man - na



in dis - tress, our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.  
for us made, and all our debt he ful - ly paid.  
sup - per here we taste his love, so sweet, so near.  
as he said, his ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.  
for our soul un - til we safe - ly reach our goal.

*Please stand at the pastor's direction after the distribution.*

## 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.

## Hymn: Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

CW 394 sts. 1, 3-4



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, sin - ners, ru - ined  
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound - ed, par - a -  
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul - re -



by the fall; here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain  
lyzed, and blind; here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,  
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



flows to you, to me, to all, in a full, per -  
here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain  
break his cov - e - nant of blood, signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.  
will re - store; they that drink shall thirst no more.  
deem - er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

## Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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## Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:10am in the sanctuary. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs

## For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Our Greatest Needs—Sight for the Blind

Bible Readings: Isaiah 42:14-21; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Hymns: Gathering Rite, 576, 515, 517



Our special midweek services during the season of Lent will continue next week. Guest pastors from sister WELS churches join us as we journey to the cross with Christ and look at some of the destinations on **His Final Steps**. Each Wednesday, we hold services at 4pm & 7pm, with a fellowship meal served from 5-6:30pm. Past services can be accessed at our website: [www.salemlutheran.org/worship](http://www.salemlutheran.org/worship).

## His Final Steps...

Wednesday, Feb 22 — ...Led to a Dinner Celebration

Wednesday, March 1st — ...Led to a Tomb

Wednesday, March 8th — ...Led to His Enemies

Wednesday, March 15th — ...Led to a Fig Tree

Wednesday, March 22nd — ...Led to Some Greeks

Wednesday, March 29th—...Led to His Father's House

Sunday, April 2nd — (Palm Sunday) ...Led to a Donkey

Holy Thursday, April 6th — ...Led to the Upper Room

Good Friday, April 7th — ...Led to the Place of the Skull

Easter Sunday Dawn, April 9th (7am) — Hymns and Communion

Easter Sunday Festival, April 9th (8 & 10:45am) —

His *First Steps* Led Outside His Tomb

**HIS  
FINAL  
STEPS**

# PREPARING FOR Easter

## **Easter Worship**

Salem will celebrate Easter victory with three services on Easter Sunday morning. A sunrise service at 7am will be different from the other services, with readings and hymns reminding us of the wonder of the women's discovery of the empty tomb early Easter morning. Holy Communion will be offered in this quieter celebration of Easter victory.

Festival services at 9am & 10:45am will bring out our full-throated exultation as we celebrate loudly the meaning of Jesus' resurrection for every believer. Choirs will sing, trumpets will play, and handbells may even ring as the church rejoices in Easter triumph. Holy Communion will be offered in the festival services as well. Join us for one or more services Easter Sunday, and invite a friend to celebrate with you.

## **Easter for Kids**

Salem's Easter for Kids program is coming up on the Saturday of Easter weekend (April 8th) from 10am –12pm. Parents are invited to stay and "travel" with their kids to different stations as Salem members share the joy of Easter with adults and kids alike. Easter for Kids is open to all children up to 5th grade. Easter for Kids is a great chance for the unchurched to learn about our Savior too. Invite a friend! Register to attend on our website at

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



## **Easter Breakfast**

Each year Salem members enjoy an Easter breakfast together as part of our Easter celebration. We will continue this tradition this year! Please find the signup poster on the board in the church entry to see what items we need this year and ways to help. Thank you for serving and making our Easter joy a little brighter!

## **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. Cards can be placed in the offering basket or left on the table near the sanctuary entrance.
- † 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 as it's passed during the service or give online.

## **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.**

