



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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www.salemlutheran.org

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: Risen Savior, once again we gather to celebrate your victory over death and sin. Help us always keep our blessed end in mind as we go through life and fill us with sure and certain hope. Bless us as we worship together in your name, Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: The gospel is the most inclusive message in the world. The benefits of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are meant for every man, woman, and child who ever lived. The gospel is also the most exclusive message in the world, for it maintains that salvation can only be found in one place—the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the one way into heaven, and this is the very truth upon which Christ builds his Church. This weekend we celebrate as some of the young people in our church confirm that they, together with us, believe this truth fully.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: Life is full of either/or moments, where you face an unavoidable choice between two alternatives. Some are significant and others are not. One has eternal consequences: Either Jesus is still dead, or he is risen and alive. Jesus said he would prove his victory by rising from the dead. If he is dead, he is a fraud. But if he lives, then he is who he claimed to be—the Messiah. And he did what he came to do—save us. The season of Easter is a 50-day celebration of the fact that the Holy Spirit has answered this either/or for us. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Throughout this season, we explore what that means.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION: The practice of confirmation is never mentioned in Scripture, but that doesn't mean it is without value. After 2-3 years of intensive study with parents and pastors, nine of our young members today confess their faith and vow before God and us to remain faithful to him. May God bless us all as we are reminded to encourage, admonish, and bless each other throughout our lives. May he bless them, and us, to continue to grow in grace and knowledge.

Order of Worship



(Saturday) Hymn: Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd

CW 757



1 Gra - cious Sav - ior, gen - tle Shep - herd, chil - dren all are
2 Ten - der Shep - herd, nev - er leave them, nev - er let them
3 By your ho - ly Word in - struct them, fill their minds with
4 Taught to love the ho - ly prais - es which on earth your



dear to you; may your lov - ing arms en - fold them
go a - stray; by your warn - ing love di - rect - ed,
heav'n - ly light; by your pow'r - ful grace con - vince them
chil - dren sing, with their lips and hearts, sin - cere - ly,



in your care their whole life through. By your tend - ing
may they walk the nar - row way. Thus di - rect them,
al - ways to ap - prove what's right. Let them feel your
glad thank - of - f'rings may they bring, then with all the



and pro - tect - ing keep them safe in all they do.
thus de - fend them lest they fall an eas - y prey.
yoke is eas - y, let them find your bur - den light.
saints in glo - ry join to praise their Lord and King.

(Sunday) Men's Chorus Anthem

Hold On to the Rock

By P. Choplin

You've got to hold on to the Rock of Ages, hold on to the Cornerstone.
Stand strong on the Sure Foundation, surrounded by the Fortress strong.
When all the storms of life are raging, hold on, hold on, hold on, hold on,
Gotta hold on to the Rock.

You've got to hold on to the Rock of Ages, hold on to the Cornerstone.
Stand strong on the Sure Foundation, surrounded by the Fortress strong.
When all the storms of life are raging, hold on, hold on, hold on, hold on,
Gotta hold on to the Rock.

You know that it doesn't take a mighty earthquake to shake the ground you stand on
'Cause life can change like a hurricane and blow all the plans you planned on
Well, the ground is gonna shake and the wind is gonna blow
Who you gonna trust and where you gonna go?

You gotta hold on to the Rock of Ages, hold on to the Cornerstone.
Stand strong on the Sure Foundation, surrounded by the Fortress strong.
When all the storms of life are raging, hold on, hold on, hold on, hold on,
Gotta hold on to the Rock.

You know sometimes when life is easy it's so easy to keep the faith,
To be grateful for ev'ry blessing, when ev'ry blessing comes our way
But when life shakes us to our very soul,
Who you gonna trust and where you gonna go?

You gotta hold on to the Rock of Ages, hold on to the Cornerstone.
Stand strong on the Sure Foundation, surrounded by the Fortress strong.
When all the storms of life are raging, hold on, hold on, hold on, hold on,
Gotta hold on to the Rock.
You've got to hold on to the Rock, hold on to the Rock.

Please stand.

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

CONFESSIOIN & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:8-9)*

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.


Please be seated.

Hymn: This Is the Feast

CW 938

A cantor (soloist) sings verses 1-3. The assembly sings refrains and verse 4-5.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



- 1 \dagger Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free _____ to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, _____ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: v. 4
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun his _____ reign. _____ Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Acts 4:8-12

St. Peter told the Jewish leaders that the man they had crucified was raised to life and therefore is the only man in whom salvation is found.

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is

" 'the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone.'

¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

John 14:1-11

Jesus teaches that the only way to draw near to God the Father is through God the Son.

¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and

that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn: In Christ Alone

CW 510

(Saturday) The congregation sings all verses in unison.

(Sunday) The choir and congregation sing as noted.

Verse 1 (Congregation and choir)

In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled,
when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all; here in the love of Christ I stand.

Verse 2 (Congregation and choir)

Women

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe;

Men

this gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save.

Congregation and Choir

Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;
for ev'ry sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3 (Choir only)

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4 (Congregation and choir)

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

“Congratulations, you Found your Father!”

1) *Jesus Alone Shows Us the Father*

2) *Jesus Alone Shows Us the Way to the Father’s House*

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.

Hymn: Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

CW 809

A soloist sings the verses. The congregation sings the refrains.

Refrain

Do not let your hearts be trou-bled; have faith in God and faith in

me. I will go forth to pre-pare a place for you; then I'll come

back to take you with me, that where I am, you may al - so be.

Verse 1

In God's house there are many places for you to dwell in peace and safety.
You know the way to where I'll lead you; if you are lost, I will show the way.
(*Refrain*)

Verse 2

I am the way, the truth, and the life; only through me can you know what I know.
If you knew me, you would know the Father; if you see me, you see your God.
(*Refrain*)

Verse 3

The words I speak are not only of myself; it is your God who lives within me.
If you believe that your God and I are one, I will provide when you call my name. (*Refrain*)

Rite of Confirmation

The pastor speaks to those being confirmed:

M: My dear young friends, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your minds and preserved you as children of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring him to keep you faithful to him and his Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven.

I now ask each of you:

M: Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today?

Confirmands: I am.

M: Do you believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as we studied them and as we confess in the Apostle's Creed?

Conf: Yes, I believe in our gracious and Triune God.

M: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

Conf: I do reject him.

M: Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

Conf: I do.

M: Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?

Conf: I do.

M: Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

Conf: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

Conf: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

The pastor speaks to the congregation:

M: Friends in Christ, the Word of God urges us to pray for one another and especially for the youth of the church. On this special day, it is fitting that we bring our prayers before God, firmly believing that he alone is able to strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us faithful to the Savior until we die. Let us pray.

M: Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them a new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Give them strength to put down and drown the sinful nature that lives within them so that each day their faith may triumph in their living and loving and in their words and actions. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

- M: Lead them to see and believe that in the word of the gospel they find forgiveness for their sins and relief for their guilt. Use the remembrance of your commandments to drive them to the comfort of the gospel and then to guide them as they live for you and others. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- M: Protect them from Satan when he tempts them to be careless with your Word and sacrament, to make plans for this life and not for the life to come, or to find popular theories more appealing than your truth. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- M: Empower them by the gospel of your Son to live in their world with kindness, humility, and patience that others may see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- M: Help us provide fitting examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacraments. Lead us to encourage and admonish them in wisdom and love even after they have left our homes and made new homes for themselves. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- M: When the end comes and we all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, have compassion on us despite our sins and accept us as eternal dwellers in your royal rooms, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who became sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**

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.

The pastor speaks to those being confirmed:

- M: I now invite each of you to come forward to receive a blessing from the Lord and a word of encouragement from the Scriptures.

Those being confirmed approach the altar in turn and kneel. After they share their memorized confirmation verse, the minister lays his hand on the head of each and speaks a word of blessing from the Scriptures.

William Michael Boerner... Psalm 86:12-13

Parents: Wayne & Rachel Boerner
Born: July 5, 2009
Baptized: July 5, 2009

Ellen Kate Gruba... Hebrews 10:23

Parents: Dan & Katie Gruba
Born: July 24, 2009
Baptized: August 9, 2009

Noah Xavier Hansen... Isaiah 41:13

Parents: Timothy & Debbie Hansen
Born: November 28, 2008
Baptized: November 29, 2008

Lily Rose Hartsock... Matthew 6:33

Parents: Rob & Nancy Hartsock
Born: March 11, 2009
Baptized: November 27, 2016

Gideon John Paulsen... Psalm 9:10

Parents: Karl & Sarah Paulsen
Born: February 26, 2009
Baptized: March 15, 2009

Caleb Ryan Richter... Colossians 1:13-14

Parents: Curt & Bonnie Richter
Born: July 20, 2009
Baptized: August 16, 2009

Aiden Kurt Sames... Acts 4:12

Parents: Kurt & Karoline Sames
Born: July 19, 2009

Michael Patrick Thompson... Galatians 3:26-27

Parents: Justin & Tina Thompson
Born: June 23, 2008
Baptized: July 20, 2008

Levi Marvin Wolfe... John 14:6

Parents: Pastor Ryan & Jessica Wolfe
Born: September 10, 2008
Baptized: September 21, 2008

Reception Into Communicant Membership

M: In the name of our Lord Jesus and as a called servant of Christ I welcome you as communicant members of Salem Lutheran Church. I now invite you to partake of the sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's table as a *precious privilege* given you by God through His Church. Receive this sacrament thankfully and often.

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

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

(10:30am) Handbell Offertory

This Is My Father's World

Please stand.

Prayer

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through 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: Go, My Children, with My Blessing

CW 930



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here his ten - der com - fort
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and



ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.
Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Keyboard: Jessica Klatt

Choir Director: Roger Zolldan Handbell Director: Jessica Wolfe

Soloists: Pastor Wolfe, Alli Dorn, Lydia Mattson

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.

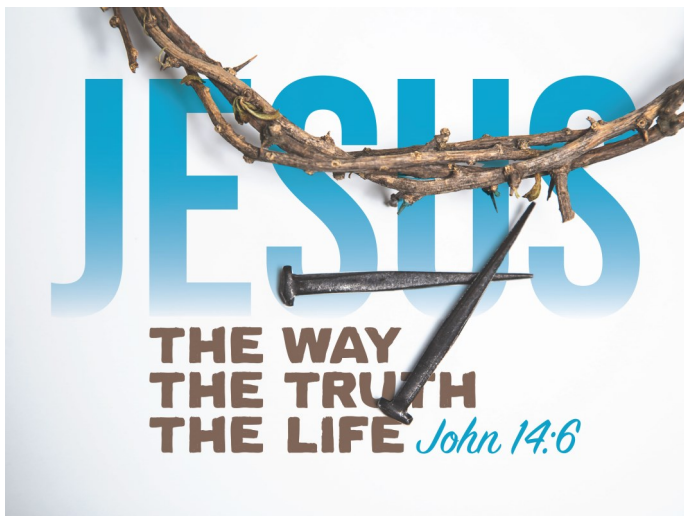
We continue our new Bible study topic today looking at the doctrine of the divine call. We're discussing how we get pastors and teachers, and God-pleasing attitudes by, and toward, those who serve our church in public ministry. All are welcome to join us!

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: He lives...and calls me to live for him

Bible Readings: Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Hymns: 938, 449, 557, 675, 617



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 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.

