



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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www.salemlutheran.org

Ascension Celebrated

He lives to rule all things for the church

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: Savior Jesus, when your work to save us was completed you returned to heaven to rule over all things for our benefit. Bless us as we live and serve under your care. Hear our praise and bless our prayers. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Jesus became man to suffer and die to atone for mankind's sin. but when that work was completed, the Son of God did not set aside his humanity. The God-man ascended into heaven. He is still human, sitting on heaven's throne and guiding all things for our blessing. The Festival of the Ascension is one of the oldest and most joyful celebrations in the Christian Church. Jesus ascended to exercise his limitless authority for the Church as we carry out our mission to be Christ's ambassadors of grace to the world. He lives! And he is in absolute and perfect control, ruling over Creation for the eternal well-being of his friends. And that is what we are!

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.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Guest Preachers: Pastor Dave Malchow (Saturday), Pastor Jeff Schone (Sunday)

Sunday Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano: Madison Boerner

Saturday Musicians: Andrea Rascher, Carolyn Forster, Al Sehloff

Sunday Musicians: Beth Wurst, Lydia Mattson, Brian Shult, Luke & Alli Dorn

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Order of Worship



HYMN: *Across the Lands*

CW 549



1 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the
2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and
3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry



world be - gan. Ev - 'ry star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been
save the lost, and ex - changed the joy of heav - en for the
from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav - en, lead - ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -
an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the
cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -
hun - gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent -
Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas re - joice!
ly you suf - fered that the guilt - y may go free!
tongue and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home!

Refrain



You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



man, and your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.

Please remain seated.

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

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

**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: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan’s power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

(5pm & 8am) Hymn Response: This Is the Feast

CW 938



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



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



1 ⁊ 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*



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



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

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font at the 10:30am service.

(10:30am) Sacrament of Baptism

M: The Gospel according to St. Mark: "People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."

The minister applies water to the person presented for baptism as he says:

M: Henry John Heroff, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart † to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

(10:30am) Exhortation to Parents & Congregation

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Henry and all the children of our church may remain children of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: **Yes, as God gives me strength.**

M: Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Henry as your own child and made him a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples, that they would not be alone after his ascension to heaven.

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

Jesus ascended so that he might fill all creation with his presence and power. Nothing is beyond his control.

¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹and his incomparably

great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus gives his disciples the gift of understanding, gives them a purpose, and then ascends into heaven.

⁴⁴He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

CW 472 sts. 1-4, 6



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the
6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
you let earth ac - cord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un -
and with his fol - low - ers they see their Lord as -
"This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
"Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing
You are, while end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
and with Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



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

Sermon

Please remain seated 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.

The Apostles' + Creed +

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

The 5pm & 8am services continue with the Prayer of the Church on page 12.

(10:30am) Installation of Communion Visitor

This morning we install Salem member Bob Wells into a limited call to serve shut-in members of our church with God's Word and Sacrament.

M: Dear friend,

You have been appointed to serve our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with responsibilities that you are to carry out according to his Word. St. Paul wrote concerning service in the church: *"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."*

St. Paul spoke to all who serve the Savior: "It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." The Lord has promised to be with you and give you the gifts you will need to carry out the work entrusted to you.

So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you in the presence of God and this congregation:

M: Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the work entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Bob: I will, and I ask God to help me.

M: I install you as communion visitor at Salem Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Lord pour out on you his Holy Spirit for the work you have been called to do that you may faithfully carry out all your duties and responsibilities with the Word of God as your confidence and guide.

The minister speaks to the congregation:

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you to regard this fellow believer as a servant of Jesus Christ and God's gift to his church. Pray for him and support him in his service so that believers may be strengthened in faith and in the eternal hope our Savior gives.

The minister says to the one being installed:

M: The Lord bless you and make your service a blessing to others.

(10:30am) Recognition of Faithful Service

Today we recognize the workers we have called to preach and teach publicly on our behalf, as well as our long-serving choir director now stepping down from that service. We thank God for their faithfulness and ask him to continue to bless them and bless us through them.

M: Brothers and sisters, among the many blessings the Lord gives his church are those who serve in the public ministry of the gospel. St. Paul wrote: *“Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”* Today we give thanks for our pastors and teachers, and especially for Nancy Hasselquist who has served as a teacher in the gospel ministry for 40 years, and Debbie Hansen who has served for 25 years. We also give thanks for Roger Zoldan, who has served for 37 years as Salem’s choir director, enhancing our worship.

The minister speaks to our teachers:

Dear brothers and sisters, as you carried out your ministry, you remembered the words Isaiah wrote about the coming Servant of the Lord: *“He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart.”* You recalled the Savior’s own words, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”* By God’s grace and with his guidance, you have served faithfully for many years and have been a blessing to children and families. We praise God for you and thank you for your love and care.

The minister speaks to our choir director and all who serve in various ways:

Dear brothers and sisters, St. Peter encouraged: *“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”* St. Paul wrote this about Titus: *“He is my partner and co-worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ.”* By God’s grace and with his guidance, you have served faithfully for many years and have been a blessing to God’s people. We praise God for you and thank you for your love and care.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, inspire all servants of the gospel to carry out their tasks diligently and faithfully and move your people to receive their ministry with love and respect. We thank you today for blessing us through the ministry of Nancy, Debbie, Roger and all who serve at Salem. Continue to use your servants ac-

ording to your will and ways. Protect them from trouble and give them joy as they pursue the labors of each day. When the task is hard, let nothing move them , but strengthen them to stand firm, knowing that their labor in the Lord is not in vain. We ask all these things through your Son, Jesus Christ, our ascended Savior. Amen.

The minister speaks to the called workers:

M: Dear brothers and sisters, may the Lord keep you from all harm and watch over your life. May the Lord watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Amen.

(5pm & 8am) 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.

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: Draw Us to Thee

CW 700 sts. 1-2, 5



1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy
2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; let us de -
5 Draw us to thee un - ceas - ing - ly; in - to thy



steps for - ev - er and has - ten on where thou art
part with glad - ness that we may be for - ev - er
king - dom take us. Let us for - e'er thy glo - ry



gone to be with thee, dear Sav - ior.
free from sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.
share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

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. Today we'll finish our study on the divine call and public ministry, and hear news and information about our college of ministry from Pastor Schone.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: (Festival of Pentecost) He lives to pour out his Spirit

Bible Readings: Acts 2:1-21, 1 Corinthians 12:3-11, John 7:37-39

Hymns: 588, 585, 596



Salem's summer worship schedule begins next week.

Service times through Labor Day Weekend are:

Saturdays at 5pm
Sundays at 8am and 9:30am

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.

