

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 10-11, 2023



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:** Almighty Father, you hear our every prayer and know our every need. Bless us as we praise you today for all your goodness and hear the prayers we offer in our Savior's name. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** It can be difficult, even impossible, for us to forget the sins of our past. Guilt keeps our sin before us. Biblical men like Moses, Paul, and the Apostle Matthew knew what it was like to live with past sins. God forgives sinners, though, even calling them into gospel ministry. The holy ministry is not filled with perfect people but with sinners whom God has called out of his boundless mercy. The holy ministry is God's gift to the Church, but also God's gift to ministers who don't deserve the privilege of being God's servants. God calls sinful and weak individuals into the ministry, so that as his kingdom advances, we give credit where credit is due—to the Holy Spirit.

**OUR WORSHIP SERIES:** "Ministry" simply means "service." Throughout history, God has called individuals to serve God's people by sharing God's Word. Some today feel they do not need to be part of a church, saying, "I can be a believer without any of that." Yet Jesus keeps calling ministers to share his gospel: pastors, teachers, missionaries and evangelists. The One who made us knows what we need better than we do.

**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 Ryan Wolfe    Organ: Robyn Stoller

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# Order of Worship



## Handbell Preservice Anthems

*10,000 Reasons* (Arr. by P Bettcher)

*When Morning Gilds the Skies* (Arr. by K. Roth)

## HYMN: The Son of God, Our Christ

CW 738 sts. 1-4



1 The Son of God, our Christ, the Word, the way,  
2 In ev - 'ry test, in tri - als man - i - fold,  
3 To - day, as then, Christ sum - mons us to dare  
4 In cit - y street, in town, or on the soil,



shared hu - man life and toiled through - out the day;  
these ser - vants wit - nessed, by their faith made bold;  
to fol - low bold - ly and his work to share,  
may each serve Christ in faith - ful dai - ly toil,



from com - mon folk he called his friends to be  
and with the gifts and tal - ents which they brought,  
de - clar - ing to the world his ho - ly name  
and in each thought and kind - ly word and deed,



co - work - ers in his sa - cred min - is - try.  
the Church was found - ed and God's mes - sage taught.  
and show - ing mer - cy to the sick and lame.  
o - bey Christ's call and go where he shall lead.

*Please stand.*

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.** *(Psalm 32)*

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**And we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

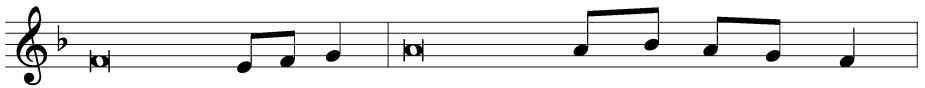
*Silence for meditation and reflection*

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Hymn Response: *Glory Be to God on High*

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



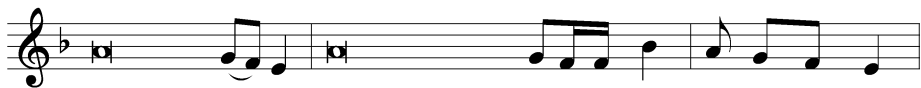
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



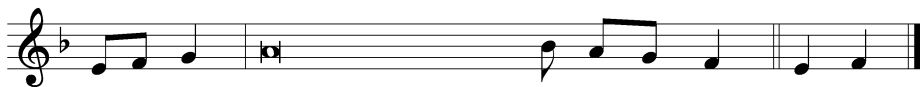
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## THE WORD OF GOD

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### *Prayer of the Day*

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear his call and follow him by faith that we may feast with him forever in his kingdom; 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

Exodus 3:1-15

*Moses asked a good question: “Who am I to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”*

*The answer? The one the LORD himself had chosen for that holy ministry.*

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup>So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

<sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

<sup>5</sup>“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup>So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup>So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” <sup>12</sup>And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

<sup>13</sup>Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

<sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

<sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

*God demonstrates mercy by calling Paul, the self-identified “worst of sinners,” into the holy ministry.*

<sup>12</sup>I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. <sup>13</sup>Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. <sup>14</sup>The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>15</sup>Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel

Matthew 9:9-13

*Jews considered tax collectors to be among the worst of sinners. Jesus demonstrates grace by calling one of them to be his disciple.*

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

<sup>12</sup>On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>13</sup>But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated.*

## Children’s Devotion

# Hymn of the Day: Chief of Sinners Though I Be

CW 578



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his  
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, high - er than the  
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part com - fort to a  
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in  
5 Strength - en me, O gra - cious Lord, by your Spir - it



blood for me, died that I might live on high,  
heav'ns a - bove, deep - er than the depths of sea,  
wound - ed heart, peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
all to me; all my wants to him are known,  
and your Word. When my way - ward heart would stray,



lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty, love that found me—  
joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to  
all my sor - rows are his own. Safe with him in  
keep me in the nar - row way; grace in time of



to the vine, I am his and he is mine!  
won - drous thought— found me when I sought him not.  
walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.  
earth - ly strife, I a - wait the heav'n - ly life.  
need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

## Sermon

Based on Exodus 3:1-15

### *“Unworthy Servants of a Merciful God”*

- 1) See God's call to Moses
- 2) Recognize God's call to you

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**



 [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](#)

## **Handbell Offertory**

## **How Firm a Foundation**

By S. Eithun

*Please stand.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

M: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

M: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

M: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

M: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

M: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

M: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

### *Silent prayer*

M: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**C: Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

M: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**C: Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## 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





san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
 bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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  $\dagger$  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  $\dagger$  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



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

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.*

## Distribution Hymn: By Grace I'm Saved

CW 575

- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -
- 2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to
- 3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are
- 4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -
- 5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'

lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of  
earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own  
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled  
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and  
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false-hood taught? So then this  
mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was  
con - science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son  
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I  
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.  
grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.  
can - not com - pre-hend God by his grace to you did send.  
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?  
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

*After the Supper, 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**

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: Dear Lord, to Your True Servants Gove CW 896



1 Dear Lord, to your true ser - vants give the grace to you a -

2 They glad - ly go at your com - mand to spread your Word o'er

3 When all their la - bor seems in vain, re - vive their sink - ing



lone to live. Set free from sin to serve you, Lord, they

sea and land. Be with them, Lord, and make them strong to

hopes a - gain; and when suc - cess crowns what they do, O



go to share your liv - ing Word, the gos - pel mes - sage

heal sin's ills, to right the wrong. Your rule is o - ver

keep them hum - ble, Lord, and true un - til be - fore your



to pro - claim that all may know your sav - ing name.

wind and wave, and might - y is your arm to save.

judg - ment seat they lay their tro - phies at your feet.

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

### For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: The Holy Ministry demonstrates compassion for God's people

Bible Readings: Numbers 27:15-23; 1 Corinthians 4:1-7; Matthew 9:35-10:8

Hymns: 892, 716, 897, 927

# *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.**

