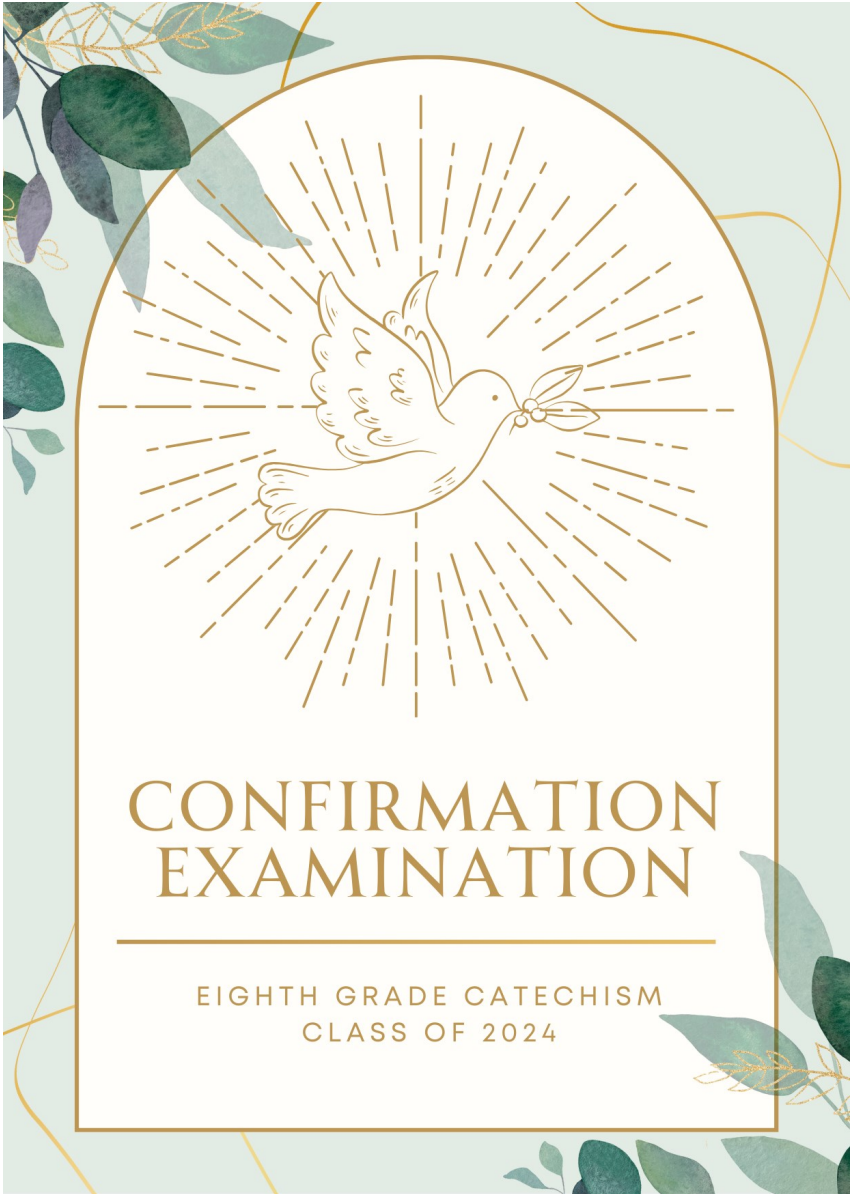


April 28, 2024

Examination Sunday



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

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



## Examination Service

*Praise God for his Word and Teaching*

**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:** Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of faith and the Word you give to teach and encourage us in that faith. Bless us through the Gospel we hear today and fill our hearts with joy and praise. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** Our examination service is a presentation by students who have studied the basic teachings of the Bible and intend to publicly confess their faith to their fellow congregational members in the rite of confirmation next week.

The name "examination" comes from a different era. In years past Christian fathers trained their own children in the home using Luther's Small Catechism. When parent and child felt they were ready to join the church as communicant members there were brought to the pastor so that he could examine them to see if their training was adequate.

The students before us today have studied with pastors for the past two or three years. This service is not a test to see if they have learned, but is instead a chance for the congregation to celebrate God's blessing on the learning they have already done. It is also a chance for us to pray that learning continues throughout their lives. May this review of Christian doctrine remind each of us of the importance of our faith and knowledge of the truths of God's Word.

The Rite of Confirmation for these young brothers and sisters in Christ will be held Sunday, May 5th during the 10:30am worship service.

### ***SERVING GOD, SERVING US:***

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano: Madison Boerner

Vocalists: Lydia Mattson, Abigail Ibisch, Jessie Wolfe, Alli Dorn, Beth Wurst

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



## Sunday JAM (Jesus and Me) Anthem

## I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

- 1 I am Jesus' little lamb;  
ever glad at heart I am,  
for my Shepherd gently guides me,  
knows my need and well provides me,  
loves me ev'ry day the same,  
even calls me by my name.
- 2 Day by day, at home, away,  
Jesus is my staff and stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,  
into pleasant pastures leads me;  
when I thirst, he bids me go  
where the quiet waters flow.
- 3 Who so happy as I am,  
even now the Shepherd's lamb?  
And when my short life is ended,  
by his angel host attended,  
he shall fold me to his breast,  
there within his arms to rest.

*Please stand.*

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

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.**

## **Prayer**

M: O God, your Holy Spirit grows and governs the whole body of the church. Sanctify and keep those who dedicate themselves to your service. Renew them in body and mind that they may eagerly serve you in the unity of the faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

### **Scripture Reading**

*Philippians 3:8-14*

<sup>8</sup>What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

<sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

<sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,

<sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn: *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

CW 919 sts. 1-2



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word we are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est



all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks our night



now to seek and love and fear you, by your teach - ings,  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to



sweet and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.  
God can win us; you must work all good with - in us.

## CATECHISM PRESENTATION

### Part 1—The Bible & the Ten Commandments

#### Hymn: *These Are the Holy Ten Commands*

CW 634 sts. A-1st, C



A These are the ho - ly Ten Com - mands God gave to us by  
1st "I am a - lone your God, the Lord; no oth - er gods shall  
C Our works can - not sal - va - tion gain; they mer - it on - ly



Mo - ses' hands when high on Si - nai's mount he stood,  
be a - dored. But you shall ful - ly trust in me  
end - less pain. For - give us, Lord! To Christ we flee,



re - ceiv - ing them for our good. Have mer - cy, Lord!  
and love me whole - heart - ed - ly." Have mer - cy, Lord!  
who pleads for us end - less - ly. Have mer - cy, Lord!

## Part 2—The Apostles' Creed

### Hymn: We All Believe in One True God

CW 940



1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and  
2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and  
3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, who from both for -



Ho - ly Ghost, ev - er - pres - ent help in need,  
Mar - y's Son, who de - scend - ed from his throne  
e'er pro - ceeds, who up - holds and com - forts us



praised by all the heav'n - ly host, by whose might - y  
and for us sal - va - tion won, by whose cross and  
in all tri - als, fears, and needs. Bless - ed, ho - ly



pow'r a - lone all is made and wrought and done.  
death are we res - cued from all mis - er - y.  
Trin - i - ty, praise to you e - ter - nal - ly!

## Part 3—The Sacraments (Baptism & Lord's Supper)

### Hymn: The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

CW 688 sts. 1-2, 5



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives he gives to you and me  
2 The gifts flow from the font where he calls us his own;  
5 The gifts are in the feast, gifts far more than we see;



to be his Church, his bride, his cho - sen, saved and free!  
new life he gives that makes us his and his a - lone.  
be - neath the bread and wine is food from Cal - va - ry.



Saints blest with these rich gifts are chil - dren who pro - claim  
Here he for - gives our sins with wa - ter and his Word;  
The bod - y and the blood re - move our ev - 'ry sin;



that they were won by Christ and cling to his strong name.  
the tri - une God him - self gives pow'r to call him Lord.  
we leave his pres - ence in his peace, re - newed a - gain.

## Part 4—The Keys & Confession / The Lord's Prayer

### 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.*

### 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

CW 169

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "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." The final note of the piece is a double bar line.

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.



## 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 Anthem

## Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Chris Tomlin

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

*Refrain* My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns.  
Unending love. Amazing grace.

3. The Lord has promised good to me. His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. (*Refrain* x2)
4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow. The sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine.  
Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

*After the distribution 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.**

*Psalms 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: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; 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: Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

CW 861 st. 1

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church's head, you are her one foundation; in you she trusts, before you bows, and waits for your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure, your Church shall en - dure though all the world de - cay and all things pass a - way. O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

## **Acknowledgments**

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version<sup>®</sup>, NIV<sup>®</sup>. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.<sup>™</sup> Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Reprinted under OneLicense # 48708 and CCLI # 630266

### **Fellowship & Spiritual Growth**

Sunday morning, Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the Salem Kindergarten room. Adult Bible study meets at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

### **For Worship Next Week**

Worship theme: Resurrection Reality: We Will Overcome this Broken World

Bible Readings: Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60; 1 John 5:1-6; John 17:11b-19

Hymns: 681, 446, 518, 930

# 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 with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ 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 donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

## *For those with young children*

We love to see families worship together, and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, on the wall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome, too!

**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.**

