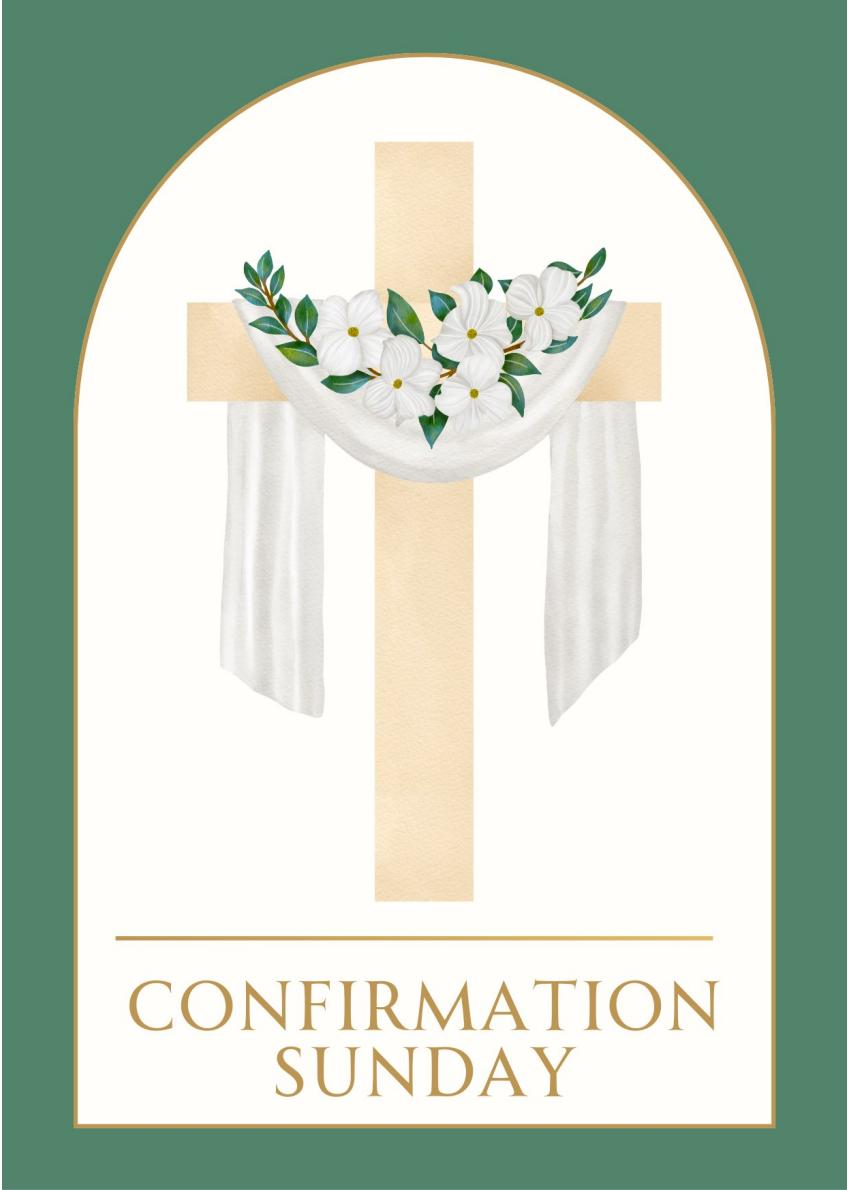


Sixth Sunday of Easter—Confirmation Sunday

May 4-5, 2024



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Resurrection Reality—
We Will Overcome This Broken World*

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 to keep our blessed end in mind as we go through life and fill us with sure and certain hope. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: This world is broken. It is dangerous, especially for God's children. Jesus once promised that those who live for him will be hated (just as Christ was hated) by those who live for the world. The even greater danger: the priorities prompted by this broken world tempt the careless Christian to devalue that which truly matters. For that reason, our gracious, living Lord promises that one day soon, he will take us to a better world. More, he promises that until that time, his Father will protect us, preserving our faith through the truth of his Word. This is the resurrection reality. By God's grace, we will overcome this broken world.

WORSHIP SERIES: Resurrection Reality: St. Paul writes, "***Christ has indeed been raised from the dead***" (1 Corinthians 15:20). The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. Since Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, we know Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. Since Christ has indeed been raised, we know that "***all will be made alive***" (1 Corinthians 15:22). Jesus' resurrection brings eternal life and eternal hope. In this glorious season, we meditate on the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Piano/Organ: Luke Dorn

FELLOWSHIP & SPIRITUAL GROWTH: Sunday morning, Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs at the same time

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + www.salemlutheran.org + 651-439-7831

church@salemlutheran.org

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Two



Hymn: Christ Is with Me

CW 681



1 We were bur - ied with him in - to death, that as he was raised
2 I have now been graft - ed to the vine, draw - ing life from roots
3 I have now been cru - ci - fied with Christ, I no long - er live,



by God's glo - ry, we might walk in life made new by grace;
rich in mer - cy, bear - ing fruit as I a - bide in him,
Christ lives in me; now I live by faith in God's own Son—



hav - ing died with Christ, we shall live with him.
fruit for - ev - er fresh, glo - ri - fy - ing God.
one who loved me so, gave him - self for me.

Refrain



Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go;



nev - er to leave me, this I know.

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: 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: 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(Saturday) Hymn: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

CW 452

Refrain

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

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, he ris - es
 5 By your deep wounds, O ris - en King, come set us

vic - tor's tri - umph won; now be the
 glo - rious from the dead. All glo - ry
 free from death's sharp sting, that we may

song of praise be - gun: Al - le - lu - ia!
 to our ris - en Head: Al - le - lu - ia!
 live and ev - er sing: Al - le - lu - ia! *Refrain*

(Sunday) Choir Anthem

Let Me Hide Myself in Thee

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
 Let the water and the blood, from Thy wounded side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

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, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants to long for what is right, and through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; 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

Acts 7:1-2a, 51-60

Simply for proclaiming Christ, the Sanhedrin wanted to kill Stephen. Christ used their murderous intent to enable Stephen to overcome this broken world.

¹Then the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these charges true?" ²To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

⁵¹"You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵²Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— ⁵³you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it."

⁵⁴When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: We Are Singing for the Lord is our Light

27D

The Choir/Cantor will sing the first refrain and verse one. Verse two will be sung by the women, verse three by the men, and everyone will join to sing verse four.

Refrain

We are sing - ing, for the LORD is our light, we are
sing-ing, for the LORD is our light. We are sing - ing, for the
LORD is our light, we are sing-ing, for the LORD is our light.
We are sing-ing, oh, we are sing-ing, for the
LORD is our light. We are sing - ing,
oh, we are sing-ing, for the LORD is our light. (Last time)

Verses



The LORD is the strength of our lives; of
One thing have we asked of the LORD, yes,
When bur - dens are heav - y to bear, our
We walk in the strength of the LORD; God's



whom shall we be a - fraid? Though foes may be
this is the thing we seek: to dwell in the
shel - ter is God a - lone. Our feet are ___
love ___ is ev - er sure. We shout that the



near to de - stroy, the LORD will be our light.
house of the LORD, to live with God for - ev - er.
lift - ed high, yes, high up - on a rock.
world _ may hear; we sing a joy - ful song.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

St. John explains that everyone born of God overcomes the world.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

John 17:11b-19

Jesus, our great high priest, prays that his Father would sanctify us with his truth and enable us to overcome the world.

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

¹³"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion


Hymn of the Day: Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense CW 446 sts. 1-3, 5




1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense and my Sav - ior,
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; I, too, un - to
3 No, too close - ly am I bound un - to him by
5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new with this flesh then



now is liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
life shall wak - en. End - less joy my Sav - ior gives;
hope for - ev - er; faith's strong hand the rock has found,
be en - shroud - ed; in this bod - y I shall view



rests up - on the hope he's giv - ing, though the
 shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
 grasped it, and will leave it nev - er. E - ven
 God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; in this



night of death be fraught still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
 fear, or could the head rise and leave his mem - bers dead?
 death now can - not part from its Lord the trust - ing heart.
 flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.

Sermon

Based on John 17:11b-19

“The WORD is greater than the WORLD”

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: Christ Be My Leader

CW 518



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day;
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way. —
drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth. —
death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care, —
Grant me to trust him; though shift - ing as sand, —
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain can



dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

(10:30am) Rite of Confirmation

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 love even after they have left our homes & 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.

Dylan Richard Anderson *Revelation 3:11*

Parents: Katie & Lex Gruzebeck, Collin Anderson
Born: February 1, 2010 Baptized: February 3, 2010

Isaac Gary Anderson *Philippians 3:14*

Parents: Katie & Lex Gruzebeck, Collin Anderson
Born: February 1, 2010 Baptized: February 3, 2010

Connor Andrew Aumann *John 16:33*

Parents: Andrew & Katie Aumann
Born: December 12, 2009 Baptized: December 27, 2009

Everett Charles Bye *Proverbs 3:5*

Parents: Aaron & Jennifer Bye
Born: September 23, 2009 Baptized: March 14, 2010

Hannah Elizabeth Davis *John 10:14*

Parents: James & Holly Davis
Born: September 15, 2009 Baptized: October 4, 2009

McKenna Marie Goplen *2 Timothy 3:15*

Parents: Nate & Tricia Goplen
Born: March 5, 2010 Baptized: March 5, 2010

Hayden Thea Hare *Isaiah 40:31*

Parents: Kyle & Thea Kogler, Nate & Natalie Hare
Born: October 16, 2009 Baptized: December 20, 2009

Jack Dayton Onken *John 8:12*

Parents: Christopher & Alisa Onken
Born: December 2, 2009

Owen Alexander Payne

1 Timothy 6:12

Parents: Jeremy & Jessi Payne

Born: August 17, 2010

Baptized: September 11, 2011

Sarah Jane Wurst

Romans 1:16

Parents: David & Beth Wurst

Born: April 18, 2010

Baptized: April 25, 2010

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

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.
grew 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

(5pm & 8am) WELS Connection Video

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Christ's Ascension Means He is Closer than Ever

Bible Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 4:7-16; Luke 24:44-53

Hymns: 476, 511, 472, 747, 474

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.**

