REST IS A GIFT, NOT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE EARNED



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082 651-439-7831 www.salemlutheran.org

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Second Sunday After Pentecost

A Top-Down Faith—
Rest is a gift, not something to be earned

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 God, thank you for the gift of rest and peace as I meet you once again here in your house. Bless me through your Word and the comfort of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

THEME OF THE DAY: After a long day of work, we feel we've earned the right to sit down, put up our feet, and watch our favorite show or read our latest book. We usually consider rest as a reward for doing hard work. Since this concept of rest as reward is so deeply ingrained in us, understanding spiritual rest as God's gift requires a "top-down" faith. True spiritual rest cannot be earned. In fact, the harder you try, the more restless and the less peaceful you become. Spiritual rest is a gift that God gives. The rest we need most—from guilt, from worry, from shame, from hopelessness—is graciously given to us by the Lord of the Sabbath.

Worship Series: The phrase "from the top down" often refers to a system where directions, thoughts, and practices flow from management down to others. Where the will and beliefs of those "at the top" are imposed—sometimes aggressively—on those below. Christian teachings come "from the top down," but not that those teachings are oppressively imposed on us. When we call Christianity a "top-down faith," we mean that God tells us things so beautiful and good that they could only have come from him.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

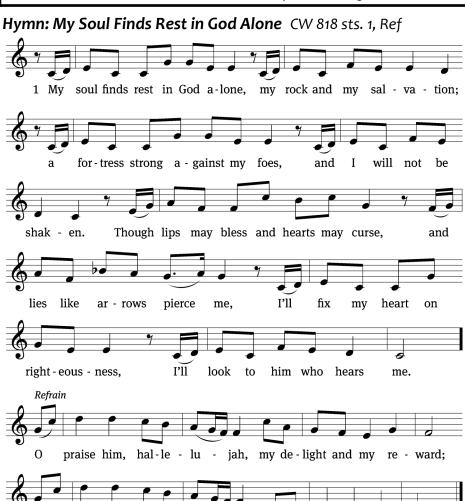
Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Organ: Luke Dorn

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Order of Worship



CW Hymnal, Setting One



Please stand.

ev-er-last-ing, nev-er

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

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)

fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my

God.

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.

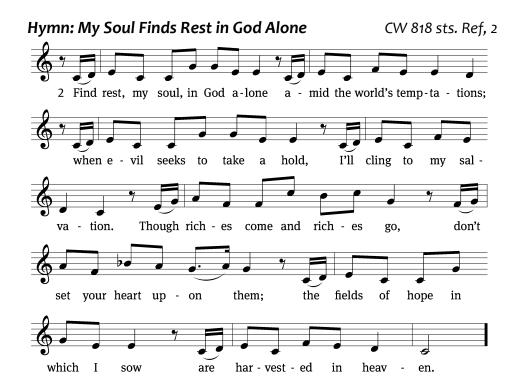
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.





THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Eternal God, your Son, Jesus Christ, is our true Sabbath rest. Help us to keep each day holy by receiving his Word of comfort that we may find our rest in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

The LORD commanded that the Sabbath day be observed so that we might rest and remember all that he has done for us.

¹²"Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns, so that your male and female servants may rest, as you do. ¹⁵Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Second Reading

Colossians 2:13-17

All God's commands about religious festivals and the Sabbath day were meant to point us to the spiritual rest found in Christ.

¹³When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

¹⁶Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. ¹⁷These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Mark 2:23-3:6

Jesus teaches the people that the Son of Man is LORD even of the Sabbath.

²³One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

²⁵He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."

 27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."

¹Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. ²Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. ³Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

⁴Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.

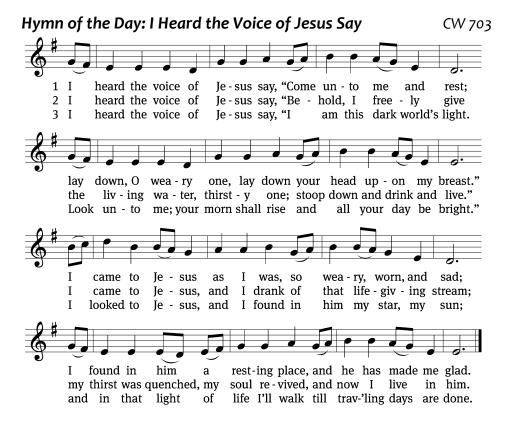
⁵He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. ⁶Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion



Sermon

Based on Colossians 2:13-17

"Christ Cancelled the Code"

- 1) Christ laid the law to rest
- 2) Christians rest from the law in Christ

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.

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.

Give Online

Connect Card
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.



Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

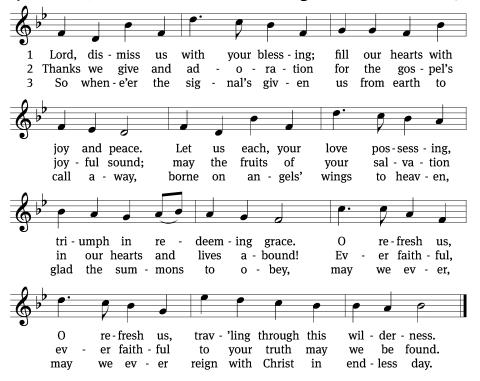
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CW 927



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 after worship. A half-hour Bible study will begin at 10:15 in the sanctuary.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: The devil does his worst, but Jesus always wins Bible Readings: Genesis 3:8-15; Revelation 20:1-6; Mark 3:20-35

Hymns: 556, 871, 574, 863

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, just to the left of the office hallway. 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.

