

A Time to Pause:

A Time to Search and a Time to Give Up



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WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

A Time to Pause:
A Time to Search and a Time to Give Up

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, you know our every need and hear our every prayer. Thank you for your blessing in this past week and guide me in your peace in the next. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: God commanded Old Testament believers to set aside the seventh day each week as a day of physical rest. The people spent the day worshiping, "away from the world" but at home with the Lord. Jesus kept the law perfectly in our place and has freed us from the legal requirements of the law, yet we pursue a Sabbath rest also. A rest we find in the gospel of his living Word as we wait for our time in this world of work to end. God bless us as we rest now in the Word, waiting for eternal rest in heaven.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Everything we have is a gift from God. ""Stewardship"" is the term we use to describe the lifelong management of all the resources God has given us. That includes a quickly-depleting resource called "time." Everything competes for it. Taking the time to manage the time we have has huge implications on how we individually and as a church use it for Christ and each other.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Piano: Paige Reiners

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, children ages 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to learn more about Jesus in Sunday JAM, starting at 9:15am in the Kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Live Like You'll Live Forever: Live a Life of Courageous Witness

Bible Readings: Daniel 3:16-28; Revelation 14:6-7; Mark 13:5-11

Hymns: 861, 863, 877, 640

Order of Worship



CW Hymnal, Setting One

Hymn: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

CW 919



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: 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)

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

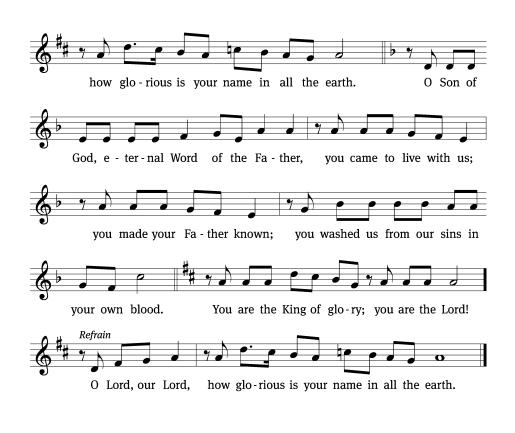
with his innocent suffering and death.

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.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; 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 Amos 8:4-12

The Israelites were eager for the Sabbath to end so they can go back to their work of greed and sin. God's answer would be a famine of the Word of God, the one place where God gives true "sabbath" rest.

⁴Hear this, you who trample the needy and do away with the poor of the land,

⁵saying,

"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?"— skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales,
⁶buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

⁷The LORD has sworn by himself, the Pride of Jacob: "I will never forget anything they have done.

8"Will not the land tremble for this, and all who live in it mourn?
The whole land will rise like the Nile;
it will be stirred up and then sink like the river of Egypt.

⁹"In that day," declares the Sovereign LORD,

"I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight.

¹⁰I will turn your religious festivals into mourning and all your singing into weeping.

I will make all of you wear sackcloth and shave your heads.

I will make that time like mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day.

"The days are coming," declares the Sovereign LORD, "when I will send a famine through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD.
 People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God! Israel lost that rest because of their lack of faith, but we find rest today in the living Word of God.

¹Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. ²For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed. ³Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said,

"So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'"

And yet his works have been finished since the creation of the world. ⁴For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "On the seventh day God rested from all his works." ⁵And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest."

⁶Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience, ⁷God again set a certain day, calling it "Today." This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted:

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. ⁹There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. ¹¹Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

¹²For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Luke 13:10-17

Jesus sets New Testament believers free from the legal command for a 7th-day Sabbath. But the freed woman shows us what to use that freedom for—we praise God in sabbath rest every day.

¹⁰On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." ¹³Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

¹⁴Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

¹⁵The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

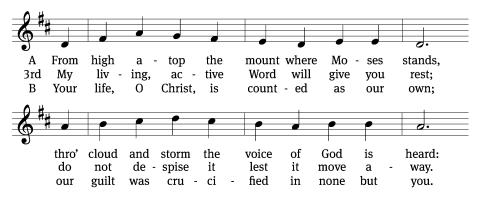
M: The Gospel of the Lord.

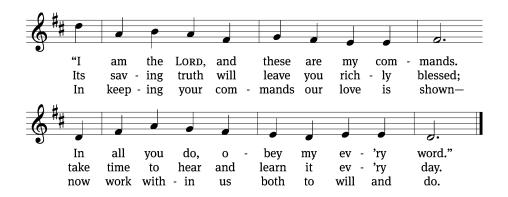
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: From High Atop the Mount CW 635 sts. A, 3rd, B





Sermon

Based on Luke 13:10-17

"This can't wait until tomorrow"

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

Please stand.

Connect Card

Prayer of the Church

- M: Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.
- C: Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.
- M: Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will. Help us distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Teach us to use your gift of time for your praise.
- C: Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.
- M: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they love.
- C: Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.
- M: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.
- C: Hear us for Jesus' sake. 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.

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.



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Salem School Presentation—Tom Stob, Athletic Director

Acknowledgments

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 make a donation 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 your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ◆ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly 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.

