

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

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Youth Examination Service

Praise God for his Word and Teaching

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: 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.

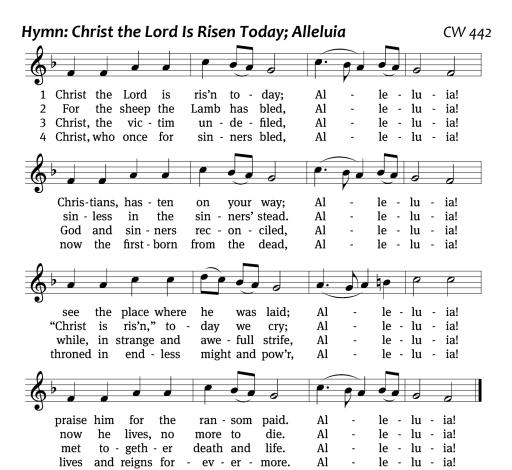
The students before us today have studied with pastors for the past two or three years. This service is not a test to see if they have learned, but is instead a chance for the congregation to celebrate God's blessing on the learning they have already done. It is also a chance for us to pray that learning 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 Organ: Robyn Stoller

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



Please remain seated.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

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: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

(10:30am) Sacrament of Baptism

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font at the 10:30am service.

M: The Gospel according to St. Mark: "People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."

The minister applies water to the person presented for baptism as he says:

M: Loretta Marie Doerr, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

(10:30am) Exhortation to Parents & Congregation

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Loretta and all the children of our church may remain children of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Loretta as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading

Philippians 3:8-14

⁸What 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 ⁹ 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. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

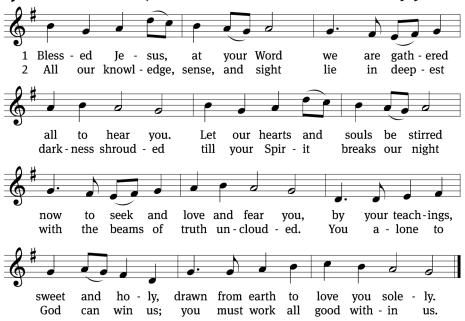
¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I 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.

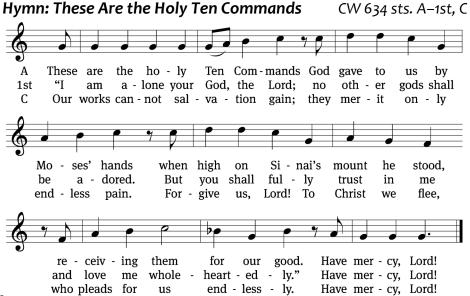
Hymn: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

CW 919 sts. 1-2



CATECHISM PRESENTATION

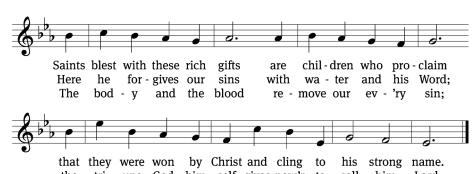
Part 1—The Bible & the Ten Commandments



Part 2—The Apostles' Creed







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.

Give Online

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.



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. Glutenfree 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.

If you have not communed with us before, please see the announcement on the inside cover of this service folder.

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*)
- 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.

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

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.

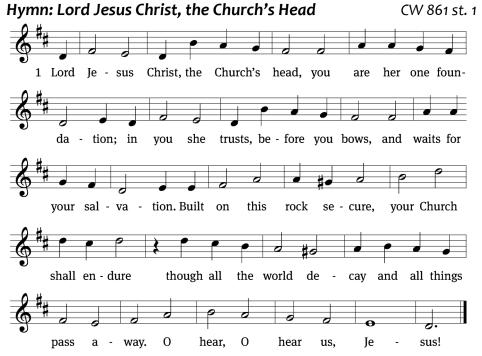
Blessing

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.



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

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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: Because He Lives: We Can See Things Clearly Bible Readings: Acts 9:1-2260; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-14

Hymns: 914, 438, 762, 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 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.

