



UNDIVIDED ATTENTION

*On the One Thing
Needed*



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

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: Loving Father, bless us in this house of prayer through your Spirit's work. Renew us in faith through your word and bring us peace in your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: People often confuse their wants with needs. We might want many things; but in reality, we only need a few things. So, we would agree with Jesus. "Few things are needed." However, Jesus said more. "Few things are needed—or indeed only one." Water, food, clothing, shelter, and community, are essential for this life, but only one thing is needed for eternal life. Only one thing—the gospel—can create and sustain the faith that makes one God's dear child and an heir of the everlasting kingdom. Without Jesus speaking to us through his Word, there is no hope for eternal life in heaven. We need the gospel more than anything else, so let us listen to Jesus speak, giving him our undivided attention.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: A million things compete for our attention in this world, and experts of every kind talk about the importance of being "free from distraction." But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be "freed" from distraction. We need the Spirit's power to give our undivided attention to the life of faith that truly makes a difference, for now and for eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us.

On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers power and focus. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants those gifts to his disciples. We have come to the second half of the Church Year. In the first half, we focused on the life of Christ. In this second half, we turn our attention to the teachings of Christ. May we give them our undivided attention.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano: Paige Reiners

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Speak, O Lord

CW 633 sts. 1-2

1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our
deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty.
that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic
love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
fill in us all your pur - pos-es for your glo - ry.
nev - er fail, let their truth pre-vail o - ver un - be - lief.

Please stand.

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)

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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Praise Song: Speak, O Lord

CW 633 st. 3

3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy and bring forth fruits in faith, hope, and love; 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

Genesis 18:1-14

With his gracious visit and gracious words, the Lord gives Sarah exactly what she needs most—a strengthened faith in God’s promise of a child.

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ²Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

³He said, “If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.”

⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.”

⁷Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

¹⁰Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.

¹¹Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

¹³Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: Teach Me, O LORD

Psalm 119B

Refrain



Tone



Teach me, LORD, the way of / your decrees,
that I may follow it / to the end.

Give me understanding, so that I may / keep your law
and obey it with / all my heart.

Direct me in the path of / your commands,
for there I / find delight. *Refrain*

Turn my eyes away from / worthless things;
preserve my life according / to your word.

Fulfill your promise to your / servant,
so that you / may be feared.

How I long for your / precepts!
In your righteousness pre- / serve my life.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Colossians 1:1-14

Through the gospel Christ gives us what we need—a faith which bears fruits in our individual lives and in his wider church.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:
Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, ¹⁰so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, ¹²and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 55:11



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Luke 10:38-42

³⁸As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹She had a sister called

Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴²but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: One Thing's Needful

CW 645



1 One thing's need-ful; Lord, this trea-sure teach me high-ly to re-gard.
2 How were Mar-y's thoughts de-vot-ed her e-ter-nal joy to find
3 Wis-dom's high-est, no-blest trea-sure, Je-sus, is re-vealed in you.



All else, though it first give plea-sure, is a yoke that press-es hard.
as in-tent each word she not-ed, at her Sav-ior's feet re-clined!
Let me find in you my plea-sure; make my will and ac-tions true,



Be-neath it the heart is still fret-ting and striv-ing, no true, last-ing
How kin-dled her heart, how de-vout was its feel-ing, while hear-ing the
hu-mil-i-ty there and sim-plic-i-ty reign-ing, in paths of true



hap-pi-ness ev-er de-riv-ing. This one thing is need-ful; all
les-sons that Christ was re-veal-ing! All earth-ly con-cerns she for-
wis-dom my steps ev-er train-ing. If I learn from Je-sus this



oth-ers are vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob-tain.
got for her Lord and found her con-tent-ment in hear-ing his Word.
knowl-edge di-vine, the bless-ing of heav-en-ly wis-dom is mine.

“Christians, keep your focus!”

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.



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.

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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.

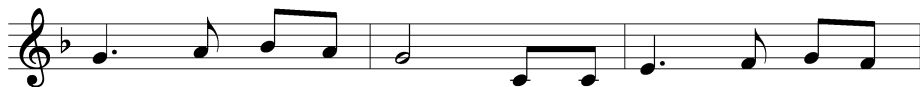
C: Amen.

Hymn: Come Away from Rush and Hurry

CW 913



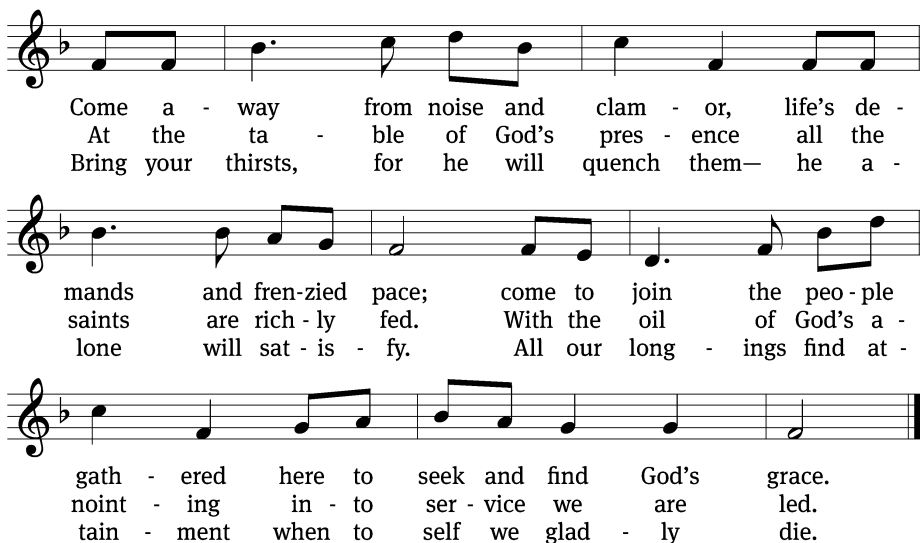
1 Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the
2 In the pas - tures of God's good - ness we lie
3 Come, then, chil - dren, with your bur - dens— life's con -



still - ness of God's peace; from our vain am - bi - tion's
down to rest our soul. From the wa - ters of God's
fu - sions, fears, and pain. Leave them at the cross of



wor - ry, come to Christ to find re - lease.
mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made whole.
Je - sus; take in - stead his king - dom's reign.



Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de -
 At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the
 Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them— he a -
 mands and fren-zied pace; come to join the peo - ple
 saints are rich - ly fed. With the oil of God's a -
 lone will sat - is - fy. All our long - ings find at -
 gath - ered here to seek and find God's grace.
 noint - ing in - to ser - vice we are led.
 tain - ment when to self we glad - ly die.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

WELS Connection

Men's Retreat Promo Video

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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

Reprinted under OneLicense # 48708 and CCLI # 630266

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services.
 Adult Bible study begins at 10:15 in the church sanctuary.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Undivided Attention On the Privilege and Purpose of Prayer

Bible Readings: Genesis 18:20-32; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 11:1-13

Hymns: 722, 725, 678, 719, 721

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 blue welcome 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.**

