



UNDIVIDED ATTENTION

On Useful Resources



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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: O Holy Spirit, turn us away from the things of this world and lead us to seek first your kingdom and every spiritual blessing. Strengthen me through your Word today and move me to a life of praise. In Jesus' name, Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Money and possessions perhaps have more power than anything to turn our attention away from our Savior. It is no surprise then that Jesus frequently teaches about wealth. While the things of this world are blessings from God, they do not give purpose or meaning to our lives on earth. The blessings God provides can bring some joy to our lives, but more importantly, our wealth is useful in our purpose of serving God and others. This week let us give our undivided attention to what Christ says about the useful resources our gracious Father provides to us.

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:

Worship Leader: Pastor Jon Pedersen

Piano/Organ: Robyn Stoller

Vocalist/Instrumentalist: Alli Dorn

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: My Worth Is Not in What I Own

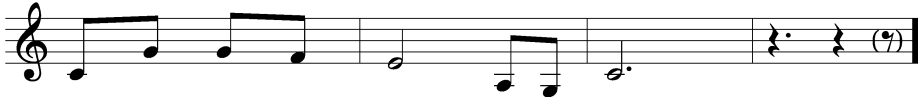
CW 753 sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 My worth is not in what I own, not
2 My worth is not in skill or name, in
3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,



in the strength of flesh and bone, but in the
win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the
youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -



cost - ly wounds of love at the cross. v. 2
blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. Refrain
ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4

Refrain



I re-joyce in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my



soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light.
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross. (Refrain)

5 Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness.
My value fixed—my ransom paid at the cross. (Refrain)

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger 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)*

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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Response of Praise: All Praise to Him

CW 600

A soloist will lead the song. The congregation may join as they are comfortable.



1 All praise to him, the God of light who formed the
2 All praise to him whose love is seen in Christ the
3 All praise to him whose pow'r im - parts the love of



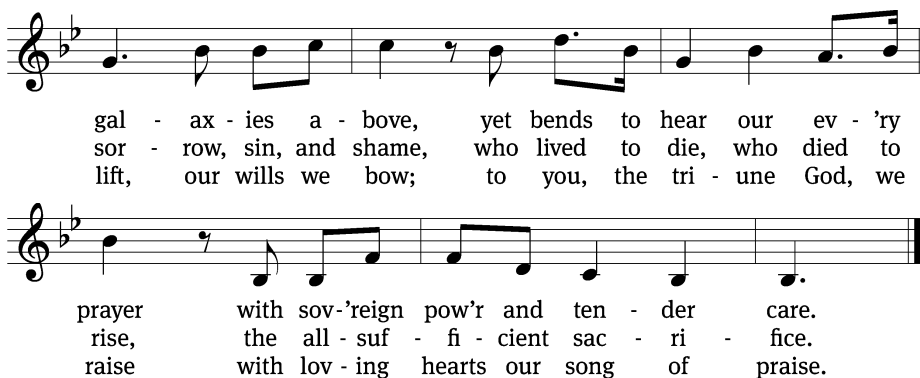
moun - tains by his might. All praise to him who names the
Son, the ser - vant King, who left be - hind his glo - rious
God with - in our hearts, the Spir - it of all truth and



stars that sing his fame in skies a - far.
throne to pay the ran - som for his own.
peace, the fount of joy and ho - li - ness.



All praise to him who reigns in love, who guides the
All praise to him who hum - bly came to bear our
To Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it now our souls we



THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; 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

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14; 2:18-26

King Solomon, possibly the wealthiest man who ever lived, learned by experience the limited value of the pursuit of earthly possessions.

¹The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem:

²"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher.

"Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."

¹²I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! ¹⁴I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

¹⁸I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil

into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. ²⁰So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. ²¹For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. ²²What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? ²³All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless.

²⁴A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? ²⁶To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: We Live, O Lord, within Your Grace

Psalm 90C



1 We live, O Lord, with - in your grace, for you have
 2 A thou - sand years with - in your sight pass like a
 3 You say to chil - dren of the earth: "Re - turn to
 5 So teach us, Lord, to count our days; make wise our



been our dwell - ing place; be - fore the moun - tains came to
 watch with - in the night, like yes - ter - day when it is
 dust, which gave you birth!" We grow like grass be - neath the
 hearts to seek your ways. How long, O LORD, till you re -



be, you are true God e - ter - nal - ly.
 through, the brief - est blink in all you view.
 sun, but with - er when our day is done.
 turn? How much, O LORD, for you we yearn!

7 Lord, let your work to us be shown, your glory by our children known.
 Your favor rest on us each day; establish all our work, we pray.

8 O Father, Son, and Spirit, be our dwelling place eternally,
 and when the mountains are no more, your name we ever will adore!

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-11

Believers are liberated from the idolatry of greed as they put to death their sinful nature and are renewed in their new life in Christ.

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 6:20,21



Refrain



Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **Refrain**

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

Greed's folly is felt in life and will be exposed in death. Through a parable, Jesus gives us a strong warning against greed.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

¹⁴Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" ¹⁵Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

¹⁶And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

¹⁸"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."'

²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

²¹"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: What Is the World to Me

CW 717 sts. 1-3



1 What is the world to me with all its vaunt-ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks af - ter wealth and all that mon - ey of - fers,
3 The world is like a cloud and like a va - por fleet - ing,



when you and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
yet nev - er is con - tent though gold should fill its cof - fers.
a shad - ow that de - clines, swift to its end re - treat - ing.



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, my soul's de - light shall be;
I have a high - er good, con - tent with it I'll be;
My Je - sus shall re - main, though all things fade and flee,



you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
my Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
my ev - er - last - ing rock. What is the world to me!

The Lord Lavishes Eternal Wisdom

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. 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.

Hymn: All Depends on Our Possessing CW 807



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.
and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.
heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly
I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me
To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.
I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

5 Well he knows what best to grant me; all the longing hopes that haunt me,
joy and sorrow, have their day. I shall doubt his wisdom never;
as God wills, so be it ever; I commit to him my way.

6 If my days on earth he lengthen, he my weary soul will strengthen;
all my trust in him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding,
like a stream away is gliding; safe I anchor in his grace.

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: What Is the World to Me

CW 717 st. 4

4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,
my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my plea - sure,
my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss e - ter - nal - ly.
Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. Our quarterly meeting will begin about 10:15am in the fellowship hall.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Undivided Attention on Heavenly Treasure

Bible Readings: Genesis 15:1-6; Hebrews 11:1-3, Luke 12:22-34

Hymns: 828, 800, 663, 602

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.**

