

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 9-10, 2025



# UNDIVIDED ATTENTION

*On Heavenly  
Treasure*



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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[www.salemlutheran.org](http://www.salemlutheran.org)

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Undivided Attention—*

*On Heavenly Treasure*

**W**elcome! 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:** Blessed Holy Spirit, work in my heart today and raise in me a spirit of faith and understanding. Open my eyes through Word and Sacrament, and lead me to a holy life of service to you and others. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** 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.

**OUR WORSHIP SERIES:** Last week Jesus warned us against overvaluing earthly wealth. This week Jesus warns against undervaluing heavenly treasure. Last week, Jesus exposed the folly of greed. This week, Jesus exposes the folly of worry. It can be hard to avoid worry, so Jesus asks us to give our undivided attention to him, that he might take our worries away. The God who provides for the birds and the flowers will provide for us as well. Even more, Jesus points to our Father's promises to give us the heavenly treasures of his kingdom. We can rest from our worries, confident that our loving Father knows all we need.

**A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION:** Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

***SERVING GOD, SERVING US:***

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano/Organ: Robyn Stoller

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + [www.salemlutheran.org](http://www.salemlutheran.org) + 651-439-7831

[church@salemlutheran.org](mailto:church@salemlutheran.org)

# Order of Worship

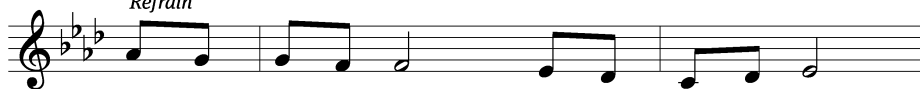
CW Hymnal, Setting One



## Hymn: Where Your Treasure Is

CW 828

*Refrain*



Where your trea - sure is, there your heart shall be.



All that you pos - sess will nev - er set you free.



Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.



Where your trea - sure is, your heart shall be.



1 What do you gain from all your wor - ry,

2 Look at the ra - vens high a - bove you.

3 Be - hold the lil - ies in their splen - dor.

4 O lit - tle flock, do not be fright - ened;

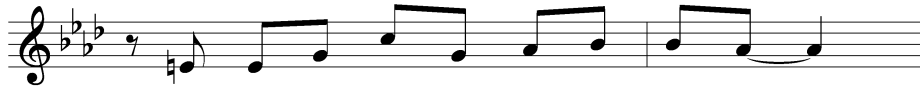


what you should eat or what to wear?

They do not work their whole life through,

In grace and beau - ty are they dressed,

yours is the king - dom of the Lord.



There is no peace in stress or hur - ry.

and yet God feeds them and pro - tects them.

and yet so soon their bloom is fad - ed.

Give your pos - ses - sions to the need - y;



*Refrain*

Do you not know that you are held with - in God's care?

So how much more will God pro - tect and care for you?

So how much more will those who look to God be blessed?

ob - tain a trea - sure in God's heav - en safe - ly stored.

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. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

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

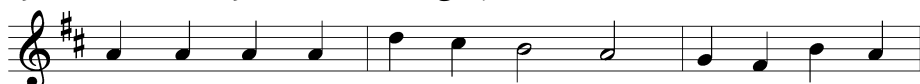
**C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with 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.**

## Hymn: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

CW 621 sts. 1-2, 4



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your  
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,  
face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,  
all who dwell in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!  
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!  
al - le - lu - ia! praise with us the God of grace!

## (Sunday) 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: Charlotte Madonna Lonetti / Dominic William Carlton Lonetti / Madelynn Rose Lonetti, 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 Charlotte, Dominic, and Madelynn 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 Charlotte, Dominic, and Madelynn as your own children and made them members of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to them 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**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### ***Prayer of the Day***

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of 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 15:1-6

*In faith, Abram treasured all the LORD's gracious promises.*

<sup>1</sup>After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

<sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

<sup>6</sup>Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3,4-16

*The gift of faith allows us to see the treasure that is found in the city whose architect and builder is God.*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. <sup>14</sup>People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Luke 12:32



*Refrain*



Do not be afraid, little flock,  
for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. **Refrain**

## Gospel

Luke 12:22-34

*Jesus assures us that we have a Father in heaven who knows what we need better than we do.*

<sup>22</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? <sup>26</sup>Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

<sup>27</sup>“Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup>For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



M: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Be seated.*

## Children's Devotion

### Hymn of the Day: How Firm a Foundation

CW 800



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose



is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,  
my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
I will not, I will not, de - sert to its foes;



What more can he say than to you he has said,  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
for I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
the flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.  
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

## Sermon

*Based on Luke 12:22-34*

### *"True Treasure for the Christian Heart"*

*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



 **Connect Card**

*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**

## (Sunday) Adult Confirmation

*After instruction with our pastor, we welcome Rachel Lonetti and Cindy Thibodeau into our church family. While the practice of confirmation is never mentioned or commanded in Scripture, it is a valuable tradition as new members confess their shared faith with us and as they vow before God, each other, and all of us to remain faithful to him.*

*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.*

M: With all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,  
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

## 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.

## O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

## 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. Gluten-free 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.*

# Hymn: Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

CW 663



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness; leave be -  
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure nei - ther  
 4 Now I kneel be - fore you low - ly, filled with  
 6 Lord, by love and mer - cy driv - en, you have



hind all gloom and sad - ness. Come in - to the day-light's  
 cost nor pain will mea - sure, but the price - less gifts of  
 joy most deep and ho - ly, as with trem - bling awe and  
 left your throne in heav - en on the cross for me to



splen - dor; there with joy your prais - es ren - der  
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.  
 won - der on your might - y work I pon - der,  
 lan - guish and to die in bit - ter an - guish,



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed has this won - drous  
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - ered, naught would buy the  
 by such mys - ter - y sur - round - ed, depths that no one  
 to for - go all joy and glad - ness and to shed your



sup - per found - ed. He, though reign - ing high and  
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you  
 ev - er sound - ed. None may dare to pierce un -  
 blood in sad - ness. By this blood re - deemed and



ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
 riv - en, and his blood, for you once giv - en.  
 bid - den se - crets that with you are hid - den.  
 liv - ing, Lord, I praise you with thanks - giv - ing.

7 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring, fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
at your feet I cry, my maker, let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven for our good, your glory, given.

8 Jesus, Lord of life in heaven, help me when this meal is given  
to receive it for my blessing as I come, my sins confessing.  
In this supper let me measure, Lord, how deep is your love's treasure,  
that, as I on earth have eaten, I may be your guest in heaven.

*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*

## **Closing Prayer**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.  
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for  
one another. We ask this in the name of 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: Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

CW 602 st. 1

1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,  
there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.

*Refrain*  
Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!  
Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;  
all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
Great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - 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 refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Adult Bible study begins at 10:15 in the sanctuary.

### For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Wounds that Heal: The Door is Very Narrow

Bible Readings: Isaiah 66:18-24, Hebrews 12:18-24, Luke 13:22-30

Hymns: 876, 590, 826

# 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.**

