



**No One Can Serve
Two Masters**



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org

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 every good and perfect gift is from you. Thank you for those gifts you have given us that can never be replaced, the ultimate being your own Son because you did not spare him, but gave him as a ransom for us. Hear us now as we rejoice in that fact. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: There are more than 2,300 Bible passages that speak about money. Why? Money is a master Satan frequently tempts us to serve. Money might well be our greatest temptation to serve something other than God. Money provides us with a false comfort and sense of security. Money serves as a source of pride. This week, Jesus' sharp words identify the impossibility of serving more than one master. While serving money will always eventually let us down, God has proven that he is a faithful master worth serving. When we serve God, money is put in its proper place.

WORSHIP SERIES: No one likes pain, but not all pain is bad. A surgeon cuts through skin and muscle, not to harm but to heal. Words can bring us pain, but sometimes those painful words lead us to the very healing we need. In Luke 13 -17 we find Jesus teaching the faithful as he travels to Jerusalem for the last time. He knows he is going to die. So, with a sense of urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor JonAlden Pedersen Choir Director: Luke Dorn
Piano/Organ: Robyn Stoller Flute: Rachel Collins
Handbell Director: Jessie Wolfe

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship
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Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Four



(10:30) Pre-Service Handbells

Colors of Joy

Brenda Austin

Hymn: God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending CW 749



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your



end - less store: na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom,
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom,
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred,



cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door— gift - ed by you, we turn
rac - es joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
and to spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in



to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise; thank - ful
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone; born with
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing,



songs shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

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: "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of

all he created.” (James 1:17-18) In truth, then, let us examine our hearts and come to him in repentance for those times we’ve failed to recognize his gifts or honor him as the Giver.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
 For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
 For sins of habit and sins of choice,
 For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
 You should cast me away from your presence forever.
 O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his rich mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

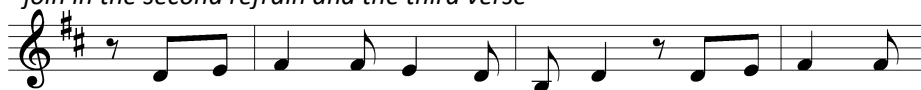
M: I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live;

C: May our meditation be pleasing to him as we rejoice in the Lord. Amen.

(10:30) Anthem: Across the Lands

CW 549

The choir will sing verses one & two and the first refrain. The congregation may join in the second refrain and the third verse



1 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the
 2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and
 3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry



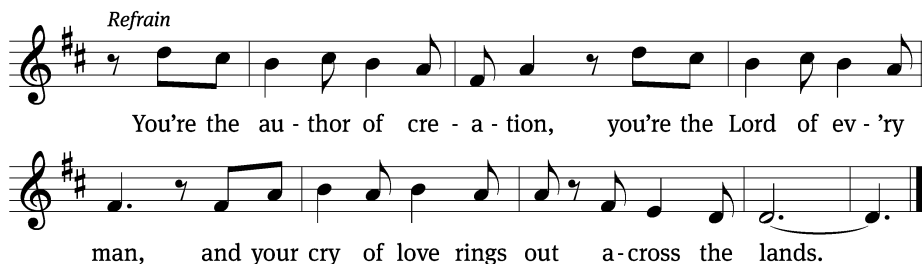
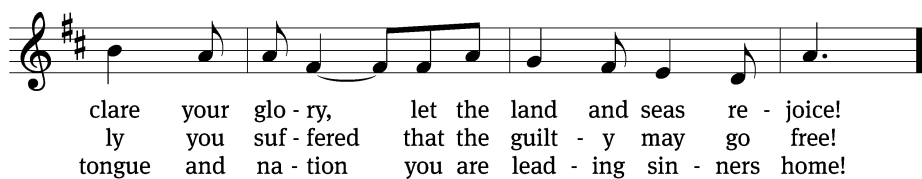
world be - gan. Ev - 'ry star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been
 save the lost, and ex - changed the joy of heav - en for the
 from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav - en, lead - ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -
 an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the
 cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -
 hun - gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent -
 Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, you have told us not to be anxious about what we need for this life. Move our hearts to seek you and your kingdom, that all good things may be given to us as well; 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 5:10-20

King Solomon knew from experience that if you serve money, you will end up sorely disappointed.

¹⁰Whoever loves money never has enough;
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.
This too is meaningless.

¹¹As goods increase, so do those who consume them.
And what benefit are they to the owners
except to feast their eyes on them?

¹²The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether they eat little or much,
but as for the rich, their abundance permits them no sleep.

¹³I have seen a grievous evil under the sun:

wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners,
¹⁴or wealth lost through some misfortune,
so that when they have children
there is nothing left for them to inherit.

¹⁵Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb,
and as everyone comes, so they depart.
They take nothing from their toil
that they can carry in their hands.

¹⁶This too is a grievous evil:

As everyone comes, so they depart,
and what do they gain, since they toil for the wind?

¹⁷All their days they eat in darkness,
with great frustration, affliction and anger.

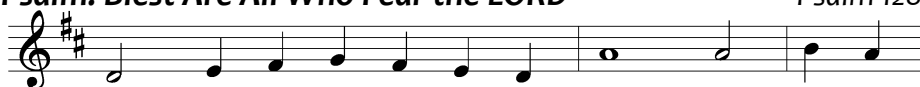
¹⁸This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. ¹⁹Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. ²⁰They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart.

M: The Word of the Lord.

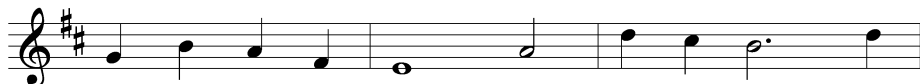
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Blest Are All Who Fear the LORD

Psalm 128A



1	How	blest	are	those	who	fear	the	LORD,	who	find	in
2	The	prom - ise	of	suc - cess	shall	be	up -	on	their		
3	What	am - ple	fruit	is	seen	in	lives	of	faith - ful		
4	From	heav - en	God	will	sure - ly	bless	such	un - ions			
5	To	God	the	Fa - ther	and	the	Son	and	Ho - ly		



God	their	great	re - ward:	they	know	a	Love	for
work	con - tin - ual - ly,	as	all	they	do	shall		
hus - bands	and	their	wives;	each	home	with	joy	and
with	his	faith - ful - ness,	with	boun - ti - ful	pros -			
Spir - it	Three	in	One,	be	glo - ry,	laud	and	



all their days, they glad - ly walk in god - ly ways—
pros - per well and in con - tent - ed peace they dwell—
love a - bounds as chil - dren's laugh - ter in them sounds—
per - i - ty till chil - dren's chil - dren they shall see—
end - less praise, both now and through e - ter - nal days—



blest are all who fear the LORD.
blest are all who fear the LORD.
blest are all who fear the LORD.
blest are all who fear the LORD.
A - - - men.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

St. Paul teaches that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.

⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 6:33



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

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well. *Refrain*

All money belongs to God; he loans it to us to manage for his glory. Through a parable, Jesus teaches us to be shrewd in the way we use money to serve him.

¹Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ²So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

³"The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg— ⁴I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

⁵"So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶" 'Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied.

"The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.'

⁷"Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?'

" 'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied.

"He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

⁸"The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹²And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

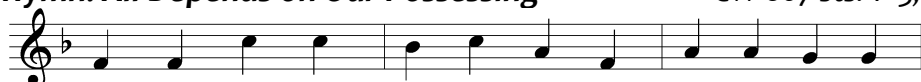
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn: All Depends on Our Possessing

CW 807 sts. 1-3, 5



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
 5 Well he knows what best to grant me; all the long - ing



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.
 hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.



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
 I shall doubt his wis - dom nev - er; as God wills, so



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.
 be it ev - er; I com - mit to him my way.

Sermon

Based on Luke 16:1-13

"Take What You Can and Give Everything Back"

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




 **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**

Please stand.

(10:30) Presentation of Second Grade Bibles

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: 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: O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CW 751



1 O God, your hand the heav-ens made and all that they con - tain;
2 To us are giv - en gifts di - vine, all tal - ents you have sent;
3 De - liv - er us from self - ish aims, true stew - ards we would be;



the world ap-peared at your com-mand, and in it now you reign.
in - spire us now to use them well your king-dom to ex - tend.
en - dow us with a deep de - sire to live un - self - ish - ly.



The rest - less sea, the land, the sky your hand-i - work de - clare;
We hold each gift a trust from you nor claim it as our own;
A full ac-count-ing we must give and see you face to face;



the touch of your cre - a - tive pow'r is pres - ent ev - 'ry - where.
we grate - ful - ly ac - knowl - edge, Lord, all things are yours a - lone.
let us ap - proach your throne with joy, sup - port - ed by your grace.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:10am in the kindergarten classroom. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs.

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.**

