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Twenty-Second Sunday in Pentecost

Welcome Home: The Lost Are Now Found

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: Father in heaven, today we thank you again for bringing us into your family through faith and forgiveness. Bless us as we gather around your Word and Sacrament. Renew in us a spirit of peace and unity. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Is the church more of a country club or a hospital? Is a Christian community full of people who have it all together or is the family of God an assembly of individuals who are flawed and broken? God's Word tells us everyone within the church was at one point deeply lost. How were we "found"? Amazing grace! God sought us out, called us to faith, adopted us into his family, and welcomed us home into his Church. There is no perfect Christian, but we have hope because there is a perfect Christ! Our salvation in him is an accomplished fact. But our daily life as a Christian often takes two steps forward and then at least one step back.

This is another reason we need Christian community! As a loving Christian family, we love one another, forgive one another, proclaim God's forgiveness to one another. And when a brother or sister drifts backs towards lostness, we give chase, striving to bring them back home.

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:

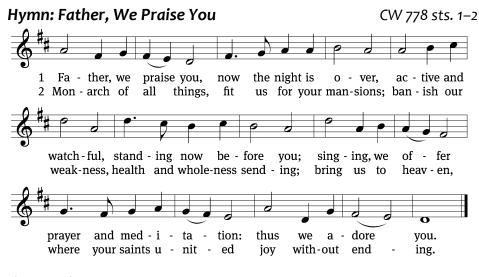
Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Piano/Organ: Luke Dorn

Handbell Director: Jessie Wolfe

Order of Worship



CW Hymnal, Setting Two



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: 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Living God, your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace to lay hold of your promises and live forever in your presence; 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

Hosea 3:1-5

The Lord called the prophet Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. His life was an object lesson, showing that our God seeks and redeems the lost.

¹The LORD said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

²So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. ³Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you."

⁴For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. ⁵Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

A member of the church in Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to joyfully welcome him back.

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 2:11



Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. *Refrain*

Gospel Luke 19:1-10

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. His forgiveness to us leads us to love and forgive each other.

¹Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ²A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

⁹Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

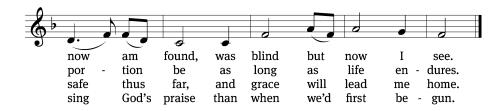
M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion





Sermon

Based on Luke 19:1-10

"Ours is a family of forgiveness"

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.





Handbell Offertory

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
John Behnke

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: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

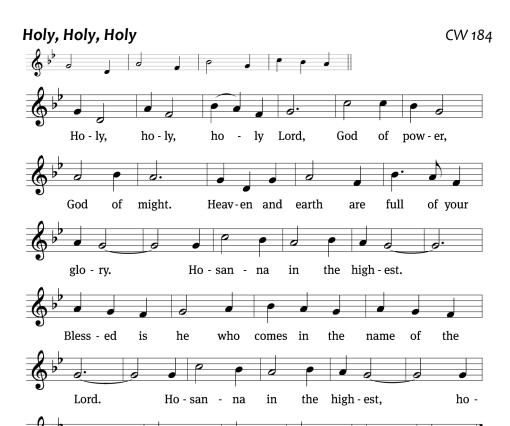
M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Words of Institution

san

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."

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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.

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C: Amen.



Be seated.

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Communion Distribution

of the world;

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.

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us

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peace.

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.

Hymn: Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

CW 660



- 5 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear; the feast, though not the love, is past and gone. The bread and wine remove, but you are here, nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
- 6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, yet, passing, points to that glad feast above, giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

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

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.

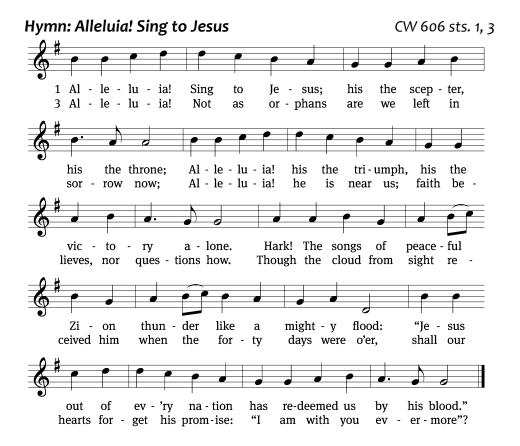
Blessing

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.



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Presentation from Music Director Luke Dorn

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

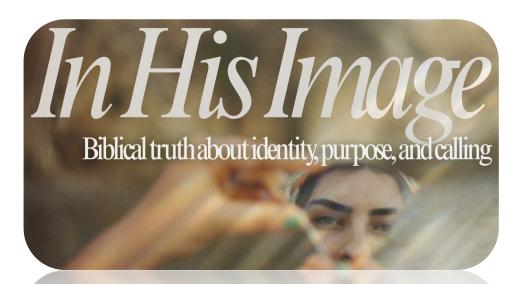
Sunday morning, all are invited to fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the kindergarten classroom. Adult & Teen Bible study meets in the fellowship hall downstairs

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Welcome Home: Where You Are Perfectly Safe

Bible Readings: Jeremiah 26:1-6, 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10, Luke 19:11-27

Hymns: 837, 712, 564



Beginning this Sunday, Pastor Wolfe will lead an adult Bible study looking at the Bible's teachings on gender, sexuality, and God's plan for the roles of men and women. We'll use the synod's 2024 pastoral brief to guide our discussion as we look at God's Word and God's will.



DAY

2025

11 NOV

STARTS AT 2:30-3:15PM

PROGRAM OF THANKS BY THE SCHOOL CHILDEN SALEM LUTHERAN GYMNASIUM

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Sunday Youth Bible Study with Pastor Pedersen @ 9:15

Turning tech into a tool for God's glory

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

- Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?
- A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.
- Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?
- A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?
- Q: When I realize I have sinned against God and deserve punishment, what will I do?
- A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.
- Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?
- A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.
- Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?
- A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a Godpleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.
- Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?
- A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."
- Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?
- A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

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.

