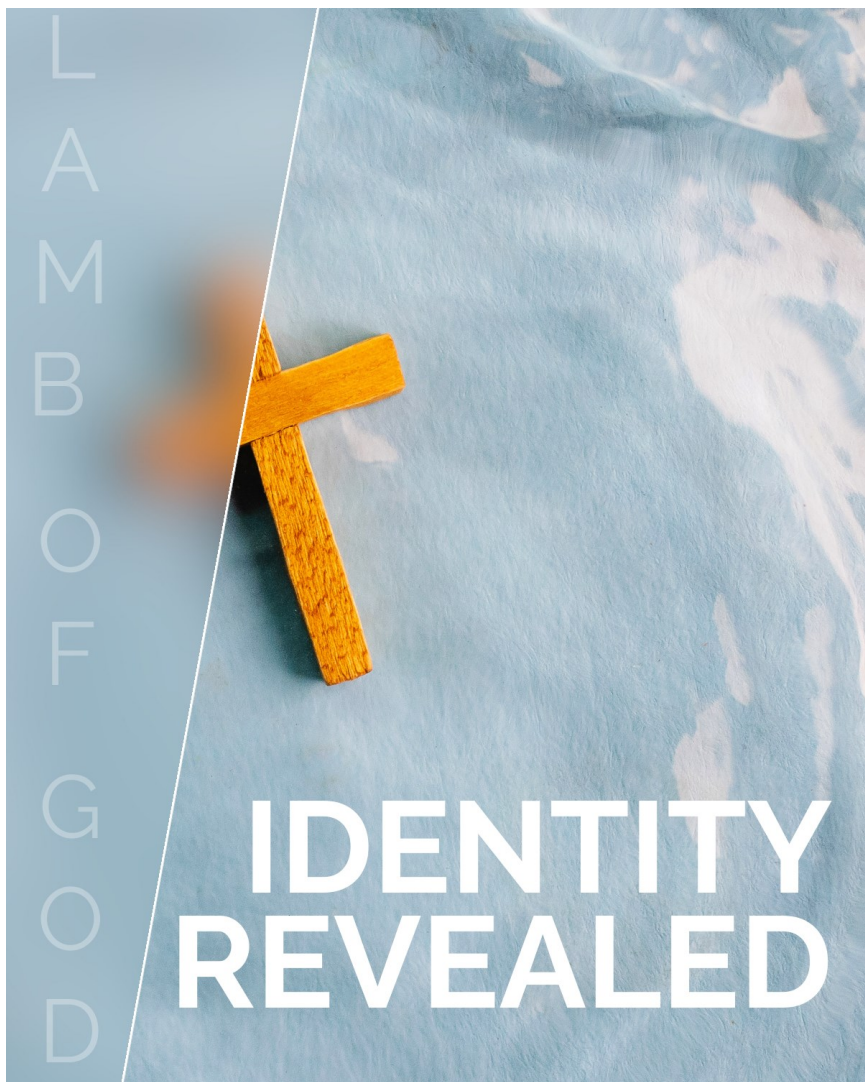


Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 17-18, 2026



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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: Lord, when I kept my sin silent my bones wasted away. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength was sapped as in the heat of the Summer. I acknowledge my sin to you, I do not hide my iniquity. Lamb of God, you forgave even the guilt of my sin by the power of your precious blood. Grant me the strength to forgive my neighbor. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: For centuries Israel offered sacrifices to God for sin. Over and over, a substitute shed its blood to reveal forgiveness. Then Jesus appeared, the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world. He died as the substitute for sinful mankind. Connected to him by faith, you have new perspective and new motivation for living a Christian life.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." In this season we see Jesus begin his public ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. During Epiphany, we come to understand that when the true identity of Jesus is revealed, we realize our own true identity as well.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor JonAlden Pedersen

Piano: Robyn Stoller

Vocalist: Carolyn Forster

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Lamb of God

CW 550

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the
ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious
blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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: 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.

Solo Response: Make My Life an Alleluia

Ruth Elaine Schram

*Make my life an alleluia, A song of praise to You each day.
To proclaim Your grace and glory, Fill my heart with your praise, I pray.
When I stand at the mountaintop, Or the valley of despair,
This will be my cry, my song, my prayer: Lord, make my life an alleluia.*

*Make my life an alleluia, A gift of love to you, my King.
I will join with all creation In the song that the heavens sing!
The earth will turn, and the planets spin, As the seasons ebb and flow;
Still, Your grace surrounds me as I go, Lord, make my life an alleluia.*

*Make my life an alleluia, This offering of myself I give
I will share Your grace and mercy For as long as I shall live.
When I come to my journey's end, May those left behind be reminded,
This has been my cry, my song, my prayer: Lord, make my life an alleluia.*

(10:30am) 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: Rory Elise Munter, 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 Rory 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 Rory as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her 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 God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-6

God would display his splendor by the suffering of the Servant of the Lord.

¹Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called me;
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.
²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.
³He said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."
⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,
and my reward is with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and my God has been my strength—
⁶he says:
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day: LORD, Come to My Aid

Psalm 40A

The cantor will sing the first refrain and the verses. The congregation may join on the remaining refrains and the Gloria.

Refrain



I waited patiently / for the LORD;
he turned to me and / heard my cry.
Many, LORD my God, are the wonders / you have done;
were I to tell of your deeds, they would be too many / to declare.

Sacrifice and offering you did / not desire;
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did / not require.
Then I said, "Here I am, I have come—it is written about me / in the scroll.
I desire to do your will, my God; your law is with- / in my heart." *Refrain*

Do not withhold your mercy / from me, LORD;
may your love and faithfulness always pro- / tect me.
You are my help and my de- / liverer;
you are my God, do / not delay.

**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 2:6-15

The Lamb of God was flesh and blood so he could be sacrificed to win forgiveness of all our sins.

⁶So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

⁹For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you

were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

1 John 2:2



Refrain



Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. *Refrain*

Gospel

John 1:29-41

As the last and greatest of the prophets, John points to Jesus as the true Lamb of God.

²⁹The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

³²Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'"

³⁴I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."

³⁵The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

³⁷When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?"

They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

³⁹"Come," he replied, "and you will see."

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Arise and Shine in Splendor

CW 375



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; let night to
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, the hea - then
3 Lift up your eyes in won - der— see, na - tions
4 Your heart will leap for glad - ness when from the



day sur - ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near.
na - tions dy - ing in hope - less gloom and night.
gath - er yon - der from sin to be set free.
realms of sad - ness they come from near and far.



A - bove, the day is beam - ing, in match-less beau - ty
To you the Lord of heav - en, your life, your hope— has
The world has heard your sto - ry; her sons come to your
Your eyes will wake from slum - ber as peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; the glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
glo - ry, her daugh - ters haste your light to see.
num - ber re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

“Your Life Depends on Christ”

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.

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: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947 st. 3

3 Lamb of God. pure and ho - ly. who on the cross did suf - fer.
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly. your-self to scorn did of - fer.
All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. Children ages 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to learn more about Jesus in Sunday JAM, starting at 9:15am in the Kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Identity Revealed: Jesus is the Light

Bible Readings: Isaiah 8:19-9:4; 1 John 2:3-11, Matthew 4:12-23

Hymns: 792, 904, 676, 713, 381

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.**

