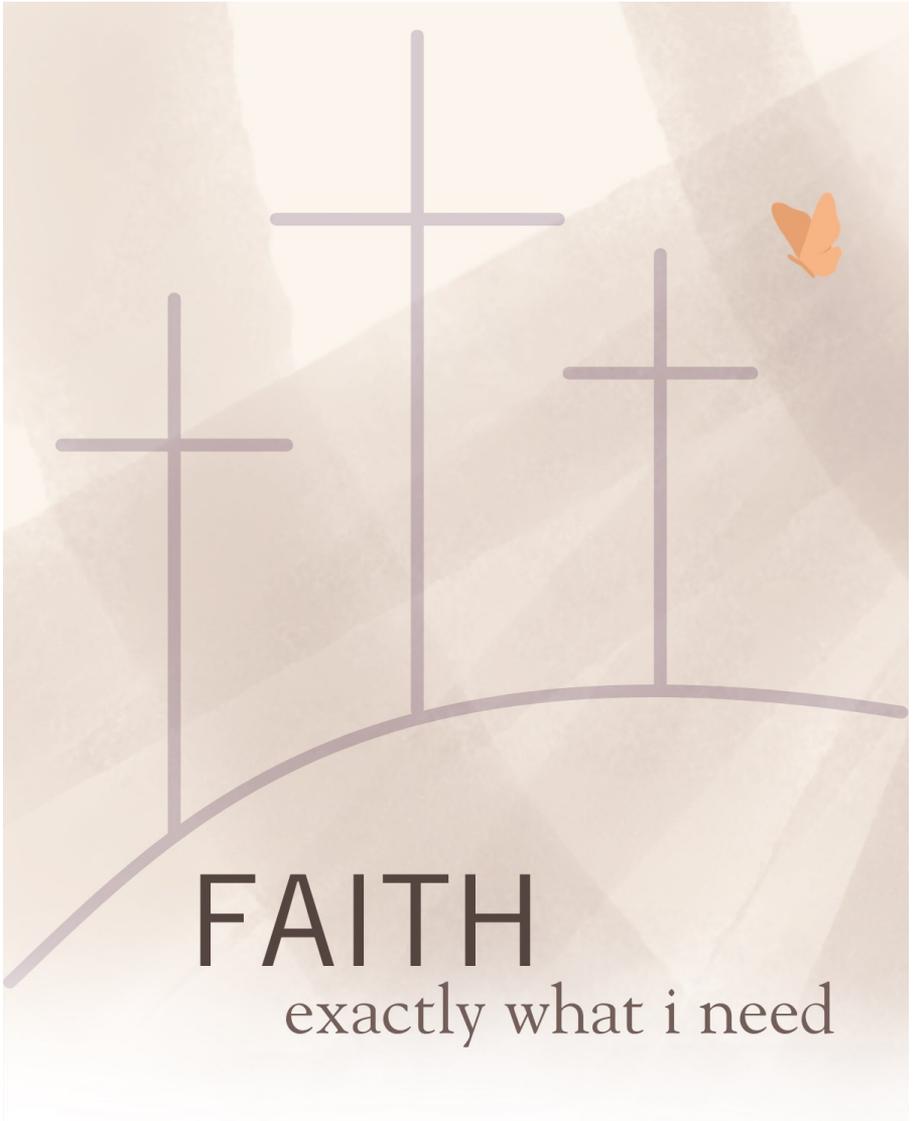


Second Sunday in Lent

February 28-March 1, 2026



FAITH

exactly what i need



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

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

**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:** Lord Jesus, you are our captain and guide—we go forth in this world with no need to hide because you are always and forever by our side. Increase and nourish our faith in the promise of your provision so that we like Abraham may embark on the wonderful adventure you have put before us with no fear of tomorrow, because Today, you are here!

**THEME OF THE DAY:** I recognize that I need to be saved. When Jesus said, “No one can enter the kingdom of God,” that included me. I do not deserve God's blessing. But long ago, God declared that I would be blessed by a descendant of Abraham who turned out to be Jesus. The blessing is salvation. I receive that salvation by faith in Jesus as my Savior. The good news is that faith is also God's gift, imparted to me through the gospel.

**WORSHIP SERIES:** “I didn't know how much I needed that” is a common expression of surprise and realization. Lent is the season of the Church Year when we recognize our greatest needs. In this season we realize that all our greatest needs are met in Christ. God knows what we need most. If we lack Christ, we have nothing. But if we have Christ, we have exactly what we need.

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

Preacher: Pastor Jon Enter      Piano: Madison Boerner, Paige Reiners

Handbell Director: Jessie Wolfe

Praise Group: Luke & Alli Dorn, Tom Stob, Jessie Wolfe, Jacob Olson

**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 9:15am in the kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs

# Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Two



## Hymn: By Faith

CW 868 sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 By faith we see the hand of God  
2 By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth  
3 By faith the proph - ets saw a day



in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,  
with the pow'r of his prom - ise in their hearts,  
when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear



in the lives of those who prove his faith - ful - ness,  
of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,  
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death



who walk by faith and not by sight. v. 2  
a place where peace and jus - tice reign. Refrain  
and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. v. 4



We will stand as chil - dren of the prom - ise; we will fix our



eyes on him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

4 By faith the church was called to go in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost to deliver captives and to preach good news in ev'ry corner of the earth  
*Refrain*

5 By faith this mountain shall be moved and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail, for we know in Christ all things are possible for all who call upon his name

*Refrain*

Please remain seated.

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.

### Kyrie: Jesus Sinners Does Receive

CW 654 sts. 5, 7

5 Oh, how blest it is to know, were as scar - let  
7 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive, e - ven I have

my trans - gres - sion, it shall be as white as snow  
been for - giv - en. And when I this earth must leave,

by your blood and bit - ter pas - sion, for these words I  
I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing, still to

do be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
him I cleave: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

**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 see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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**

Genesis 12:1-8

*The Lord gave Abram the gift of faith to believe the promise that one of his descendants would be a gift for the whole world.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

<sup>2</sup>“I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.

<sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. <sup>5</sup>He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

<sup>6</sup>Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

<sup>8</sup>From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm of the Day: I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains** Psalm 121A

*The Church sings Psalm 121 in services that celebrate the value of faith in God, regardless of our circumstances. The first refrain and verse will be sung by the praise group, the congregation may join in the remaining verses and refrains*

### Refrain



I lift up my eyes to the mountains, from where shall come my  
help? My help shall come from the One who has made the  
heavens and the earth, the maker of heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—  
where does my help / come from?  
My help comes / from the LORD,  
the maker of / heaven and earth.  
He will not let your / foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not / slumber;

indeed, he who watches over / Israel  
will neither / slumber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—  
the LORD is your shade / at your right hand.  
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—  
he will watch / over your life;  
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going  
both now and for- / evermore.

**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

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

*Abraham is an example of how salvation is received as a gift through faith.*

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? <sup>2</sup>If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup>What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

<sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. <sup>5</sup>However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup>For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup>because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup>As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel Acclamation

John 3:16



### Refrain



Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. *Refrain*

## Gospel

John 3:1-17

*By sharing the good news of God's love for the world, Jesus gave the gift of faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

<sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

<sup>4</sup>"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

<sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup>"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup>I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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

*Be seated.*

## Children's Devotion

### Hymn: God Loved the World So That He Gave

CW 570



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives the



Son the lost to save that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in  
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the  
sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, this truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death; this is the anchor of my faith!
- 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessèd Trinity, be praise now and eternally!

## Sermon

*Based on Romans 4*

### *"All Roads Don't Lead to Heaven"*

*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



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.



## Offertory Handbells: Ah, Holy Jesus!

Jason Krug

*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.

*Be seated.*

## Prayer

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: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

CW 811 sts. 1-2, 4



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my  
my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!  
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

### WELS Connection

#### For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Exactly What I Need: Water

Bible Readings: Exodus 17:1-7, Romans 5:1-8, John 4:5-26

Hymns: 394, 703, 673, 532, 394

# 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.**

