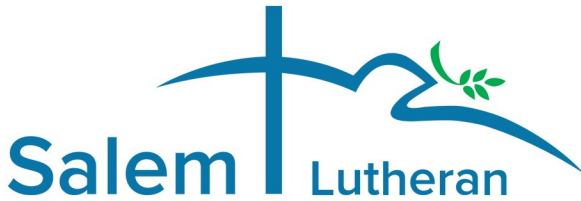


Alive[☞]

Living for HIM



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: Risen Lord, you have forgiven the guilt of my sin.

Through my baptism, my sins have been buried with you and through your resurrection I am made into something new. Renew my confidence in your promises that I might go forth from this place equipped to carry my cross, however heavy it may be, with joy in my heart. May all I say and do be to your glory forever. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would be tempted to live only for ourselves. After all, if Jesus couldn't save himself, what does it matter what he calls us to do in life. But he lives, and it makes a difference. With his resurrection he sealed our greatest need. He promises to take care of our basic needs. And he puts people into our lives so we can help them. Because he lives for us, we can now live for him.

WORSHIP SERIES: Life is full of either/or moments. Some matter more, and some matter less. One either/or moment is life-changing for every human being. Either Jesus is still dead, or Jesus rose from the dead. Since Jesus claimed he would rise from the dead, if he were to remain dead he would be both a failure and a fraud. If Christ had not been raised, we are still in our sin. But Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! It makes all the difference!

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 neither a member of this congregation nor another sister 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:

Worship Leader: Pastor JonAlden Pedersen

Piano: Madison Boerner

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Four



Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

CW 606



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re-deemed us by his blood."
songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

HYMN: This Is the Feast

CW 938 sts. Ref-4, Final Refrain



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: v. 4

4 Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
 (Final Refrain)

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 are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to

your glory; 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

Acts 17:22-31

God has determined exactly where and when we would live so that we can repent and believe the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

²²Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

St. Peter teaches that baptism saves us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

CW 557 sts. 1-5



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joyce, with ex-ul-ta-tion
2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark-ly
3 My own good works a-vailed me naught, no mer-it they at-
4 But God be-held my wretch-ed state be-fore the world's foun-
5 He spoke to his be-lov-ed Son: "It's time to have com-



spring-ing, and, with u-nit-ed heart and voice and ho-ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor-ment night and day; in sin my
tain-ing; my will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, no hope for
da-tion, and, mind-ful of his mer-cies great, he planned for
pas-sion. Then go, bright jew-el of my crown, and bring to



rap-ture sing-ing, pro-claim the won-ders God has done, how
moth-er bore me. Yet deep and deep-er still I fell; life
me re-main-ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de-spair left
my sal-va-tion. A fa-ther's heart he turned to me, sought
all sal-va-tion. From sin and sor-row set them free; slay



his right arm the vic-t'ry won. How dear-ly it has cost him!
had be-come a liv-ing hell, so firm-ly sin pos-sessed me.
on-ly death to be my share and hell to be my sen-tence.
my re-demp-tion fer-vent-ly; he gave his dear-est trea-sure.
bit-ter death for them that they may live with you for-ev-er."

“Christ Redeems Suffering”



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



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.



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 by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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 \dagger 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 \dagger 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. 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.

Our 2026 Confirmation Class is invited to attend communion first with their families.

Distribution Hymn: Draw Near

CW 662

Refrain



Draw near, draw near! Take the bod - y of your Lord.



Draw near, draw near! Drink the blood for you out-poured!



- 1 Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
- 2 Christ our Re - deem - er, God's e - ter - nal Son,
- 3 Let us ap - proach with faith - ful hearts sin - cere
- 4 With heav'n - ly bread he makes the hun - gry whole,



and drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured.
has by his cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.



Saved by his bod - y and his ho - ly blood,
He gave his life for great - est and for least,
Christ, who in this life all the saints de - fends,
Lord of the na - tions, to whom all must bow,



Refrain

with souls re - freshed we give our thanks to God.
him - self the of - f'ring and him - self the priest.
gives all be - liev - ers life that nev - er ends.
in this great feast of love be with us now.

Hymn: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

CW 557 sts. 6-10



6 The Son o - beyed his Fa - ther's will, was born of vir - gin
7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and
8 "The foe will shed my pre - cious blood, me of my life be -
9 "Now to my Fa - ther I de - part, the Ho - ly Spir - it
10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and



moth - er, and, God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, he came to
cas - tle. Your ran - som I my - self will be; for you I
reav - ing; all this I suf - fer for your good; be stead - fast
send - ing and, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, my help to
teach - ing; so shall my king - dom's work be wrought and hon - ored



be my broth - er. No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; a
strive and wres - tle. For I am yours, your friend di - vine, and
and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; my
you ex - tend - ing. He will a source of com - fort be, teach
in your preach - ing. Take care that no one's man - made laws should



ser - vant's form like mine he bore to lead the dev - il cap - tive.
ev - er - more you shall be mine; the foe shall not di - vide us.
in - no - cence shall bear your sin, and you are blest for - ev - er.
you to know and fol - low me, and in all truth will guide you.
e'er de - stroy the gos - pel's cause; this fi - nal word I leave you."

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.**

Psalms 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.

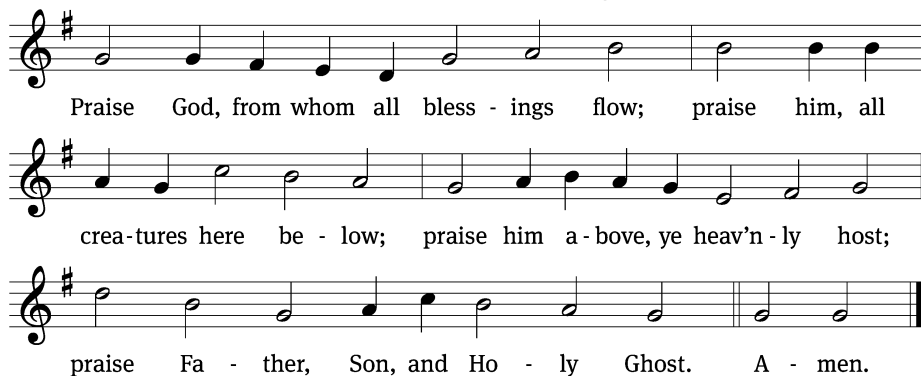
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

CW 617



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all
creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Alive: He Rules All Things for the Church

Bible Readings: Acts 1:11, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53

Hymns: 474, 472

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

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 that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should 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 God-pleasing 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.**

