



# What Makes Christians *Different*

*Christians Are  
Planted by the Word*



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**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

*What Makes Christians Different?  
Christians are Planted by the Word*

**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:** Holy Spirit, you call me to faith through your Word and then send me out with that same Word to others. Bless my faith. Make it shine in my heart and in my life to your glory always. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** Planting seed by hand can be extraordinary. In your hand, the seed looks lifeless and insignificant. You put the seed into the soil, and suddenly, all by itself, the seed germinates and sprouts and reaches to the sun. The Bible describes the supernatural process by which God calls people to faith through the gospel. He promises that his Word always accomplishes his purpose. It is powerful all on its own, without our help. As we grow in faith, we give God thanks for the miracle of his work in our lives.

**OUR WORSHIP SERIES:** The Bible says Christians are different. The answer is often something internal - attitudes or perspectives that come only from the work of the Holy Spirit in Word and sacrament. As we receive the mercy of Christ, it moves us to strive with all our being to do all the things that Jesus says Christians do - yet more things that make Christians different.

**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

Worship Assistant: Thad Kratz

Piano: Paige Reiners, Madison Boerner

Praise Group: Leah Bergemann, Jacob Olson, Marilyn Thomforde, Chloe Wolfe,  
Jessie Wolfe

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# Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



## Hymn: In This Place Your Word Is Planted

CW 981



1 In this place your Word is plant - ed; on our  
2 Let your plant - ing not be wast - ed, wilt - ed  
3 Help us trea - sure ho - ly wis - dom, sa - vor  
4 Blest are they who, truth re - ceiv - ing, know its



path the seed is sown. To the Church your  
soon in ston - y field. Let our world - ly  
ev - 'ry word you give. Help us cher - ish  
val - ue more than gold. Blest are they who,



Word is spo - ken; in our hearts a light has shone.  
cares not choke it, rob - bing you of right - ful yield.  
Je - sus' gos - pel, bread by which your peo - ple live.  
per - se - ver - ing, bear good fruit a hun - dred - fold.

*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: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.** (*Psalm 32*)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**And we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

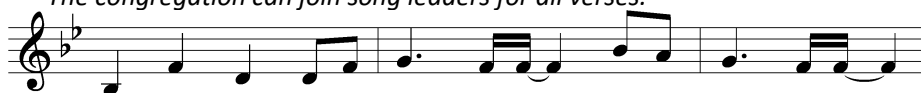
M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

**Glory Be to God: Speak, O Lord**

CW 633

*The congregation can join song leaders for all verses.*



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food  
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,  
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights



of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it  
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our  
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the



deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,  
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty,  
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.



that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic  
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -  
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can  
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your



fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.  
nev - er fail, let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.  
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

## THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### ***Prayer of the Day***

M: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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***

*Isaiah 55:6-11*

*God's Word produces the fruit that God desires.*

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

<sup>7</sup>Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

<sup>8</sup>"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup>Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. <sup>9</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

<sup>18</sup>“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup>But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. <sup>22</sup>The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

## Children’s Devotion

### Hymn of the Day: Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

CW 644



- 1 Al - might - y God, your Word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the foe of Christ and man this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world’s de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 When - e’er the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow



now let the dew of heav’n de - scend and right - eous fruits a - bound.  
but give it root in ev - ’ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.  
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.  
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow’r may know.

## Sermon

*Based on 1 Corinthians 3:5-11*

*“Many farmers, but one seed.  
Many builders, but one foundation.”*

*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.*



 [Give Online](#)

## **(Sunday) Adult Confirmation**

*After studying with one of our Pastors, Bryce Feller joins our membership and fellowship through the rite of Adult Confirmation.*

## **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:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,

bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, 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 + 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 + 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.

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.

If you have not communed with us before, please see the announcement on the inside cover of this service folder.

## Distribution Hymn: Your Body, Given for Me, O Savior

CW 671



1 Your bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, your blood, which  
2 With you, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in  
3 Who can con-demn me now? For sure - ly the Lord is  
4 Tho' death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, it can - not  
5 Thus ev - 'ry pain is dis - ap - pear-ing; one taste my



you for me have shed— these are my life and strength for -  
you and you in me. In you my soul will be de -  
near, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and thus se -  
rob me of my cheer, for he who is of death the  
heart has come to know— of Je - sus and his love en -



ev - er; by them my hun - gry soul is fed.  
light - ed, as joys in - crease and sor - rows flee.  
cure - ly with Je - sus I to heav - en rise.  
mas - ter with help and strength is al - ways near.  
dear - ing, the taste that sweet - ens ev - 'ry woe.

### Refrain



O Je - sus, may your bod - y and your blood



be for my soul the high - est good.

## Distribution Hymn: On What Has Now Been Sown

CW 925



1 On what has now been sown your blessing, Lord, be -  
2 To you our wants are known; from you are all our  
3 O grant that each of us now met be - fore you



stow; the pow'r is yours a - lone to make it  
pow'rs. Ac - cept what is your own and par - don  
here may meet to - geth - er thus when you and



spring and grow. O Lord, in grace the har - vest  
what is ours. Our prais - es, Lord, and prayers re -  
yours ap - pear and fol - low you to heav'n, our



raise and you a - lone shall have the praise!  
ceive and to your Word a blessing give.  
home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

*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.

## Hymn: Sent Forth by God's Blessing

CW 932 st. 1



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
the peo - ple of God from his dwell - ing take leave.  
The sup - per is end - ed; O be now ex - tend - ed  
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
The seed of his teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,  
shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
His grace did in - vite us; his love shall u - nite us  
to work for God's king - dom and an - swer his call.

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

Setting One from Christian Worship

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## **Fellowship & Spiritual Growth**

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. 19-Minute Summer Bible study begins at 10:15 in the sanctuary.

## **For Worship Next Week**

Worship theme: Christians Live as Wheat Among Weeds

Bible Readings: Isaiah 44:6-11, Romans 1:18-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Hymns: 873, 491, 639

## **Available Now: Salem on Church Center**

- Check in to worship with a quick tap
- Request prayer when you need it
- Update your profile so we can stay in touch
- Access a members-only directory to connect with your church family
- Give and view your giving history anytime, anywhere

Coming in the next few months: volunteer sign-ups, group access, and group chats/events, so you can connect and serve right from your phone.

## **Switching Your Giving from Vanco to Planning Center**

Salem's giving platform is moving from Vanco to Planning Center. Planning Center's processing fees are lower than Vanco's. For a family giving \$100 a week, that means about \$60 more a year goes directly to ministry instead of fees. If you give electronically, please follow these steps to move your gift over:

1. Log in to your Vanco account and cancel any existing recurring/scheduled gifts so you aren't giving twice.

**[secure.myvanco.com/L-Z44T/home](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z44T/home)**



2. Open the Church Center app. Create an account with your preferred email address. Go to Give, and enter your gift amount, frequency, and payment method.

**[saalem-stillwater.churchcenter.com/giving](https://saalem-stillwater.churchcenter.com/giving)**



### **Want help setting it up?**

Staff will be available to walk you through it in person after all worship services on **July 25 & 26 and August 1 & 2.**

## **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.**

