

What Makes Christians *Different*

*Christians Answers
Doubt with Faith*



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

*What Makes Christians Different?
Christians Answer Doubt with Faith*

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: Heavenly Father, once again I come to you in humble prayer and weak faith. Quiet my doubts as I trust in you for healing, help, and salvation. Bless my prayers and hear my praise in Jesus' name. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Wherever faith clings to the promises of God, doubt is always lingering. Doubt asks the serpent's garden question, "Did God really say?" People doubt God's care, God's promises, or God's providence. The answer to doubt is not found in loud, dramatic demonstrations. The true answer to doubt is found in the still small voice of our Savior God whispering to us in his Word. Through Word and sacrament, Christ reaches out to us with nail-scarred hands, proof of his great love. Jesus gently says, "Why did you doubt?" Our faith is restored. Christians answer doubt with faith.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: Christians are people who run to Christ for forgiveness because they have failed to live perfect lives. 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

Piano/Organ: Luke Dorn

Praise Group: Leah Bergemann, Marilyn Thomforde, Allison Dorn, Renee Nair, Tom Stob, Luke Dorn, Jacob Olson, Jessie Wolfe, Nathan Enter

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Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: All Is Well

CW 802

The praise team sings verse one and the first refrain. The congregation may join in the rest of the song.



1 The sun beams on be - hind the clouds and
2 He feels our weak - ness, knows our need, and



in the dark still grace a - bounds; all is well be-cause of
for our good he in - ter - cedes; all is well be-cause of



God's great love. The road of dis - ap - point - ment
God's great love. Through ev - 'ry fail - ure, ev - 'ry



runs where un - seen mer - cies wait for us, and all is
fear, the Lord of com - fort draws us near, and all is



well be-cause of God's great love.
well be-cause of God's great love.

Refrain



How bright - ly shines the love of the Fa - ther in our Sav - ior,



Je - sus Christ. With faith - ful hands he ful - fills ev - 'ry



prom - ise; he will nev - er leave our side.

12

3 His com-ing soon will fill the sky and
all that's wrong will be made right; with
new-born eyes we will be-hold the glo-ry of the ris-en
Lord. All will be well be-cause of God's great love;
yes, all is well be-cause of God's great love. Refrain

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 on High: All Glory Be to God Alone

CW 936



1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, for -
 2 We praise you, God, and you we bless; we
 3 Lord God, our King on heav - en's throne, our
 4 You take the whole world's sin a - way; have
 5 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One; o'er



ev - er - more the high - est One, who did our
 wor - ship you in hum - ble - ness. From day to
 Fa - ther, the Al - might - y One, O Lord, the
 mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray. You take the
 all things you are Lord a - lone. O Je - sus



sin - ful race be - friend and grace and peace to
 day we glo - ri - fy the ev - er - last - ing
 sole - be - got - ten One, Lord Je - sus Christ, the
 whole world's sin a - way; O lis - ten to the
 Christ, we glo - ri - fy you and the Spir - it,



us ex - tend. A - mong man - kind may his good
 God on high. Of your great glo - ry do we
 Fa - ther's Son, true God from all e - ter - ni -
 prayer we say. You sit at God's right hand each
 Lord Most High; with him you ev - er - more shall



will sing, all hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.
 sing, and to your throne our thanks we bring.
 ty, O Lamb of God, to you we flee.
 day; have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 be one in the Fa - ther's maj - es - ty.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what you want done; 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

1 Kings 19:9-18

The Lord answers Elijah's doubts with the gentle whisper of a gracious promise.

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." ¹¹The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁴He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

¹⁵The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:28-39

In all times, good or bad, God carries out his perfect plan for his glory and our salvation.

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 11:1



Refrain



Now faith is confidence in what we hope for
and assurance about what we do not see. *Refrain*

²²Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

²⁹“Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³²And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Devotion

CW 847



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; bear pa-tient-
2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take to guide the
3 Be still, my soul; when dear-est friends de - part and all is
4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on when we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain;	leave to your God to or - der
fu - ture as he has the past;	your hope, your con - fi - dence, let
dark - ened in the vale of tears,	then you will bet - ter know his
be for - ev - er with the Lord,	when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; in ev - 'ry change he faith-ful will re -
noth - ing shake; all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
love, his heart, who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
fear are gone, sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend
last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
his voice who ruled them while he lived be - low.
from his own full - ness all he takes a - way.
all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Sermon

Based on 1 Kings 19:9-18

“Looking for God in all the wrong places”

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, be-
gotten, 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

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymnal, Page 167

The congregation sings:

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly host:

heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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

Hymnal, Page 169

The congregation sings:

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. Amen.

Be seated.

Communion Distribution

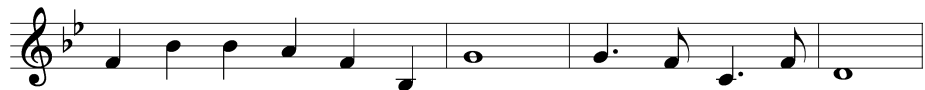
For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

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.

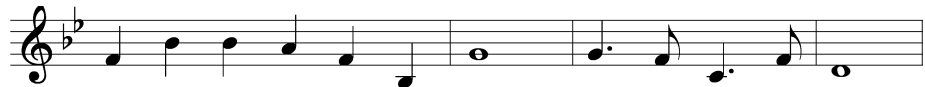
If you have not communed with us before, please see the announcement on the inside cover of this service folder.

Distribution Hymn: He Will Hold Me Fast

CW 813



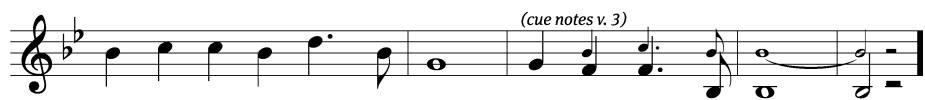
1 When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2 Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast;
3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;



when the tempt - er would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.
pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.
jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; he will hold me fast.

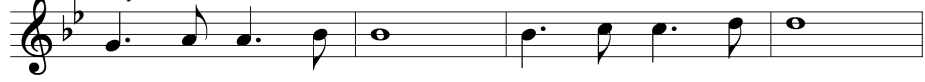


I could nev - er keep my hold thro' life's fear - ful path,
He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast



for my love is of - ten cold— he must hold me fast.
bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X)

Refrain



He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;



for my Sav - ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Distribution Hymn: Draw Near

CW 662



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,



with souls re - fresh - ed 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.

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: Immovable Our Hope Remains

CW 832

Verses 1 & 3 will be sung by the Praise Group, the congregation may join in verses 2 & 4



1 Im - mov - a - ble our hope re - mains, though shift - ing sands be -
2 This is e - ter - nal life: to know the liv - ing God and
3 The Lord ac - quits, who can con - demn? Though Sa - tan's ac - cu -
4 Built in - to Christ, se - cure we stand, for with his Spir - it



fore us lie; the One who washed a - way our stains shall
Christ, the Son. The Sav - ior will not let us go un -
sa - tions fly, his pow'r can nev - er reach our names, to
we've been sealed; by grace we'll see the prom - ised land where



bear us safe - ly to the skies. The floods may rise, the
til his sav - ing work is done. Our debt was great, as
blot them from the Book of Life. The Son has sure - ly
ev - 'ry sor - row shall be healed. To God who gave his



winds may beat, tor - ren - tial rains de - scend, yet
was our need, but now the price is paid. Who
made us free, his Word for - ev - er stands, and
on - ly Son, to Je - sus Christ, our Lord to

God his own will not for - get; he'll love and keep us
 can be - hold Im - man - uel bleed and doubt his will - ing -
 all our joy is know - ing we are grav - en on his
 God the Spir - it, Three in One, be songs of praise for -

till the end. You'll love and keep us till the end.
 ness to save? We trust your will - ing - ness to save.
 wound-ed hands. We're grav - en on your wound - ed hands.
 ev - er - more. We'll sing your praise for - ev - er - more.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Preview “Unexpected Truths” Worship Series

Acknowledgments

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.
 Adult Bible study begins at 10:15 in the sanctuary.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Unexpected Truths: The Church is for All People

Bible Readings: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Ephesians 2:13-22; Matthew 15:21-28

Hymns: 920, 855, 861

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.**

