

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

January 25, 2026

**Everyday Stewards: Week 3
“Stewards Living With Purpose”**



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

mdressler@salembjmo.org

Church Office: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Monday-Thursday

314-741-6781

5180 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

Fax 314-741-1797

School Office: 7:45 AM - 3:45 PM -Jeff Burkee, Principal

314-741-8220

5190 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

Fax 314-741-7242

Website: www.salembjmo.org

Church Email: salechurch@salembjmo.org

Divine Services:

Sunday 10:00 AM; Wednesday 7:00 PM

WELCOME to the Lord's House today! May God help us to worship Him in spirit and in truth! Before you leave, guests are requested to sign the guest book, which is located in the narthex. Both guests and members are asked to fill out an attendance card, located in the pews, returning it as you leave. We invite you to return and worship with us again. If you do not have a regular church home, then we invite you to join our family. May this celebration of the mercy of God enrich your spiritual life and be uplifting for each one of you.

INDIVIDUAL HEARING ASSISTANCE SETS are available for those with impaired hearing. Please ask an usher for assistance.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and **PRINTED COPIES OF THE SERMON** are available in the narthex.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available in the narthex. The bags contain a coloring book, drawing paper, reading books, crayons, and a pencil. Parents are welcome to grab a bag for their children to use during the service. Please remember to replace the bag following worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available on the table in the narthex. These feature a coloring sheet and activities for children based on the Scripture readings of the day. Please help yourself.

DOORS ARE LOCKED after the service begins. If you need to exit the building, please let an usher know, and they'll wait at the door to let you back inside.

Cover Image: James Tissot "The Exhortation to the Apostles" (1850)

*We are Salem, a family nurturing God's children
to live loving lives in faith.*

HOLY COMMUNION

In accordance with the historic practice of the Christian Church, our congregation practices close communion, meaning that normally our members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations commune here. Please speak to the pastor about exceptions to this general practice. Please also note that this practice in no way intends to comment on the state of anyone else's faith: we simply understand our communing together is also a public profession of unity in doctrine, which not everyone shares. Those who do not commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to indicate that you are not communing) or remain in the pew during communion and pray.

LIFE THOUGHT

Abortion and assisted suicide are often followed by crushing amounts of guilt and shame. While the Church rightly teaches that these are sins against God and neighbor, may we never forget that Christ has sent us to preach the Gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation (1 Corinthians 1:17-18). In Christ, "there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish," (Isaiah 9:1), for He has come in the fulfillment of His promises, bringing the Kingdom of God near to us (Matthew 4:14-17), that all who repent and believe in Him can take shelter in the Lord (Psalm 27:5).

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Preacher:	Pastor Martin Dressler
Fieldworker:	Nick Vukalovich
Organist/Pianist:	Elin Hogan-Gomez
Greeters:	Roger & Joyce Sachtleben
Prayer Team:	Cathy Burkee and Reggie Miller

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Greet the Rising Sun (LSB 871)

1 Greet the ris - ing sun, Shin - ing with bright force,
2 Fa - ther, hear my prayer, Keep me safe to - day;
3 Lord, I will to - day On Your love re - ly;

Like an ath - lete strong, Set to run the course;
Sanc - ti - fy my thoughts, All I do and say:
Let no e - vil thought Cloud the clear blue sky.

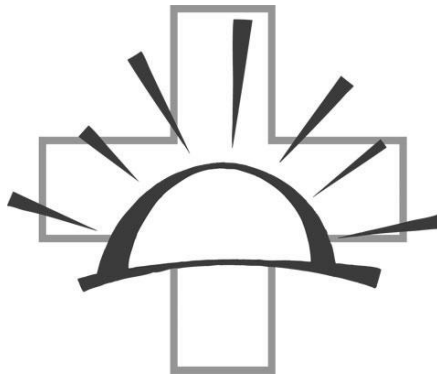
Birds soar high a - bove, Wild-flow'rs bloom be - low;
As I teach the young And es - teem the old,
Joy - ful and con - tent With life's sim - pler things,

With the day's new light, Glad to work I go.
May Your boun - teous grace By my life be told.
Know-ing all I need From Your kind - ness springs.

Text: Zhao Zichen, 1888-1979; tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Chinese

Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345



INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

P: Our God is such a gracious Father.

C: He has showered me with gift upon gift, grace upon grace.

P: He has made us His children through baptism.

C: He has given me His Holy Spirit.

P: He gives us His own presence in the Lord's Supper.

C: He daily and richly forgives my sins and the sins of all believers.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: And yet others would often be hard-pressed to see that.

C: Often my life does not reflect how gracious God has been to me.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Silence for reflection on your need for a Savior.

P: Most merciful Father,

C: You have been so gracious, yet my actions have not demonstrated all that You have done for me. I confess that I have often been selfish with my time, harsh with my words, callous toward those in need, ungrateful for the gifts You've given, and mistrustful of Your continued faithfulness. Father, please be merciful to me and forgive me for Jesus' sake. Amen.

P: Your Heavenly Father is gracious and merciful. He was gracious enough to send His only Son to die on the cross to forgive your sin and to rise that you may walk in newness of life. It is for Jesus' sake that God once again says "Yes" to you! Therefore, in the stead and by the command of Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Yes, it shall be so! Amen!



KYRIE (This Far By Faith)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
Refrain

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Refrain**

Refrain:

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer-cy on us, O Lord.

THIS IS THE FEAST (This Far By Faith)

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God our Father, Your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of Your Spirit lead us to acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 36:2-7

And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the LORD had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work. And they received from Moses all the contribution that the people of Israel had brought for doing the work on the

sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning, so that all the craftsmen who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task that he was doing, and said to Moses, "The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the LORD has commanded us to do." So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, "Let no man or woman do anything more for the contribution for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from bringing, for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

*



P: I give you thanks, O LORD, with | my whole heart;*
before the gods I | sing your praise;

**C: I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your |
faithfulness,*
for you have exalted above all things
your name | and your word.**

P: On the day I called, you | answered me;*
my strength of soul | you increased.

**C: All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, | O LORD,*
for they have heard the words | of your mouth,**

P: and they shall sing of the ways | of the LORD,*
for great is the glory | of the LORD.

**C: For though the LORD is high, he regards the | lowly,*
but the haughty he knows | from afar.**

P: Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you pre- | serve my life;*
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand de- | livers me.

**C: The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;*
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work | of your hands.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:23-33

"All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but

the good of his neighbor. Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience. For "the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 8:1-3

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve

were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (LSB 851)

1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our
 4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your

life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
 free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your
 hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the

lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 sen - tence, "You have done it all to Me."
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.

And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You
 Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to

count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful
 You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py
 deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your
 stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of

and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?
 all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-89, alt.

Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87

+++

SERMON: "Stewards Living with Purpose" 1 Corinthians 10:31

Pastor Dressler

(Please stand.)

STEWARDSHIP LITANY

P: Heavenly Father, You have called us to be stewards of the Gospel so others will hear the Good News of God's love and forgiveness.

C: Lord, grant us the faith we need to be Everyday Stewards.

P: Dear God, through Your grace, our stewardship changes from specific acts to being Everyday Stewards. Because You transform our hearts, we are eager to do good works that please and honor You.

C: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards, and we pray for wisdom, strength, and conviction to live as Everyday Stewards of Your blessings.

P: Lord God, as Everyday Stewards, we commit our lives, gifts, and resources to fulfill Your will for our lives.

C: Lord, help us to show proper gratitude for Who You are and what You do for us.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Dear Lord, as Your Holy Spirit works in us through Word and Sacraments, we become Everyday Stewards. Thank You for changing us into people who understand stewardship to be a joy rather than only a duty. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

OFFERING *(prayer requests)*

If you have not yet done so, please take this time to fill out your commitment form. You may bring it with you as you come forward for communion and place it in the box in the center aisle. May God grant you the ability to keep your commitment!

(Please stand.)

PRAYERS – Each petition concludes with “Lord, in Your mercy.”
Congregation responds with verse below.



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin. Follow the direction of the usher to approach the altar. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.

PREFACE

LSB 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

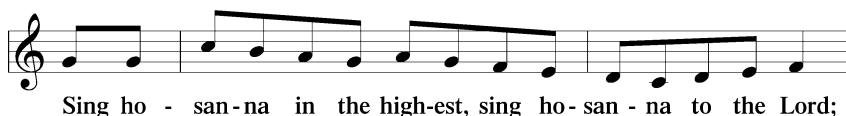
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**C: Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

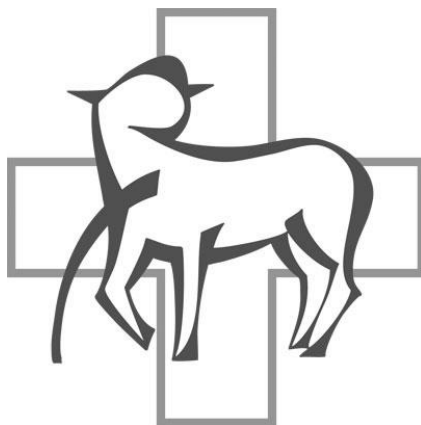
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.



(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: Shine, Jesus, Shine (With One Voice 651)

Refrain:

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;
 blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
 Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with love and mer - cy;
 send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
 2. As we gaze on Your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -
 dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
 play Your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
 set us free by the truth You now bring us.
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell Your sto - ry.
 Shine on me, shine on me.
 Shine on me, shine on me.

CCLI License # 11503973

Sent Forth By God's Blessing (LSB 643)

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,

The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.

The Sup-er is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
 Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
 Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks - giv-ing

To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.

Tune: Welsh

Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345



At the Lamb's High Feast (LSB 633)



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 Alleluia!

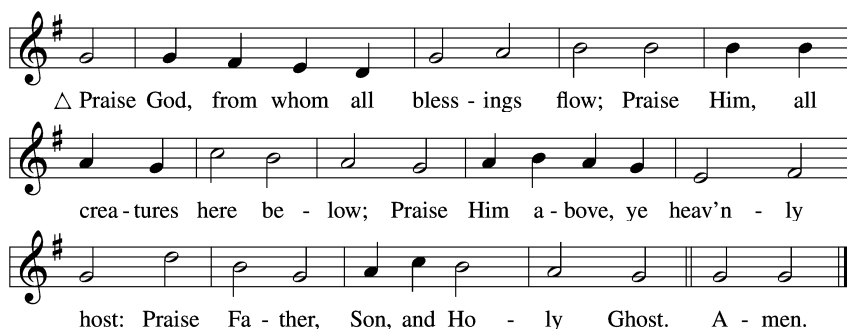
7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
 Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice

(Please stand)

DOXOLOGY



△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN: O Church, Arise (Keith Getty and Stuart Townend)



1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar-mour on; Hear the
2. Our call to war, to love the cap-tive soul, but to
3. Come see the cross, where love and mer-cy meet, as the
4. So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give



call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a-against the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed be-
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; That we may run with faith, to



they are strong, in the strength that God has giv -
 wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val -
 neath His feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris -
 win the prize of a serv - ant, good and faith -



en. With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a -
 our. When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
 en. And as the stone is rolled a - way and Christ e -
 ful. As saints of old still line the way, re - tell-ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; An ar - my bold, whose bat-tle
 out - come is se - cure. And Christ will have the prize for
 merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin-ues
 tri - umphs of His grace, we hear their calls, and hun-ger



cry is Love, reach-ing out to those in dark - ness.
 which He died, and in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
 'til the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.
 for the day when, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

CCLI License # 11503973

Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK –

"Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: 'Ye were bought at a price', and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God."

—Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

PRAYER CORNER

Almighty God, grant that Your holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts through Your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of Your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of January 25 through February 1

TODAY: *Zechariah 1:1-21; Romans 14:1-23*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

MONDAY: *Zechariah 2:1—3:10; Romans 15:1-13*
Sewing Circle 8:30AM
Confirmation Class 7:00PM

TUESDAY: *Zechariah 4:1—5:11; Romans 15:14-33*
Voters Meeting 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY: *Zechariah 6:1—7:14; Romans 16:17-27*
School Chapel 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *Zechariah 8:1-23; 2 Timothy 1:1-18*

FRIDAY: *Zechariah 9:1-17; 2 Timothy 2:1-26*
Book of Joshua Bible Study 10:30-12N

SATURDAY: *Zechariah 10:1—11:3; 2 Timothy 3:1-17*

NEXT SUNDAY: Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

+++

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD –Week of January 11, 2026
Sunday School 11 students, 3 teachers

Worship Service Attendance

Sunday, January 11 – 76
Wednesday, January 14 –13

Online views

Sunday, January 11 – 9

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)

January 11: Physical-\$7,766.25; Online-\$802.45

Total-\$8,568.45

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD –Week of January 18, 2026
Sunday School 10 students, 3 teachers

Worship Service Attendance

Sunday, January 18 – 91
Wednesday, January 21 –11

Online views

Sunday, January 18 – 15

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)

January 18: Physical-\$3,369.00; Online-\$1,433.18

Total-\$4,802.18

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Divorce rates in America range from 40-50%. For second marriages, it's closer to 60%. Some people have noticed with optimism that rates have declined somewhat over the last few years. But that decline is most likely attributable to the fact that fewer people are bothering to get married in the first place! What does God have to say about divorce? Join us next week as we listen to what Jesus says about this and other controversial issues in Matthew 5. See you then!

To access by phone: 312 626 6799. Follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked (271 170 8930 #). When asked to enter participant code hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (523312#).

To access online: Go to Zoom.com. Click "join a meeting" at the top of the page, and enter 271 170 8930 in meeting ID box. The passcode is sPzuL5. Questions? Call the office! 314-741-6781.

2. TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL – Our lesson in Sunday school was based on the scripture reading, Matthew 4:12-25 – Jesus begins to preach, heals the sick and calls his first disciples. We focused on this 3rd Sunday in Epiphany on the account of when Jesus begins his ministry, calling His first disciples, and healing the sick. We are called be Jesus' disciples as well.

3. NEW WAY TO GIVE ONLINE Our online giving platform is changing! We will be making the shift after January 31, 2026, at which point we will be discontinuing the current Abundant app and website. New to online giving? Head to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXSD/campaign/C-162XV> and set up your account. If you have any questions, please speak to Lisa Briggs, Elin Hogan-Gomez, or Nancy Joy.

4. EVERYDAY STEWARDS This is the third and final week of our stewardship emphasis, Everyday Stewards, and it is also commitment Sunday. The theme for this week is "Stewards Living with Purpose." God's purpose for us is to be in mission. He wants us to partner with Him in His work "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). God "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). We are blessed with the privilege to be God's instruments through whom He works to share His life-saving Gospel with people we meet. We can be focused on God's purpose because we are confident in His love, care, and faithfulness.

5. HAVE YOU LOST SOMETHING? We may have found it! Our Lost and Found bin (on top of the coat rack next to the elevator) has gotten quite full, and some items have been there for a long time. If you have misplaced a treasure, please take a moment to check and see if it is there. In several weeks, we will be donating any items that remain.

6. SUB SANDWICHES! We will once again be offering Super Bowl Sub Sandwiches! Each sandwich comes on a 6-inch white or wheat sub-roll, and includes 4 kinds of meat: roast beef, turkey, salami, & ham; cheese, onion, and lettuce. The cost is \$8.00 per sandwich. Pick-up is available in Salem Lutheran School Lobby, Sunday, February 8, 2026, 11:00 AM-NOON. Orders are due by Wednesday, February 4, 2026. Return forms to boxes in church narthex or school office. Questions and/or place an order, contact Susan Scherer at 314-355-2716 or 314-741-8220. Proceeds will go to support our School.

7. THE JANUARY VOTERS' MEETING will be held on Tuesday, January 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. For those who would prefer not to attend in person, the meeting will also be broadcast online via Zoom. To connect to the Zoom meeting with your computer, please go to www.zoom.com/join with your internet browser and then enter the following meeting ID: 968 6885 3909. If prompted for a password, enter 5180. Please join the Zoom meeting by 6:50 p.m. so that we may start **promptly** at 7:00 p.m. If you need to call in via phone instead of through computer or smartphone, here are the phone numbers: (312) 626-6799 or (309) 205-3325. Just follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked 968 6885 3909 #), when asked to enter participant code just hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (5180#).

8. DONATIONS DESIRED FOR NEW CHRISTMAS TREE For the last couple of years, some members of the Christmas decorating crew have mentioned it is time to replace the Christmas trees in the church sanctuary. The limbs had been shedding a lot of needles and more and more lights were not working. To that end, we took advantage of after Christmas sales and purchased a 12-foot LED pre-lit tree from Balsam Hill. It will adorn our sanctuary this coming Advent and hopefully for years to come. We desire donations toward the purchase of the tree. If you would like to donate, you may place your donation in the offering plate with a comment noting it's for the Christmas tree, or you may give online at our online donation site, also noting the donation is for the Christmas tree. Any donations beyond what is needed for the tree will be used to upgrade other Christmas decorations.

9. THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE LUTHERAN WITNESS takes up the topic of true leisure: "living in tune with the Creator and the rest of creation... (and) learning to celebrate what God gives, embracing the joy of being His creature in His world," as the Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann (Pastor Dressler's father-in-law) writes. The issue also explores how genuine leisure frees us to serve our neighbors without weighing the cost, and it takes up the related topics of the Third Commandment and Sabbath rest, including the recent trend of "digital Sabbaths," or fasting from digital devices on Sundays. It is on *The Lutheran Witness* table in the narthex. Take it home with you, read it. Return it next Sunday, for sure in two Sundays.

10. SAVE THE DATE – SALEM SAUSAGE LUNCH: A buffet-style lunch serving Salem's famous sausage is being planned for Sunday, March 1. The buffet will be open from Noon through 1:30 p.m. In addition to sausage - sauerkraut, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread, apple sauce, and dessert will be served. Advanced tickets will be required with sales beginning February 1. Details regarding tickets will be posted in future bulletins, as well as on Salem's Facebook page.

SCHOOL NEWS

Scoop NEWS

Thank you!

A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Keith Scherer. As many of you know, we dismantled our outdated computer lab since each student now has their own computer (Chromebook or Tablet). The question became: what do we do with all of this outdated equipment? Keith once again came to the rescue and arranged for all the equipment to be picked up and recycled properly. Three huge bins of material were gathered and are now being recycled. Thank you, Mr. Scherer, for your ongoing support of the school and technology at Salem!

New Web Site to Premiere

Last year, I wrote a grant request to The Lutheran Foundation totally redo our outdated website. The funds came in July, and we were already talking about a new website and who would design it. We picked a Lutheran company out of Colorado. Now, seven months later, we are about to launch the new site. It is not only computer-friendly but cell phone-friendly as well. Information will follow—possibly even today—about when this will take place. You should be aware that we have the **SAME WEBSITE ADDRESS**. This has not changed, but the site is much less clunky and has a streamlined, fresh appearance.

Registration Opening Soon

Keep an eye out for information regarding registration for the 2026–2027 academic year. Enrollment is scheduled to open near the end of January. We encourage you to tell your friends, relatives, and neighbors about Salem and our 165-year history of providing quality Christian-Lutheran education to this community.

Important Dates: February 13 & 16

There will be no school on Friday, February 13th, and Monday, February 16th, in observance of Presidents' Day Weekend. Additionally, Salem will be celebrating Black History Month throughout the month of February.

Have You Watched Our Videos?

Have you had a chance to see our school in action? Search for "Salem Lutheran School Black Jack, MO" online to find numerous videos showcasing our ministry. We invite you to take a few minutes to watch and share them!

Did You Know?

- The Book Fair is coming to Salem
- You can sponsor a hot lunch
- You can invite your friends and neighbors to check out Salem Lutheran Church and School
- The "Teacher Feature" coming up in January will be Ms. Pena
- We need someone to be our Librarian
- We will observe Presidents' Day Weekend on February 13 & 16

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER: Week of January 25, 2026

- MEMBERS:

Rev. Tim Schulte; Daly & Cynthia Schulz; Martin & Yvette Schulz; Rita Seay

- HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:

Dante Neal

Lois Niehaus

Sharon Perko

Rita Seay

Alicia Waller

Mary Warner

Don Weiss

Betty Williams

Steven Ziegler

Donna Barney

Carole Breeden

Barbara Cromer

Clyde Dempsey

Kenneth Graff

Norman Loebis

- ILL / HOSPITALIZED:

Gerald Gronemeier

Rodger Altevogt

Tristan—student of Tina Kassebaum

Alicia (Brinker) & David Lindemann

Gene Stellhorn

Ken Patterson

Nancy Joy

Dale Schulz

Carolyn Gannon-Allen—sister of Cindy Schulz

LC—MS Missouri District President Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan—recovering from stroke

Inge Hainke—back surgery recovery

Todd Fuller

Susan Smith—continued fight with cancer

Melba Linhardt

- OUR WORLD:

Ukraine, Russia, Venezuela

- **BIRTHDAYS:** Samuel Morgan (1/25); Kay Goetsch (1/25); Betty Williams (1/27); Yvonne White (1/28); Kimberly Boyd (1/29); Judy Buenger (1/30); Don Weiss (1/31); Angela Staples (1/31)