

Salem Lutheran Church and School

March 4, 2026

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place

Mount Sinai



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

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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.

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.

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

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: The Law of God Is Good and Wise (LSB 579)



1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His
2 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge
3 To those who help in Christ have found And would in
4 But those who scorn - ful - ly dis - dain God's Law shall



will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of righ - teous -
of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -
works of love a - bound It shows what deeds are His de -
then in sin re - main; Its ter - ror in their ear re -



ness, And dooms to death when we trans - gress.
tate And turn from sin be - fore too late.
light And should be done as good and right.
sounds And keeps their wick - ed - ness in bounds.

- 5 The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow'r to justify.
- 6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug



OPENING SENTENCES

P: In the name of † Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: After 400 years in a foreign land,

C: **the Israelites had forgotten who they were.**

P: After 400 years in a foreign land,

C: **the Israelites had forgotten how to live as God's people.**

P: After 400 years in a foreign land,

C: **the Israelites had forgotten their God.**

P: On Mount Sinai, God appeared in thunder, lightning, smoke, and cloud,

C: **and all God's people trembled.**

P: And on that mountain,

C: **God delivered the Law to His people.**

+++

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: It is that Law that confronts us today, brothers and sisters. In that Law, God reveals His will for us. In that Law, God reveals who we are supposed to be and how we are supposed to live. In that Law, we see, as in a mirror, the depth of our degradation, and it makes us tremble. Together, we confess the Ten Commandments.

C: **You shall have no other gods.**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

P: Brothers and sisters, let us confess to our God that we have sinned, that we have lived as if we were not His people and as if He were not our God.

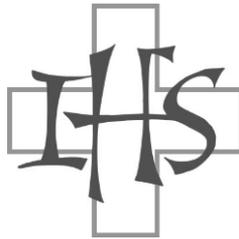
Silence for reflection

P: Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and everlasting God, You revealed Your Law on Sinai's height. Direct, sanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of Your laws and in the works of Your commandments that through Your mighty protection we may ever be preserved in both body and soul; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 19:16-20

On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

P: O Lord, our God,

C: have mercy upon us.

PSALM 103:1-13

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

**C: Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**

P: who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**C: The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

P: He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

**C: The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

**C: He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

**C: As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.**

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:21-31

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!
For the children of the desolate one will be more
than those of the one who has a husband.”

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

P: O Lord, our God,
C: **have mercy upon us.**

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

P: O Lord, our God,
C: **have mercy upon us.**



RESPONSORY



L In-to Your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



C In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



L You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



C In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



L Glory be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.



C In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

(Please be seated)



HYMN: O Dearest Jesus (LSB 439, stzs 1-5, 7, 12)



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
 3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
 4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
 With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
 It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
 The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
 They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
 Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
 The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
 cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
 her - it, This I do mer - it.
 owe Him, Who would not know Him.

5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
 The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
 Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
 God is committed.

7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
 That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
 All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
 While Thou wert dying.

12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
 That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
 To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
 Henceforth forever.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

SERMON: "The Mountain of His Uniting Presence" Exodus 19:4
Pastor Dressler

HYMN: My Hope Rests Firm (Richard Creighton, Keith Getty)

1. My hope rests firm on Je - sus Christ, He is my
2. My hope sus - tains me as I strive and strain to -
3. My hope pro - vides me with a spur to help me
4. My hope is to be with my Lord, to know as
on - ly plea. Though all the world should
wards the goal; Though still I stum - ble
run this race: I know my tears will
I am known; To serve Him glad - ly
point and scorn, His ran - som leaves me free, His
in - to sin, His death paid for it all, His
turn to joy the day I see His face, the
all my days in praise be - fore His throne, in
ran - som leaves me free.
death paid for it all.
day I see His face.
praise be - fore His throne.

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OFFERING

(Please stand)

PRAYERS - *Each petition concludes with "Lord, hear our prayer."
Congregation responds with verse below.*

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.**

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 and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**



SENDING HYMN: Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow (LSB 880)



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,
 2 The ra - dian sun has van - ished, Its gold - en
 3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in
 4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your
 5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.
 rays are ban - ished From dark - ning skies of night;
 star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;
 wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.
 night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic
 But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our
 And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish
 Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing
 Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
 sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.
 be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.
 o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.
 tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517

Acknowledgments

Lutheran Service Book

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