

*Salem Lutheran
Church and School*

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

mdressler@salemchurch.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.salemchurch.org

Church Email: salemchurch@salemchurch.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.

On the cover: "The Raising of Lazarus," Rembrandt, 1630-1632.

*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

Jesus is the "resurrection and the life" (John 11:25), the one true God who raises the dead from their graves and gives them new life (Ezekiel 37:5-6). Everything Jesus has said and done testifies that He gives, sustains, and loves life. It is inconceivable to think that Jesus, who raised Lazarus from the tomb and who died to "give life to our mortal bodies" (Romans 8:11), would approve of the murder of any innocent person, regardless of their size or condition.

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 Bob Briggs
Liturgist:	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: In the Morning When I Rise (LSB 976)



1 In the morn - ing when I rise, In the morn - ing when I rise,
2 Dark mid - night was my cry, Dark mid - night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, Just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, when I come to die, Oh, when I come to die,
5 And when I want to sing, And when I want to sing,



In the morn - ing when I rise, Give me Je - sus.
Dark mid - night was my cry, Give me Je - sus.
Just a - bout the break of day, Give me Je - sus.
Oh, when I come to die, Give me Je - sus.
And when I want to sing, Give me Je - sus.

Refrain

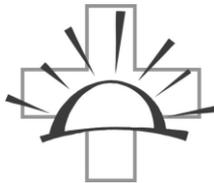


Give me Je - sus, Give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, Give me Je - sus.

Text and tune: African American spiritual



INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

C: Amen!

P: On Galilee's shore, Jesus extended an invitation to the first disciples.
He said,

C: "Follow Me!"

P: To Matthew who sat counting taxes at his desk, Jesus said,

C: "Follow Me!"

P: To those who wanted to be His disciples, Jesus said,

C: "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."

P: Brothers and sisters, in the waters of baptism, Jesus extended an invitation to you as well. He said,

C: "Follow Me!"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: But we know that we have not always accepted that invitation. Together, let us confess our failure to be the disciples God has called us to be.

Silence to reflect on your need for a Savior.

P: Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I confess to You that I have failed. I have not lived faithfully as Your creature or followed Jesus as His disciple. I have often rejected Your call because it is difficult. At times, I have let my sinful nature take control instead of taking up my cross. Forgive me, Father, for flirting with sin. Forgive me for not fully embracing the new life You have given me through Your Son. For His sake, have mercy on me.

P: Jesus did not reject the call to be our Savior. He died on the cross for your sins. He knew them all, every last one of them. He took your sin, and in exchange He has given you His righteousness. Therefore, hear this Word of God to you: I forgive your sin in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: In this season of Lent, hear again the call of Jesus. He says,

C: "Follow Me!"

P: Then let us deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow Him.

C: Amen.

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KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, they were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130



P: Out | of the depths*
I cry to you, | O LORD!

C: O Lord, | hear my voice!*
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!

P: If you, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,*
O Lord, | who could stand?

C: But with you there is for- | givenness,*
that you | may be feared.

P: I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
and in his | word I hope;

C: my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the | morning,*
more than watchmen for the | morning.

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.

C: And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

+++

EPISTLE

Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the

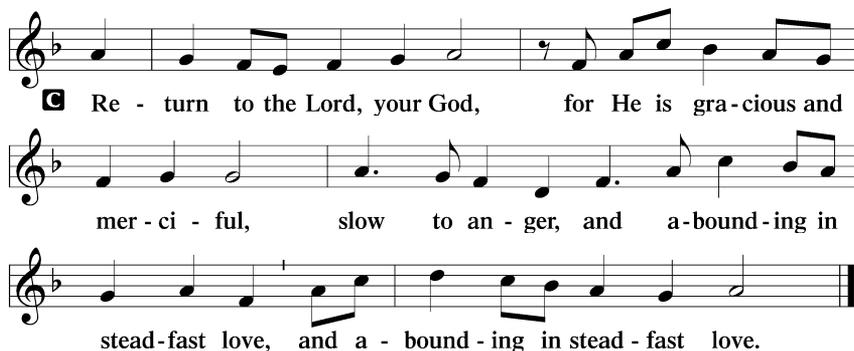
Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:17-27, 38-53

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

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

When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but

I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: He Will Hold Me Fast (One and All Rejoice 283)



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 Through life's fear - ful
 He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom - is - es shall
 Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me



path; For my love is of - ten cold; He must hold me
 last; Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me
 fast Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at

Refrain:



fast. _____ He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
 fast. _____
 last! _____



For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

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SERMON: "Raising the Bar from Human Effort to Divine Action"

Pastor Briggs

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning." Psalm 130:6

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus/O Lord, You're Beautiful"
Helen H. Lemmel and Keith Green
adapted Elin Hogan-Gomez

*O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free.*

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.*

*Through death into life everlasting
He passed and we follow Him there
O'er us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conq'rors we are*

*His Word shall not fail you, He promised.
Believe Him and all will be well.
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell*

*O Lord, You're beautiful
Your face is all I seek
And when Your eyes are on this child
Your grace abounds to me.*

(Please stand.)

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

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,

U - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

Translation: Where charity and love are found, God is there (based on 1 John 4:16)

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 160

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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 161

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus

LORD'S PRAYER

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.**

PAX DOMINI

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

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 962



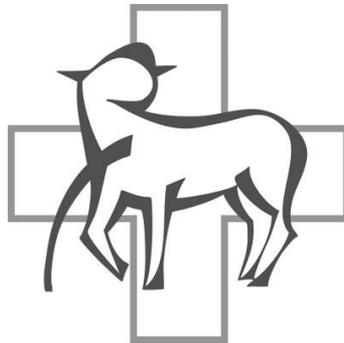
Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us Your peace, grant us Your peace, grant us Your peace.

Text: Traditional; tr. International Consultation on English Texts, alt.

Tune: Paul D. Weber, 1949

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(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: I Am the Bread of Life (S. Suzanne Toolan)

"I am the Bread of life. You who
 "The bread that I will give is my
 "Un less you eat of the
 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion,
 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that
 come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the
 lieve in meshall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, who has
 me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world."
 "And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (LSB 685)



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth (LSB 438)



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con-forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send, To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com-plaint, That spot-less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con-dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion."
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487-1553

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(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
△ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1-2): James Quinn, 1919-2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948-2025

Tune: American

Text (sts. 1-2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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: Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart (LSB 708)



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
 3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
 all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
 grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
 lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
 peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
 Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
 tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg

Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK –

Though great our sins, yet greater still
Is God's abundant favor;
His hand of mercy never will
Abandon us, nor waver.
Our shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow.

—Excerpt from *From Depths of Woe*, a hymn by Martin Luther
based on Psalm 130.

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 One from Lutheran Service Book

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LENT WORSHIP AT SALEM: **“How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place!”**

These special services will continue every Wednesday through March 25. Worship is held at 4PM and 7PM, and we have a supper in between!

Palm Sunday is March 29, and Holy Week services will be held on Maundy Thursday (April 2), Good Friday (April 3), Holy Saturday (April 4), and Easter Sunday (April 5). There will be no worship service on Wednesday, April 1.

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of March 22 through March 29

TODAY: *Exodus 1:1-22; Mark 14:12-31*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

MONDAY: *Exodus 2:1-22; Mark 14:32-52*
No School-Spring Break
Confirmation Class 7:00PM

TUESDAY: *Exodus 2:23—3:22; Mark 14:53-72*
No School-Spring Break
Voters Meeting 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY: *Exodus 4:1-18; Mark 15:1-15*
No School-Spring Break
Lent Worship 4:00PM & 7:00PM
Souper Supper 5:00PM

THURSDAY: *Exodus 4:19-31; Mark 15:16-32*
No School-Spring Break
Shoebox Party 10AM-2PM

FRIDAY: *Exodus 5:1—6:1; Mark 15:33-47*
No School-Spring Break
Book of Joshua Bible Study 10:30-12N

SATURDAY: *Exodus 7:1-25; Mark 16:1-20*

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

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A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD –Week of March 15, 2026
Sunday School 10 students, 3 teachers

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, March 15 – 86
Wednesday, March 18 – 45 + 15

Online views
Sunday, March 15 – 14
Wednesday, March 18 – 4

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)
March 15: Physical-\$5,256.00; Online-\$1,241.55
Total-\$6,497.55

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY “Who am I to judge?” Have you ever heard or said this? If so, you may have been correct...or maybe not! Join us next week to see what Jesus really tells us about judging.

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 – We have been working on our Easter music preparations and took a trip to the balcony to get used to being in that space. We also read about the raising of Lazarus, and talked about how it this account shows both the humanity and divinity of Jesus.

3. TO GIVE ONLINE, head to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXSD/campaign/C-162XV>. There, you can set up your account. If you have any questions, please speak to Lisa Briggs, Elin Hogan-Gomez, or Nancy Joy.

4. SOUPER SUPPERS will be served in the church basement between the 4:00PM and 7:00PM Lent worship services, beginning at about 5:00PM. The menu for this Wednesday is chicken noodle soup, pulled pork, dessert, and beverage. Proceeds from the free will offering will be shared between our Lutherans for Life chapter and the Salem Benevolent Fund.

5. EASTER LILIES – It’s time to place your order for Easter lilies. They are \$16.00, and order forms are available in the Narthex. Please order by **Monday, March 30**.

6. OUR NEXT HYMN SING is TODAY, March 22. It will begin roughly at 9:45AM and will take the place of the usual preservice music. We will focus **only** on selections from [LSB 418-456](#).

7. THE LUTHERAN RESALE SHOP Just a friendly reminder: We need volunteers for tomorrow, Monday, March 23 to help with our “change-over.” We need men and women to either sit or stand to hang our previously loved Spring clothing. All who help that day will be gifted with \$10 in merchandise as a thank you. We are at 6701 W. Florissant, St. Louis. Call 314-389-9970 if you need further instructions.

8. PALM SUNDAY is next Sunday, March 29, and our 10:00AM service will include a palm processional—and a coat/blanket collection! Time to clean out your closets and bring in your gently used coats, jackets, and blankets that you can pass along to someone else to enjoy.

9. EASTER EGG HUNT We will again host an Easter egg hunt for members and friends, on **Saturday, April 4, at 10:00AM**. The event will feature craft and coloring opportunities, of course, eggs filled with candy!

We need:

- folks to chat with the adults who bring their children
- people to offer light supervision of the crafting stations
- help with cleaning up

We will also be collecting small *individually wrapped* candies that can fit inside the eggs. Small toys/trinkets are also welcome! Donations can be brought to the church office, or you can bring them with you when you come for church and leave the items in the designated basket in the Narthex. We also need a few volunteers to help stuff the eggs on the evening of **Monday, March 30**. Questions? Please call/email Pastor or Elin!

10. THE MARCH VOTERS' MEETING will be held on Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement and on Zoom. To connect via your computer, please go to www.zoom.com/join and then enter the following meeting ID: 968 6885 3909. If prompted for a password, enter 5180. If you need to join via phone call instead: (312) 626-6799 or (309) 205-3325. Follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked (968 6885 3909 #), when asked to enter participant code hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (5180#).

11. SPRING CLEANUP - It is that time of year again. To get the outside of the church and school looking great for Easter, we will have our annual spring cleanup on Saturday, March 28 at 9:00 am. Please bring rakes, gloves and any other tools to help. It is an opportunity to have some great fellowship and to prepare to celebrate His resurrection.

12. LUTHERANS FOR LIFE- You can join Lutherans for Life without attending meetings! Members will receive *LifeDate* in the mail quarterly to your home. You will have all the updated news, inspiring articles on life matters. Join online here: lutheransforlife.org/membership-gift

13. CHOIR CONCERT AT GRACE CHAPEL The Concert Choir from Academy Lutheran School in Roseville, Minnesota, will be performing at Grace Lutheran Chapel, 10015 Lance Dr., St. Louis, MO 63137 on Saturday, March 28, 2026. at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. They will present a program of inspiring traditional and contemporary choral pieces suitable for all ages. Free admission.

14. THE LUTHERAN RESALE SHOP needs your donations! Please think of us as you are doing your Spring cleaning. We accept everything for the home, except computers and TV's. If your church group is having a rummage sale, please contact us. We will try to pick up your "leftovers." The Shop is all-volunteer and our proceeds go to Lutheran Families and Children's Services and Evertrue (Lutheran Senior Services). Questions: Please call the Shop: 314-369-9970, or donate Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm., 6701 W. Florissant, St. Louis. We thank you in advance!

15. CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF NEW AMERICANS – Trivia night on April 11! Doors are at 6:00PM, trivia starts at 6:45PM. This event will be held at Lutheran High School South (9515 Tesson Ferry Road). Cost is \$30/person, or \$200 for table of 8. To register or donate online, visit cfn-stl.org/trivia.

16. LUTHERANS FOR LIFE - We have exciting news to share! We have all been invited to the Blessing of the newly installed Baby Box at the Florissant Valley Fire House. The ceremony will be at Noon on March 24. Our Lutherans for Life Chapter is honored to have our name on the plaque that will be hung outside. We would love to see Salem Lutheran Church members there with us. Address: 661 St. Ferdinand, Florissant.

Just what is a Baby Box? When you are standing outside the Firehouse what you will see is a rectangular door. When the door is opened and something is placed inside an alarm sounds in the Firehouse. From the inside, the Box looks like a large fixture on the wall. Babies placed there are immediately cared for and soon will be in the arms of loving parents who have prayed for a child of their own.

Mothers who can't raise a child are to be commended on giving up their child to a safe place. Lutherans for Life prays for the desperate mother, the firefighters and the future parents.