

# *Salem Lutheran Church and School*

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

**April 26, 2026**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

mdressler@salemobjmo.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.salemobjmo.org

Church Email: salemchurch@salemobjmo.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.

**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.

*On the cover: Jesus as the Good Shepherd, at the Catacomb of Priscilla, 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D., Rome*

*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**

The first generation of Christians were "selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need" (Acts 2:45). They did

this because they recognized that the Gospel of Jesus grants worth and dignity to every person. This doesn't mean that each Christian needs to sell all they have. But it does mean that we would "die to sin and live to righteousness" (1 Peter 2:24), loving the poor and needy as well as the unborn, the sick, and the dying.

## **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: Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven (LSB 477)



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:  
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris-en! Death at last has met de-feat:  
△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re-treat;  
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va-tion bled—  
Once He died, and once was bur-ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,  
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, Fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.  
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor-ship and a - dore.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796-1867

Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345



## INVOCATION AND OPENING RESPONSORY [*Psalm 95*]

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

C: Amen!

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!  
**C: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

P: For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.  
**C: In His hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are His also.  
The sea is His, for He made it,  
and His hands formed the dry land.**

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!  
**C: For He is our God,  
and we are the people of His pasture,  
and the sheep of His hand.**

+++

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: We are His sheep,  
**C: and like all sheep, I am prone to wander.**

P: Together, let us go to our Shepherd, seeking His forgiveness and mercy.

*Silence for reflection.*

P: Good Shepherd,  
**C: I confess that I have not followed You as I should. I have turned aside from Your ways to go my own way instead. At times I have been selfish and prideful, greedy and covetous, angry and hurtful, lustful and discontent. Good Shepherd, forgive me for listening to the voice of false shepherds who would lead me away from You to my harm. Have mercy on me and keep me as a member of Your fold. Amen.**

P: The Good Shepherd so loved you that He took on human flesh and died on the cross to pursue you and make you one of His flock. He pursues you again this morning in sacrament and Word. In His stead and by His authority, it is that word I now proclaim to you. I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen!**

P: Now go and follow your Shepherd wherever He may lead.  
**C: I will with the help of God. 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.

## NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

*Refrain*

☐ Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le - lu - ia.

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
 lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He  
 lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to  
 sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
 lu - ia. 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, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same 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)*

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

+++

## PSALM 23

*The leader will sing through the refrain once. The congregation is invited to join the second time, and as indicated throughout.*



The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul.

and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

### C - Refrain

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil;  
and my cup is running over.

### C - Refrain

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

### C - Refrain

## EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:19-25

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought

out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

L: 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

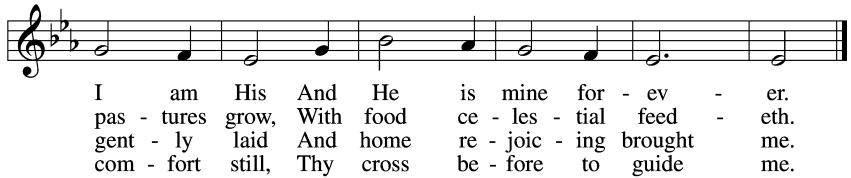
SERMON HYMN: The King of Love My Shepherd Is (LSB 709)



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77  
Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.

## SERMON: "Shepherd of the Sheep *and* the Flock" Acts 2:44

Pastor Dressler

### OFFERING (*prayer requests*)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE – "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."  
Psalm 23:1

### MUSICAL OFFERING

"The Shepherd Psalm"  
John Carter, Mary Kay Beall

*The Lord is my shepherd, there's nothing more I'll ever need;  
I'll lie down to dream in a pasture of green  
I'll follow wherever he leads me.*

*The Lord is my shepherd, beside the still waters I go;  
My soul is restored when I walk with my Lord,  
His righteousness 'round me will flow.*

*And if I should walk in the shadow of death  
I will not be afraid;  
My shepherd, the Lord, goes wherever I go,  
His rod and his staff are my comfort.*

*I know that the Lord is my shepherd, I'll sit at his table to dine;  
His goodness and mercy will follow my days,  
And heaven will surely be mine,  
And heaven will always be mine.*

*(Please stand)*

## PRAYERS

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## 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



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



### **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.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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.

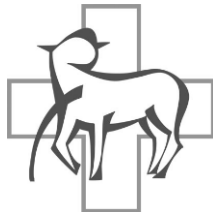
C: Amen.

# AGNUS DEI

LSB 963

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.

Text: Traditional; tr. International Consultation on English Texts, alt.  
 Tune: Jeffrey N. Blerch, 1967  
 Text: © 1975 International Consultation on English Texts. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345  
 Tune: © 2001 Jeffrey N. Blerch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345



*(Please be seated)*

# DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb (LSB 740)

1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the

heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,

Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me

day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724-82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941  
 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig

### Have No Fear, Little Flock (LSB 735)

1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -  
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to

flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
 flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
 bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -  
 God, For He stays close be - side you, In

give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
 His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text (sts. 2-4): Marjorie A. Jillson, 1931-2010  
 Text (st. 1) and tune: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, 1930-2022  
 Text and tune: © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

Behold the Lamb (Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend)



1. Be - hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us:  
 2. The bod - y of our Sav-iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you:  
 3. The blood that cleans-es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you:  
 4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to res - pond



And we remem - ber the pro - mise made that all who  
 Eat and remem - ber the wounds that heal, the death that  
 Drink and remem - ber He drained death's cup that all may  
 and to remem - ber our call to fol - low in the



come in faith find for - give-ness at the cross. So we share in this  
 brings us life, paid the price to make us one. So we share in this  
 en - ter in to re - ceive the life of God. So we share in this  
 steps of Christ as His bo - dy here on earth. As we share in His



bread of life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice as a sign of our  
 bread of life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice as a sign of our  
 bread of life, and we drink of His sac - ri - fice as a sign of our  
 suf - fer - ing, we pro - claim Christ will come a - gain! And we'll join in the



bonds of peace a - round the tab - le of the King.  
 bonds of love a - round the tab - le of the King.  
 bonds of grace a - round the tab - le of the King.  
 feast of heav'n a - round the tab - le of the King.

CCLI License # 11503973

*(Please stand)*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## 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: The Church's One Foundation (LSB 644)**



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.  
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth,  
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more  
 And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;  
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.  
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.  
 That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt.  
 Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76

*Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.*

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK** - "Sheep, you know, are most foolish and stupid animals. When we want to speak of anybody's stupidity we say, "He is a sheep." Nevertheless, it has this trait above all other animals, that it soon learns to heed its shepherd's voice and will follow no one but its shepherd, and though it cannot help and keep and heal itself, nor guard itself against the wolf, but is dependent upon others, yet it always knows enough to keep close to its shepherd and look to him for help."

-Martin Luther

**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 April 26 through May 3**

TODAY: *Leviticus 8:1-13, 30-36; Luke 9:1-17*  
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM

MONDAY: *Leviticus 9:1-24; Luke 9:18-36*  
Confirmation Class 7:00PM

TUESDAY: *Leviticus 10:1-20; Luke 9:37-62*

WEDNESDAY: *Leviticus 16:1-24; Luke 10:1-22*  
School Chapel 8:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *Leviticus 17:1-16; Luke 10:23-42*

FRIDAY: *Leviticus 18:1-7, 20—19:8; Luke 11:1-13*  
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N

SATURDAY: *Leviticus 19:9-18, 26-37; Luke 11:14-36*  
Drive-thru Prayer 10:30AM-12:30PM

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

**A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD -Week of April 19, 2026**  
Sunday School 8 students, 3 teachers  
Friday Bible class 6

Worship Service Attendance  
Sunday, April 19 - 92  
Wednesday, April 22 - 8

Online views  
Sunday, April 19 - 12

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)  
April 19: Physical-\$4,643.00; Online-\$601.15  
**Total-\$5,244.15**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**1. BIBLE STUDY** "I never knew you." That would be a hard thing to hear from someone you love. Those who have loved ones suffering from dementia sometimes have to suffer similar comments, and that is awful. But coming from the lips of Jesus? That would be the worst thing imaginable! Join us next week, as we look at what Jesus means in telling the crowds that He will say precisely that to some people on the last day.

*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. ALTAR FLOWERS** are placed by Ron & Sharon Brinker, with thanksgiving to God for their wedding anniversary.

**3. A RED ROSE** is placed in celebration of the birth of VEGARD EDWARD MUNKVOLD BRINKER, son of Allan and Marion, born on April 21.

**4. TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL** - We looked at the book of Acts to find out what the early church looked like. We also talked about ways that our church family looks different from that time, and also what is the same, especially taking care of each other.

**5. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is set for June 15-18, from 5:45-8:15PM each evening. Don't miss out on this fun week! Whether you attend as a participant or are able to give your time as an adult, these summer evenings are always great fun and full of learning more about Jesus. Even if you can't come to all four evenings, we can use you! Volunteer sign up and registration forms are in the Narthex. Sign up today and plan to join us for this excellent week!

**6. DONATIONS NEEDED** The Ladies' Aid is going to provide a special Mother's and Father's Day store for the students of Salem School to "shop" for a gift for their parents or caregivers. Ladies' Aid is asking for help gathering items, which can be new or gently used. Ideas include candles, hand lotion, small tools, sports stuff (baseball season is upon us!), mugs, stationery, etc. We also need gift bags of all sizes and colors. Please leave them in the bin in the narthex labeled "Mother's and Father's Day Store." Thank you for helping us make this project a blessing to our students and their grownups.

**7. RETIREMENT AND FAREWELL LUNCHEON** Join us to celebrate the retirement of Principal Jeff Burkee! Sunday, May 17 after the church service, in the School Gym. The Board of Christian Education will provide fried chicken and dessert. Please bring a side dish to share if you are able.

**8. VALLEY OF THE FLOWERS PARADE ON MAY 3** This year we will have two parade entries. We will again have the float we had last year...and to celebrate the school's 165<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will also be taking the school bus! We're looking for riders and walkers of all ages. Last year was great fun and we're hoping you'll join in. You may hop on from the church parking lot at 12:15pm, or meet us at the Civic Center at 1:00pm. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex!

**9. CHANGES ARE COMING** to the monthly newsletter. For many years, Salem has published a monthly newsletter. You might recall that, not all that long ago, we sent them out via USPS. As our communication methods and needs changed, we shifted from mailing them out to having them available for pickup in the Narthex, sent via email, and mailed by request.

Our needs have continued to change, and so has our need for a printed monthly publication. Over these next months, we will be moving toward a quarterly newsletter. This will help us to plan further ahead and see what is coming more in advance—but will also be a significant change!

*An updated monthly calendar will still be available*, but the rest of the content will encompass 3 months of news and upcoming events.

+The May newsletter saw NO CHANGE, and is now available in the Narthex.

+The next issue will be a 2-month June/July issue. The deadline is Wednesday, May 20.

+Then, it will be time for our first quarterly issue, which will include August, September, and October. The deadline for this issue will be Wednesday, July 22.

+Our second quarterly issue will cover November, December, and January, and that deadline will be Wednesday, October 21.

Questions? Please reach out to Elin in the church office.

**10. FELLOWSHIP MEAL** The Board of Christian Nurture will be hosting a fellowship meal in the School Gym on Sunday, June 7 following the 10:00AM worship service. The meal will be provided, and we will be asking for a freewill offering. These dollars will go into our Benevolent Fund, which is one of the ways that Salem can provide for the physical needs of our neighbors. The Board will also be hosting a bit of trivia (with prizes!), so gather up all of your random knowledge and come ready to enjoy a great meal with your Salem family.

**11. CONCORDIA SEMINARY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS** Join us! Concordia 9, St. Louis is celebrating 100 years at its iconic Clayton, Mo., location — and we want you to be part of it. Plan to join us for a special chapel service at 3 p.m. TODAY, Sunday, April 26, honoring our milestone anniversary with the theme: “Christ the Living Stone — a lasting legacy, a firm future.” Unable to attend in person? Watch the livestream at [csl.edu/live](http://csl.edu/live).

## **SCHOOL NEWS**



### **Registration Open**

Registration is open for the 2026–2027 academic year. 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. God has richly blessed Salem, and we want others to experience the same quality Christian education that so many have received over the years.

### **VFW Visit**

The VFW will be visiting to teach our students the proper disposal of flags once they become worn. Many of our students may not be aware of the process of respectfully cutting the flag into strips and burning it, or what that symbolism represents. Susan contacted the VFW, and they were happy to come out and educate our students. This visit is tentatively scheduled for May 5 at 2:00pm.

### **Valley of the Flowers Parade**

Salem will once again be represented in the Valley of the Flowers Parade on Sunday, May 3! Please plan on helping with this fun project. We will have a float again this year, so if you cannot help build it, please plan to ride on it. If you prefer not to ride on the float, we also plan to include our bus to help commemorate our 165th anniversary. The float will represent the church, while the bus represents the school. It is only a few hours' commitment, it would mean a lot to have you there, and it was a great deal of fun last year.

### **Graduation Is Set**

We will graduate two eighth-grade students at 6:30 PM on Friday, May 15th. All are welcome to attend; I know the graduates and their families would truly appreciate your support and presence.