

*Salem Lutheran  
Church and School*

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

**May 3, 2026**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**Lutheran Church**



**Missouri Synod**

Rev. Dr. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

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

314-741-6781

5180 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

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

314-741-8220

5190 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

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Website: [www.salembjmo.org](http://www.salembjmo.org)

Church Email: [salemchurch@salembjmo.org](mailto:salemchurch@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.

**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: Martyrdom of St. Stephen, Giovanni Battista Lucini (680)*

*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 truth of God's Word is not always welcomed by "stiff-necked people" who "resist the Holy Spirit," and even become enraged at hearing the truth. Stephen faithfully proclaimed that Word even though it led to his martyrdom (Acts 7:51, 59-60). Many angry voices today demand unfettered access to abortion or physician-assisted suicide. But we must continue to sound the trumpet of truth, for only the power of God's Word can open the eyes of the blind and execute justice for the oppressed (Psalm 146:7-8). It is the narrow road of faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that gives us access to our Father in heaven (John 14:6). Baptized into Christ, we are living stones, being built up into a spiritual house, that we may proclaim the Good News of the One who calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5, 9).

## **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:	Kathleen Stahlhut
Greeters:	Sandy Niehaus and Rita Hall
Prayer Team:	Bruce Pursley

*(Please silence your cell phones)*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN: Now the Silence (LSB 910)

Now the si-lence Now the peace Now the emp-ty hands up-lift - ed  
Now the kneel-ing Now the plea Now the Fa-ther's arms in wel - come  
Now the hear-ing Now the pow'r Now the ves-sel brimmed for pour - ing  
Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy-ful cel - e - bra - tion  
Now the wed-ding Now the songs Now the heart for-giv - en leap - ing  
Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e-piph - a - ny  
Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

Text and tune: © 1969 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

### INVOCATION AND OPENING RESPONSORY [*Psalm 30*]

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

C: Amen!

P: Sing praises to the Lord, you His saints.

C: We give thanks to His holy name.

P: For His anger is but for a moment,

C: and His favor is for a lifetime.

P: Weeping may tarry for the night,

C: but joy comes with the morning.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Since God has given us His favor through His Son Jesus Christ, let us turn to Him to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence to reflect on our need for a Savior.*

P: Almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: To you, O Lord, I cry, and to the Lord I plead for mercy: Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me! O Lord, be my helper! For I have sinned against You and against my neighbor in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Brothers and sisters, the Lord has turned for us our mourning into dancing; He has loosed our sackcloth, and clothed us with gladness by sending His Son to destroy our sins by His death and promising us a share in His resurrection. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: 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

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, 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: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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)*

## **FIRST READING**

*Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60*

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**



“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

*John 14:1-14*

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

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

[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his

works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

*(Please be seated)*

**ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM**

*Vegard Edward Munkvold Brinker*



**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN: Church of God, Elect and Glorious (LSB 646)**



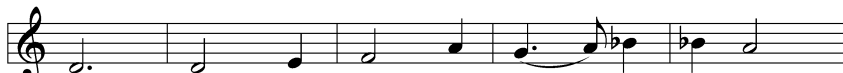
1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly  
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to  
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers  
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own  
 His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to  
 to God's heart of love; But He brought you  
 peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of  
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to  
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -  
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,  
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you  
 bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,  
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that  
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh  
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may  
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.  
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.  
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.  
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

Text: James Edward Seddon, 1915-83

Tune: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-92

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**SERMON: "The Royal Family" 1 Peter 2:9-10**

Pastor Dressler

**OFFERING** (*prayer requests*)

*STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God."  
 Psalm 146:5*

*(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 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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*

**C** 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  $\text{✝}$  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 163



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



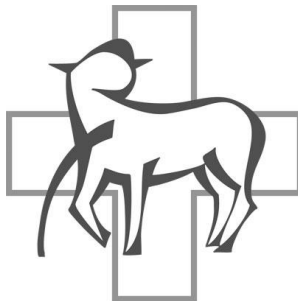
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.



*(Please be seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:**

**Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (LSB 650)**



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing In the ho - liest  
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er liv - ing As the Church's  
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing Through the Church's



realms of light; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing  
ver - y life; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing  
min - is - try; Quick - 'ning, strength - 'ning, and ab - solv - ing,



O'er a world of gloom and night; Ho - ly Spir - it,  
Through us in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spir - it,  
Set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spir - it,



ev - er rais - ing Those of earth to thrones on high; Liv - ing,  
ev - er form - ing In the Church the mind of Christ: You we  
ev - er bind - ing Age to age and soul to soul In com -



life - im - part - ing Spir - it, You we praise and mag - ni - fy.  
praise with end - less wor - ship For Your gifts and fruits un - priced.  
mu - nion nev - er end - ing, You we wor - ship and ex - tol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt.

Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse . . . Contredansen, c. 1710, Amsterdam



Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses (LSB 667)



1 Saints, see the cloud of wit - ness - es sur - round us;  
 2 These saints of old re - ceived God's com - men - da - tion;  
 3 They call to us, "Your tim - id foot - steps length - en;  
 4 Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suf - fered,



Their lives of faith en - cour - age and as - tound us.  
 They lived as pil - grim - heirs of His sal - va - tion.  
 Throw off sin's weight, your halt - ing weak - ness strength - en.  
 He faced the cross, His sin - less life He of - fered;



Hear how the Mas - ter praised their faith so  
 Through faith they con - quered flame and sword and  
 We kept the faith, we shed our blood, were  
 He scorned the shame, He died, our death en -



fer - vent: "Well done, My ser - vant!"  
 gal - lows, God's name to hal - low.  
 mar - tyred; Our lives we bar - tered."  
 dur - ing, Our hope se - cur - ing.

- 5 Lord, give us faith to walk where You are sending,  
 On paths unmarked, eyes blind as to their ending;  
 Not knowing where we go, but that You lead us—  
 With grace precede us.
- 6 You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!  
 Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;  
 Past, present, future—You, the same forever—  
 You fail us never!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

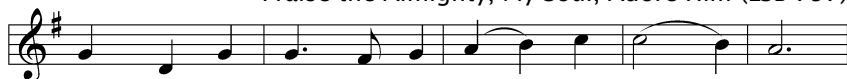
Tune: Dale Wood, 1934–2003

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Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him (LSB 797)



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!  
 2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;  
 3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er  
 4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,  
 △ 5 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and  
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their  
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -  
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the  
 Of Him who does such won - drous things! All that has



an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as  
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark  
 va - tion can - ing sev - er, And who in  
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful  
 be - ing, to praise Him sole - ly, With hap - py



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and  
 grave en - gulfs its prey. Since mor - tals can no  
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in  
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren  
 heart its a - men sings. Chil - dren of God, with



all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.  
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.  
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.  
 an - gel host Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Daniel Herrnschmidt, 1675-1723; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866-1949, alt.  
 Tune: New-vermehrte Christliche Seelenharpf, 1665, Ansbach

(Please stand)

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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.**

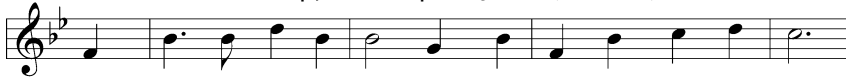
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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: Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (LSB 660)



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.  
2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;  
3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.  
4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.  
Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.  
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.  
This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead  
Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;  
Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.  
The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.  
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.  
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.  
And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818-88, alt.

Tune: George J. Webb, 1803-87

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

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK** - "There is no other Word of God than that which is given all Christians to proclaim. There is no other baptism than the one which any Christian can bestow. There is no other remembrance of the Lord's Supper than that which any Christian can observe and which Christ has instituted. There is no other kind of sin than that which any Christian can bind or loose. There is no other sacrifice than of the body of every Christian. No one but a Christian can pray. No one but a Christian may judge of doctrine. These make the priestly and royal office"

-Martin Luther

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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**OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS**  
**For the week of May 3 through May 10**

TODAY: *Leviticus 20:1-16, 22-27; Luke 11:37-54*  
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM

MONDAY: *Leviticus 21:1-24; Luke 12:1-12*  
Confirmation Class 7:00PM

TUESDAY: *Leviticus 23:1-22; Luke 12:13-34*

WEDNESDAY: *Leviticus 23:23-44; Luke 12:35-53*  
School Chapel 8:45AM  
Board of Christian Nurture 4:15PM  
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *Leviticus 24:1-23; Luke 12:54—13:17*  
Board of Christian Education 7:00PM

FRIDAY: *Leviticus 26:1-20; Luke 13:18-35*  
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N

SATURDAY: *Leviticus 26:21-33, 39-44; Luke 14:1-24*

NEXT SUNDAY: Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM  
Elders 11:15AM

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**A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD -Week of April 26, 2026**  
Sunday School 9 students, 3 teachers  
Friday Bible class 6

Worship Service Attendance  
Sunday, April 26 - 81  
Wednesday, April 29 - 17

Online views  
Sunday, April 26 - 15

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)  
April 26: Physical-\$3,927.00; Online-\$1,015.21  
**Total-\$4,942.21**

# 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. TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL** – We studied the story about "God's House", based on the scripture from the gospel of John 14: 1-14. We learn about how God is going to prepare a place for us in heaven. The only way to that place in heaven is through Jesus. John 14:6 says: "Jesus said I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**3. ALTAR FLOWERS** are placed by Joel Hall in celebration of Vegard's baptism this morning.

**4. MUSIC AT THE SEM** You are invited to Choral Evening Prayer for Easter at 3 p.m. (CT) Sunday, May 10, 2026, in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. This Service of Sacred Music features Bach Cantata #4, Christ Lag in Todesbanden (BWV 4) with performances by Laudamus, Concordia Seminary Children's Choir, Concordia Seminary Youth Choir and Concordia Seminary Chamber Choir. This service is part of the Concordia Seminary Music Series, which is free and open to the public. The Choral Evening Prayer for Easter also will be livestreamed at [csl.edu/live](http://csl.edu/live).

**5. THE CHURCH OFFICE** will have limited hours this week. Elin will not be in the office on Monday or Tuesday, but will return on Wednesday. If you need something, please call and leave a message at 314-741-6781, and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

**6. 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.

**7. MISSING BOOKS** from the Lutheran Witness table in the narthex: "Life in Christ" by Pastor Filipek and "First Easter" by Paul Maier. Return them to Rev or the Lutheran Witness table.

**8. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is set for June 15-18, from 5:45-8:15PM each evening. Don't miss out! These summer evenings are always great fun and full of learning more about Jesus. Registration forms are in the Narthex—or you can register online by visiting our website. Make plans today to join us for this excellent week!

**9. VALLEY OF THE FLOWERS PARADE TODAY** We are still 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. See you there!!

**10. 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.

+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.

**11. 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.