

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

July 26, 2026

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

mdressler@salembjmo.org

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

314-741-6781

5180 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

Fax 314-741-1797

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

314-741-8220

5190 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033

Fax 314-741-7242

Website: www.salembjmo.org

Church Email: 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: Parable of the Hidden Treasure, Rembrandt (1630)

*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

God does not love us because of any quality in us, such as our age, physical ability, potential, wisdom, race, etc. (Deuteronomy 7:6-7). God chose to love us from His own good grace and mercy and gave all He had, His own dear Son, to purchase the world from sin and have us as His own possession (Matthew 13:44). In doing so, God reveals that every person—regardless of their age, size, or condition—is a precious treasure to Him and is worthy of our love and protection.

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: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (LSB 793)



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
3 Fa - ther-like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



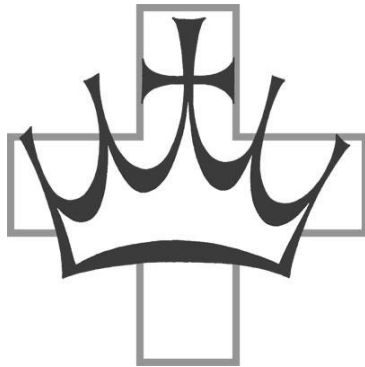
Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

Tune: John Goss, 1800-80



INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence to reflect on our need for forgiveness

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain—



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

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

P: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

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

C: Refrain

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE



C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

With joy will you draw wa - ter from the
wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that
day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,
make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -
claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

Refrain
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the
earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -
hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will
be for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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PSALM 125



P: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

C: As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.

P: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the | righteous,*
lest the righteous stretch out
their hands to | do wrong.

C: Do good, O LORD, to those | who are good,*
and to those who are upright | in their hearts!

P: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with evil- | doers!*

Peace be upon | Israel!

+++

EPISTLE

Romans 8:28-39

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those

whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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: Love of God (Keith Getty and Stuart Townend)

Stanza 1-solo; congregation is invited to join on stanzas 2 & 3



Love of God, re - vealed in won - der by the
Love of God, re - vealed in frail - ty through the
Love of God, what price - less treas - ure o - ver

works of a Mak - er's hand; Seas that
gift of a ser - vant King; Sov - ern
all this world af - fords: To be

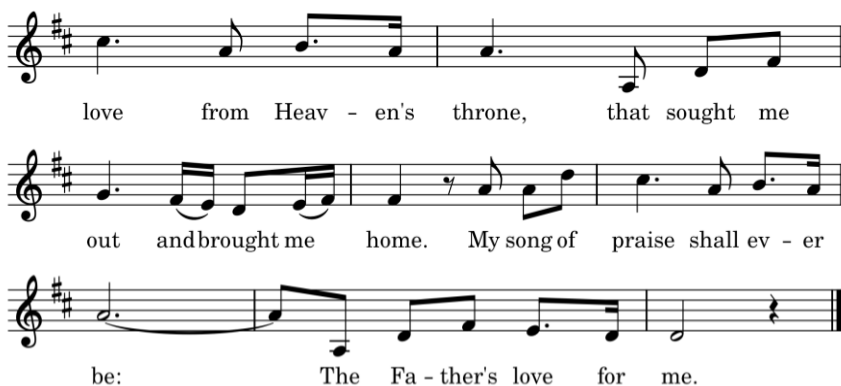
roar with thun - d'rous splen - dour, fields that
pow'r robed in hu - mil - i - ty, prince of
His and His for - ev - er, this my

whis - per at His com - mand. All the
peace crowned with suf - fer - ing. Oh, what
glo - ry and my re - ward! May this

joys of life we cher - ish are God's gra - cious
love, that calls hu - man - i - ty to kneel at the
love, be - yond all know - ing, so cap - ture my

sign: We are chil - dren of His prom - ise, heirs of
cross and ex - change our sin's fu - til - i - ty for the
soul that I'm filled to o - ver - flow - ing with a

mer - cy and grace di - vine. Un - fail - ing
joy of a Fa - ther's love.
pas - sion for Him a - lone!



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SERMON: "Treasuring Being Treasured" Matthew 13:44

Pastor Dressler

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38-39

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: 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;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of 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.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

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

PAX DOMINI

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

C: Amen.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.



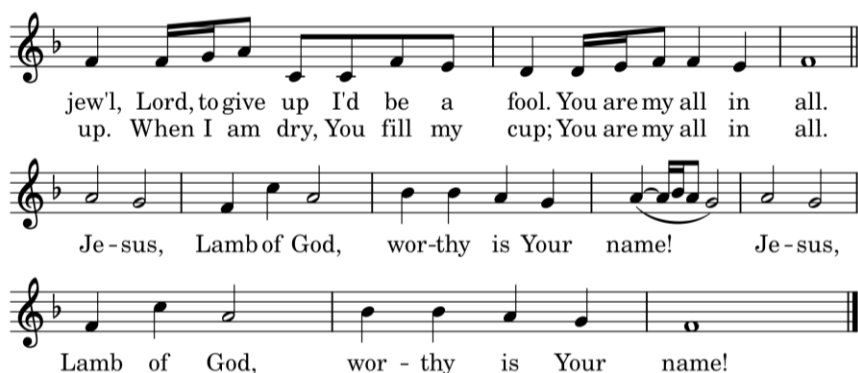
(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: You Are My All In All (Dennis Jernigan)

You are my strength when I am
Tak - ing my sin, my cross, my

weak. You are the treas - ure that I seek. You are my all in
shame, Ris - ing a - gain I bless Your name; You are my all in

all.
all. Seek - ing You as a pre - cious
When I fall down, You pick me



jew'l, Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all.
 up. When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all.
 Je-sus, Lamb of God, wor-thy is Your name! Je-sus,
 Lamb of God, wor - thy is Your name!

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Jesus, Thy Boundless Love (LSB 683)



1 Je - sus, Thy bound - less love to me No thought can reach, no
 2 O grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure
 3 This love un - wea - ried I pur - sue And daunt - less - ly to
 4 In suf - f'ring be Thy love my peace, In weak - ness be Thy
 tongue de - clare; U - nite my thank - ful heart to Thee,
 love a - lone; Oh, may Thy love pos - sess me whole,
 Thee as - pire. Oh, may Thy love my hope re - new,
 love my pow'r; And when the storms of life shall cease,
 And reign with-out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly, Thine a -
 My joy, my trea - sure, and my crown! All cold - ness from my
 Burn in my soul like heav'n - ly fire! And day and night, be
 O Je - sus, in that fi - nal hour, Be Thou my rod and
 lone I am; Be Thou a - lone my con - stant flame.
 heart re - move; My ev - 'ry act, word, thought be love.
 all my care To guard this sa - cred trea - sure there.
 staff and guide, And draw me safe - ly to Thy side!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703-91, alt.

Tune: Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

Tune: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

Jesus, Priceless Treasure (LSB 743)



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
 Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
 Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and
 God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its
 Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
 hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.
 Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

- 5 Evil world, I leave thee;
 Thou canst not deceive me,
 Thine appeal is vain.
 Sin that once did blind me,
 Get thee far behind me,
 Come not forth again.
 Past thy hour,
 O pride and pow'r;
 Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
 Leave thee now forever.

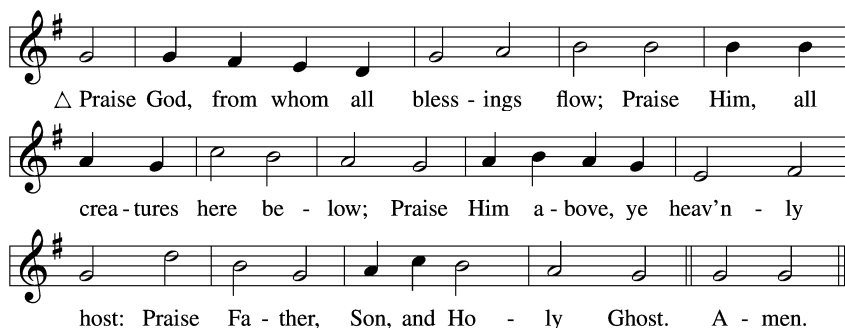
- 6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
 For the Lord of gladness,
 Jesus, enters in.
 Those who love the Father,

Though the storms may gather,
 Still have peace within.
 Yea, whate'er
 I here must bear,
 Thou art still my purest pleasure,
 Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

(Please stand)

DOXOLOGY



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

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: 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.

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BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

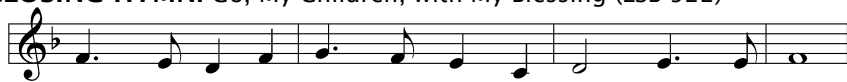
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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: Go, My Children, with My Blessing (LSB 922)



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My
 I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.
 heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.
 Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.
 Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.
 Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – “Earthly goods are given to be used, not to be collected. In the wilderness God gave Israel the manna every day, and they had no need to worry about food and drink. Indeed, if they kept any of the manna over until the next day, it went bad. In the same way, the disciple must receive his portion from God every day. If he stores it up as a permanent possession, he spoils not only the gift, but himself as well, for he sets his heart on his accumulated wealth, and makes it a barrier between himself and God. Where our treasure is, there is our trust, our security, our consolation and our God. Hoarding is idolatry.”

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of July 26 through August 2

TODAY: *1 Samuel 10:1-27; Acts 22:17-29*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Applebutter planning meeting 11:15AM

MONDAY: *1 Samuel 12:1-25; Acts 22:30—23:11*

TUESDAY: *1 Samuel 13:1-18; Acts 23:12-35*

WEDNESDAY: *1 Samuel 14:47—15:9; Acts 24:1-23*
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *1 Samuel 15:10-35; Acts 24:24—25:12*

FRIDAY: *1 Samuel 16:1-23; Acts 25:13-27*
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N

SATURDAY: *1 Samuel 17:1-19; Acts 26:1-23*

NEXT 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 July 12, 2026
Sunday School 9 students, 2 teachers
Friday Bible Class 6

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, July 12 - 89
Wednesday, July 15 - 11

Online views
Sunday, July 12 - 11

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)
July 12: Physical-\$9,246.00; Online-1,844.93
Total-\$11,090.93

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD -Week of July 19, 2026
Sunday School 6 students, 2 teachers
Friday Bible Class 6

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, July 19 - 94
Wednesday, July 22 - 15

Online views
Sunday, July 19 - 13

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)
July 19: Physical-\$5,870.00; Online-778.22
Total-\$6,648.22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY There are many metaphors by which Jesus refers to Himself - a door, a gate, a vine, a shepherd. In Matthew 9, Jesus refers to Himself as the Groom. Join us next week as we unpack that metaphor, and how Jesus uses it in conversation with John's disciples. More than that, what does it mean for *us* to be the bride of Christ?!

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. THIS SUMMER IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: As our confirmands will all be transitioning into the adult Bible Study class, we are taking some time to have one combined class for several weeks. The basic structure will be the same (opening, story, and activities), but a little bit more laid-back. After all—it's summer!

3. AN APPLEBUTTER PLANNING MEETING will be held in the church basement following the worship service TODAY (for real, today!), **Sunday, July 26**. This meeting is open to anyone interested in helping make decisions on cooking applebutter in the fall, and anyone interested in finding out more about how this process works. We know that this is a big job, so keep an eye out for exact dates!

4. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS will be held during the worship services on Sunday, August 2 and Wednesday, August 5. The people who are beginning new terms are:

Brad Jackson (Vice-President); Lisa Briggs (Treasurer); Allan Brinker (Elder); Robert Waller (Elder); Myrna Rikard (Outreach); Kymry Webb (Outreach); Merna Rikard (Bd of Christian Education); Cynthia Schulz (Bd of Christian Education); Marlin Stellhorn (Bd of Christian Education); Judy Jackson (Bd of Christian Nurture); Fred Petty (Bd of Congregational Properties); Lynn Meyer (Cemetery Mgmt); Ben Jackson (Cemetery Mgmt); Vic Heislen (Cemetery Mgmt); Lynn Meyer (Memorial Trust); Reggie Miller (Ministries Foundation); Roger Sachtleben (Simmons Scholarship); Joyce Sachtleben (Simmons Scholarship)

5. TEACHER INSTALLATION Join us on Sunday, August 16, as we celebrate the Installation of the teachers of Salem Lutheran School and ask God's blessing on them as they begin a new school year of serving Christ and His children. During the Children's Message, Pastor will also give each child a special item to take to school as a reminder to be a faithful disciple of Jesus among their classmates and friends. We invite the whole congregation to join us in praying for our teachers, students, and families as another school year begins!

And following that service, we will gather in the church basement for a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share if you are able, and plan on having a lovely lunch with your Salem family!