

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

August 9, 2026

Eleventh 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 -Marc Debrick, 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: Job and His Friends, Ilya Repin (1869)

*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

"Who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb" (Job 38:8)? While He knitted you together in your mother's womb, our gracious God surrounded you with a beautiful watery cushion of amniotic fluid, which no one should ever hurt or harm. "The person who does the commandments shall live by them" (Romans 10:5, quoting Leviticus 18:5), showing that God desires life for us and not death. We worship our living, risen Lord, and not a ghost (Matthew 14:26-27), just as we speak and act for every enfleshed soul whom He has made in His image.

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

Greeter: Kathy Adler

Prayer Team: Fred Petty

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Jesus, We Want to Meet (This Far by Faith 145)

Leader: All:



1. Je - sus, we want to meet
2. We kneel in awe and fear on this thy ho - ly day.
3. Thy bless - ing, Lord, we seek
4. Our minds we ded - i - cate

Leader: All:



We gath - er 'round thy throne
pray God to teach us here on this thy ho - ly day.
Give joy of thy vic - to - ry
heart and soul con - se - crate

Leader:



Thou art our heav'n - ly friend, hear our prayers as
Save us and cleanse our hearts, lead and guide our
Through grace a - lone are we saved, in thy flock may
Ho - ly Spir - it, make us whole, bless the ser - mon



they as - cend, look in - to our hearts and minds to - day,
acts of praise, and our faith from seed to flow - er raise,
we be found. Let the mind of Christ a - bide in us
in this place, and as we go lead us, Lord:

All:



on this thy ho - ly day.

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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: We confess together:

C: Lord God, heavenly Father, You are Lord of heaven and earth. Nothing happens in this world or in our lives without Your permitting it. Yet I have doubted. I have doubted Your power and Your goodness and have tried to rule my life in Your stead. In fear, I have withheld words and deeds that were called for, and so I have failed to serve my neighbor. Have mercy on me, O Lord. Forgive my sin and give me faith to trust Your rule in my life. Amen.

P: God the Father rules over all things through His Son, Jesus Christ. He has conquered sin and death by dying and rising again. And He conquered them for you. As a called and ordained ambassador of Jesus Christ, in His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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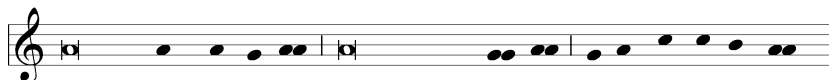
KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



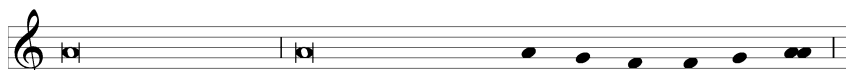
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



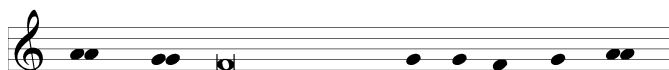
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - men.

+++

THIS IS THE FEAST



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

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

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

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

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

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 and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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

Job 38:4-18

[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,

that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

It is changed like clay under the seal,

and its features stand out like a garment.

From the wicked their light is withheld,

and their uplifted arm is broken.

“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you,

or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?

Declare, if you know all this.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 18:1-6

*



L: I | love you, *

O | LORD, my strength.

C: The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my de- | liverer, *
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my | stronghold.

L: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy | to be praised, *
and I am saved from my | enemies.

C: The cords of death en- | compassed me; *
the torrents of destruction as- | sailed me;

L: the cords of Sheol en- | tangled me; *
the snares of death con- | fronted me.

C: In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I | cried for help. *

From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him | reached his ears.

+++

EPISTLE

Romans 10:5-17

Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the

gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

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

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

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

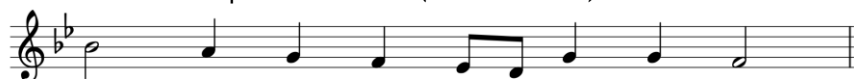
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: Hope of Habakkuk (*tune: LSB 708*)



1. When dark - ness seems to roll and sweep
 2. When plans and goals and dreams long held
 3. When sick - ness spreads and strikes cruel dread
 4. When on my back the beam is placed,



And bur - y in a val - ley deep
 Fall brit - tle, seed - less, and are quelled,
 And leaves in ru - ins on a bed
 My heart by grief and pain ef - faced,



My life, what shall my heart in - cant?
 The hopes of youth, which far have fled;
 The hol - lowed frames of beau - teous saints;
 When sin and death and Sa - tan scowl;



When eye can shed not one more tear,
 When mirth - less toil be - comes my lot,
 When those we love be - gin to fade
 I see the cross and know dark night



And gone is all my heart holds dear,
 All days with naught but strug - gle fraught,
 And in - to dark - ness seem to wade,
 Is con - quered by that morn - ing bright,



What groan - ing shall my heart then chant?
 Shall ash - es al - ways crown my head?
 What words can bear the soul's com - plaints?
 When Je - sus rent death's cru - el cowl.



Though blos - soms of the fig should die,

And vines no more their fruit sup - ply,
 Yet in the Lord I will re - jice,
 And to my Sav - ior lift my voice.
 My Je - sus lives! Heart, do not fear! Heart, do not fear!
 He comes now soon. Be of good cheer!

Text: Martin B. Dressler
 Habakkuk 3:17-19
 Dedicated to Rev. Richard Thur

SERMON: "Cut Down to Size" Job 38:3b

Pastor Dressler

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." Psalm 18:2

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Abide with Me"

*William H. Monk, arr. Ricky & Julie Valadez
 Kristin Knabach, viola*

RECEPTION AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

*Eric Shinkle
 Kathrine Shinkle
 Antonio Sims
 Levi Shinkle*

*Steven Wallace
 Cortnie Wallace
 Tobias Wallace
 Robert Wallace*

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

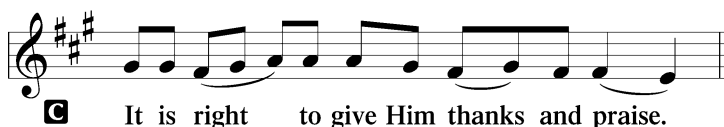
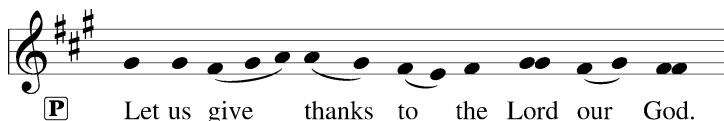
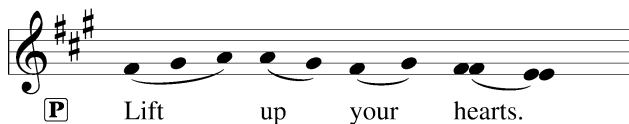
C: hear our prayer.

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 177



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

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

C: Amen.



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

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

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

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

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

PAX DOMINI

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

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



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, grant us peace.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: Your Table I Approach (LSB 628)

1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;
Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633-1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

From the Rising of the Sun (Glory to God 670)

From the ris - ing of the sun to the

go - ing down of the same, the name of the

Lord shall be praised. From the ris - ing of the sun

to the go - ing down of the same, the name of the

Lord shall be praised. So praise ye the

Lord. Praise ye the Lord. From the

ris - ing of the sun to the go - ing down of the same,

the name of the Lord shall be praised.

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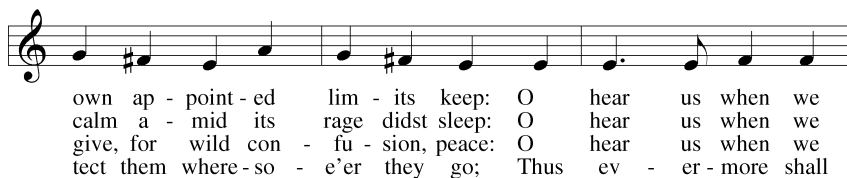
Eternal Father, Strong to Save (LSB 717)

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the

2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard And hushed their rag - ing

3 Most Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood Up - on the cha - os

4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Our peo - ple shield in

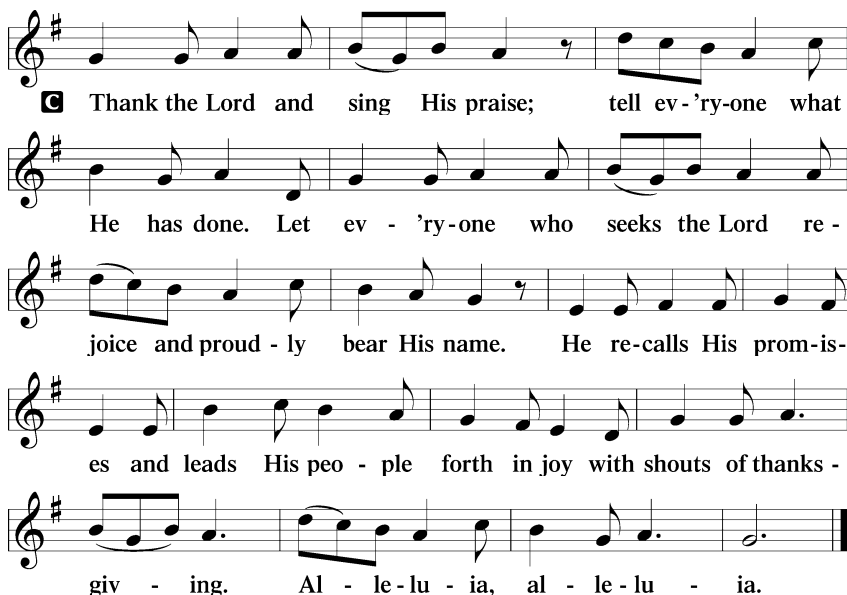


Text: William Whiting, 1825–78, alt.; (sts. 2a–3a): Robert N. Spencer, 1877–1961, alt.
Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76

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(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

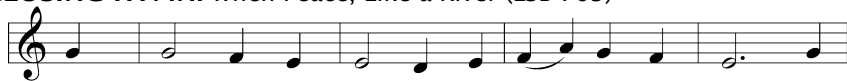
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: When Peace, Like a River (LSB 763)



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When

2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let

3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My

4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast

this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my

sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I

clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



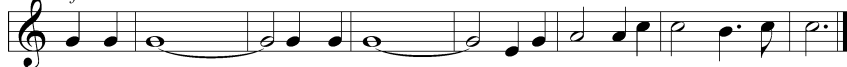
taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Lord shall de-scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul,

It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-88, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-76

Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – "Before Job comes into fear of death, he praises God at the theft of his goods and the death of his children; but when death is in prospect and God withdraws Himself, his words show what kind of ideas a man, however holy he may be, has against God, when he gets the notion that God is not God, but only a judge and wrathful tyrant, who applies force and cares nothing about a good life. This is the finest part of this book. It is understood only by those who also experience and feel what it is to suffer the wrath and judgment of God, and to have His grace hidden..."

—Luther's Preface to his commentary on the Book of Job

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

For the week of August 9 through August 16

- TODAY:** *1 Samuel 25:1-22; 1 Corinthians 3:1-23*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Elders 11:15AM
- MONDAY:** *1 Samuel 25:23-44; 1 Corinthians 4:1-21*
- TUESDAY:** *1 Samuel 26:1-25; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13*
NO Board of Christian Nurture
Board of Christian Education 7:00PM
- WEDNESDAY:** *1 Samuel 28:3-25; 1 Corinthians 6:1-20*
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM
- THURSDAY:** *1 Samuel 31:1-13; 1 Corinthians 7:1-27*
- FRIDAY:** *2 Samuel 1:1-27; 1 Corinthians 7:25-40*
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N
- SATURDAY:** *2 Samuel 5:1-25; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13*
- NEXT SUNDAY:** Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
 **and installation of teachers*
Potluck 11:15AM

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD –Week of August 2, 2026

Sunday School 6 students, 2 teachers

Friday Bible Class 4

Worship Service Attendance

Sunday, August 2 – 82

Wednesday, August 5 – 10

Online views

Sunday, August 2 – 16

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)

August 2: Physical-\$7,377.25; Online-602.82

Total-\$7,980.07

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Join us next week as we study two more occasions in which Jesus heals and teaches. And then join us in worship as Jesus heals and teaches us!

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. THE ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in loving memory of the marriage of Louise Hammerschmidt and Lawrence Niehaus, 85 years ago today and in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the wedding of Nancy Niehaus and Gary Rueter on August 27.

3. 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!

4. SALEM SCHOOL 165TH ANNIVERSARY ALL-CLASS REUNION is coming up on October 10. Tickets and merchandise are now available! Pick up a flyer on the table in the Narthex for more information on how to register—or take a look in the newsletter. If you have any questions, or need assistance, send an email sbjalumni@gmail.com or contact Kym Webb at 314-623-2012.

5. THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE LUTHERAN WITNESS (LW) tackles head-on many of the pressing questions facing Lutherans as they adapt to an evolving digital landscape: What is AI and how does it work? What opportunities and pitfalls does AI present to churches and church workers? How should we respond when strangers discover Lutheran theology online-- and then wander out of the comment section and into our congregations? What does the rise chatbots tell us about our neighbors' -- and our own -- deep need for human connection? Throughout the diverse reflections included in this month's *LW*, readers will find common thread: the need for true wisdom in the light of Christ's incarnation. Our copy is on the *LW* table in the narthex. Take it home. Read it. Return next Sunday, for sure in two Sundays.

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6. APPLEBUTTER IS SET for the end of September! Whether you have been around Salem for your whole life and know all about it, or if this is your very first autumn with us, there is a spot for YOU! Some key details are:

Jar Washing: Saturday, September 19 at 12Noon, in the School Gym

Apple Peeling Thursday, September 24 from 5:00-9:00PM and Friday, September 25 beginning at 8:00AM

Applebutter Cooking and Canning Saturday, September 25 beginning at 6:00AM

Sign-up sheets are out—but FIRST, we need jars! Bring your (cleaned and washed!) used pint and quart jars (Ball and Kerr brands *only*) and place them in the designated spot in the Narthex.

Meals will again be provided on peeling and cooking days. Help us to plan for those and to know how many helpers to expect by putting your name on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Please note that there are TWO sheets for the cooking day, one for the morning and one for the afternoon. If you plan to come for both time slots, please sign both pages. If you can't come right away at the start of the shift, or want to come a little earlier, this is okay!! These pages are just meant to help us know what to expect. And if it helps you plan—lunch will be served at 11AM that day, and all helpers are welcome to participate in the meal.

Order forms are now available, and online ordering is also be an option this year! Payment will still be at time of pickup, cash or check only.