

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

September 6, 2026

Fifteenth 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: Paul before king Agrippa; Artist unknown (1873)

*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

In faith, as God's watchmen, we humbly proclaim His Word. The faithful Word gives a true warning to the wicked (Ezekiel 33:7-8). We are called to speak boldly when lives are heartlessly ended and when God's gifts are mocked. We also rejoice as we teach about forgiveness. In Psalm 32 we read that the Lord forgives those who acknowledge their sin before Him. In God's plan, He allows us to be watchmen, proclaiming warnings so that all may confess their sins and have a clear conscience. Many have guilty consciences because they have rejected the truth concerning God's gift of life. May God's mercy lead them to rely completely on the grace of God.

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: Fieldworker Nick Vukalovich

Liturgist/Celebrant: Pastor Martin Dressler

Organist/pianist: Elin Hogan-Gomez

Greeters: Sandy Niehaus and Rita Hall

Prayer Team: Bruce Pursley

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Come, Thou Almighty King (LSB 905)

1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy
2 Come, Thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred
△ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal

name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -
might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and Thy
wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al -
prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign

glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
peo - ple bless, And give Thy Word suc - cess,
might - y art, Now rule in ev - 'ry heart,
maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,

Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
And let Thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.
And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt.
Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716-96



INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

P: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God,
C: and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

P: Anyone who does not love does not know God,
C: because God is love.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Brothers and sisters, we know this truth in our minds and confess it with our mouths. And yet our actions often contradict what we know and confess. So let us go before the God of all mercy, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ through whom God has loved us all.

Silence for reflection.

P: We confess,

C: God of love, I confess that I have sinned against You and against my neighbor. I have not loved my brother, my sister, or the stranger as You have commanded. Although I often strive to do what is right, I confess that I have loved myself more than others, and even more than You. For the sake of Jesus, forgive me, Father, and help me to love as You have loved me. Amen.

P: God showed His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Although we have deserved nothing but death, in His mercy, God has loved you by forgiving your sin and promising you eternal life. Therefore as a called an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you your sin in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

P: Now go, remembering that we love,

C: because God first loved us.

+++

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 peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: 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.

C: Refrain

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

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

C: Refrain

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

Refrain



■ 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: O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32:1-7



P: Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

**C: Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.**

P: For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
through my groaning | all day long.

**C: For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me,*
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.**

P: I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

**C: Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.**

P: You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from | trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

EPISTLE

Romans 13:1-10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

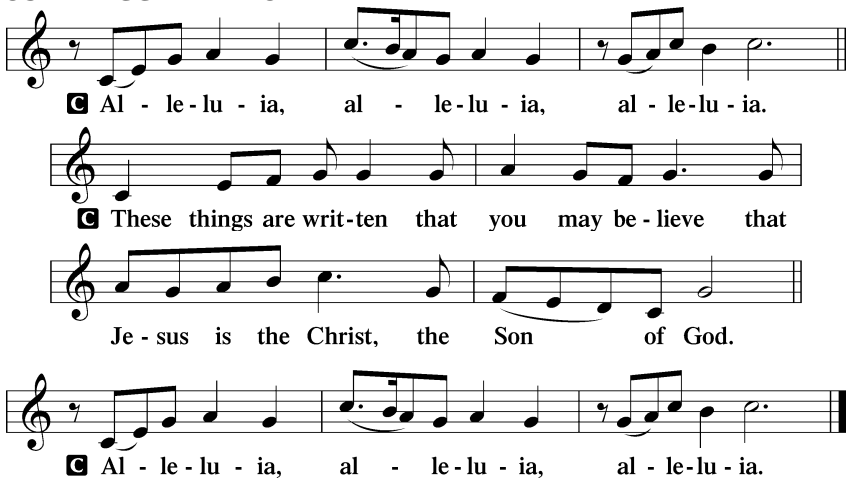
Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:1-20

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. For the Son of Man came to save the lost. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

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.

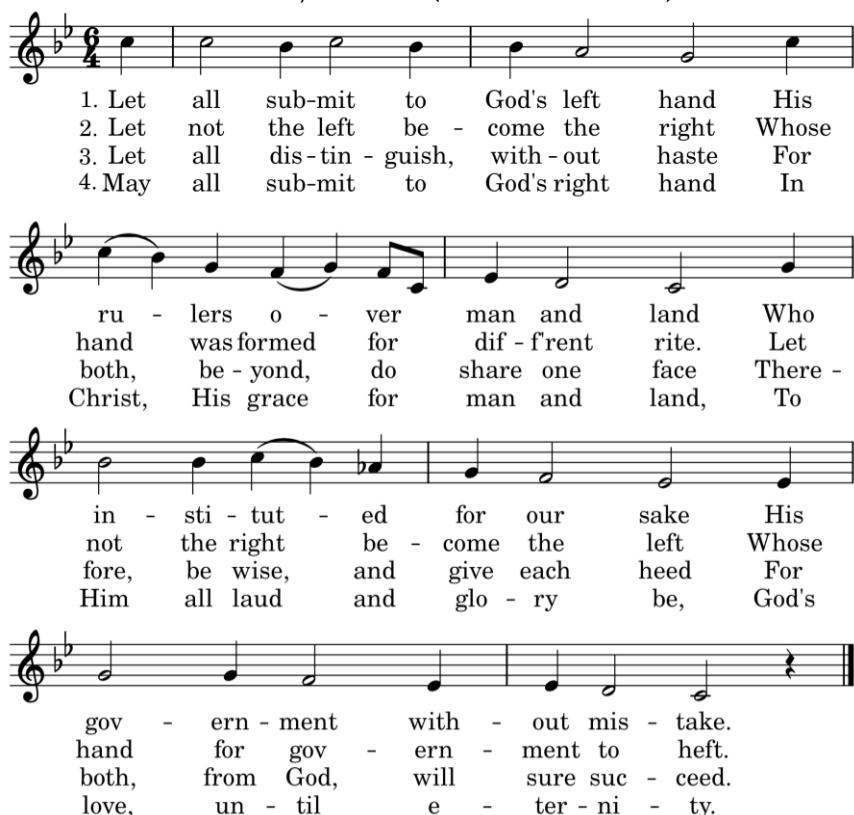
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.



(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: In Christ, His Grace (tune: DEO GRACIAS)



1. Let all sub-mit to God's left hand His
 2. Let not the left be - come the right Whose
 3. Let all dis - tin - guish, with - out haste For
 4. May all sub-mit to God's right hand In

ru - lers o - ver man and land Who
 hand was formed for dif - f'rent rite. Let
 both, be - yond, do share one face There -
 Christ, His grace for man and land, To

in - sti - tut - ed for our sake His
 not the right be - come the left Whose
 fore, be wise, and give each heed For
 Him all laud and glo - ry be, God's

gov - ern - ment with - out mis - take.
 hand for gov - ern - ment to heft.
 both, from God, will sure suc - ceed.
 love, un - til e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Nick Vukalovich, 2026
 Tune: English, 15th century
 LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

SERMON: "The Two Kingdoms" Romans 13

Fieldworker Nick Vukalovich

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High..." Psalm 92:1

(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 160

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

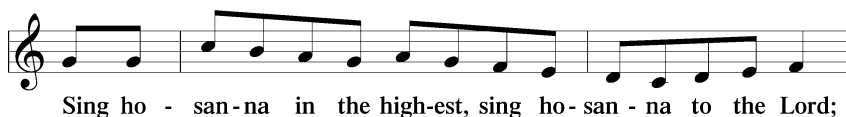
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, 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



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

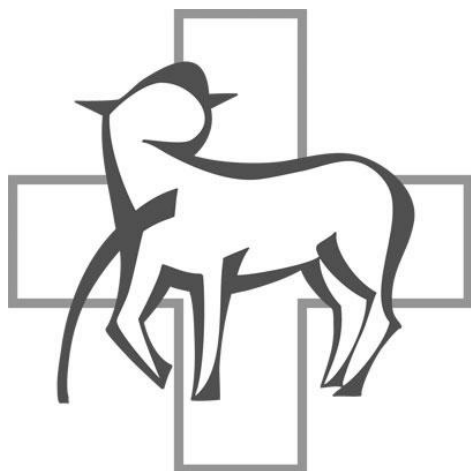
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

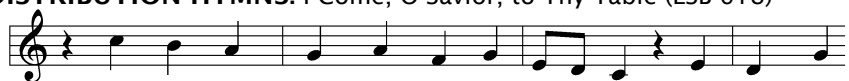
LSB 209

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: I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table (LSB 618)



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, Thee in
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677-1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

Let Us Break Bread Together (Lutheran Book of Worship 212)



1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;____
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;____



— let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.____
 — let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.____



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



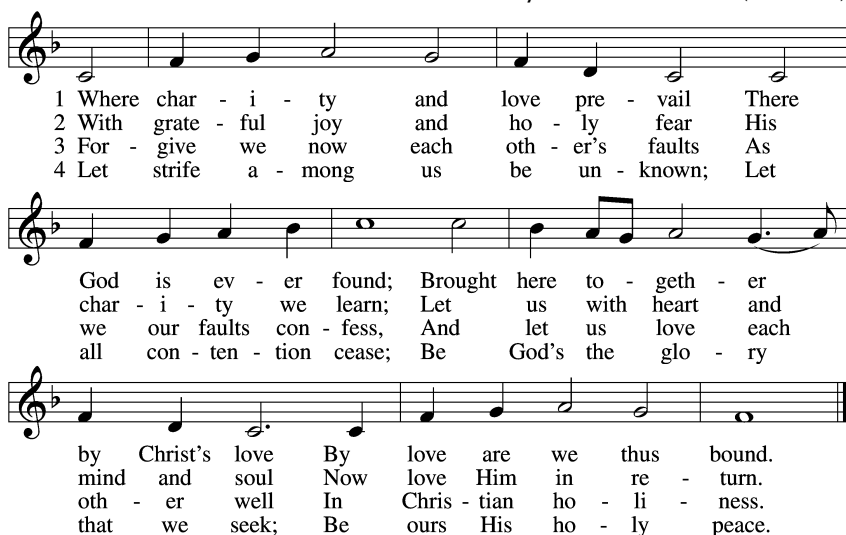
sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me._____

3. Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;_____ let us
to Refrain

praise God to - geth-er on our knees._____

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Where Charity and Love Prevail (LSB 845)



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let

God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
we our faults con - fess, And let us love each
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry

by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.
oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

- 5 Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.
- 6 For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.

Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842

Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

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

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: 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.

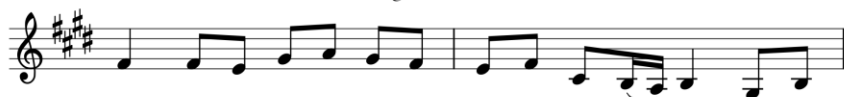
C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Hear the Call of the Kingdom

(Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend)



1. Hear the call of the king-dom, lift your eyes to the King; Let His
 2. Hear the call of the king-dom, to be chil-dren of light with the
 3. Hear the call of the king-dom to reach out to the lost with the



song rise with-in you as a fra-grant of-fer-ing of how
 mer-cy of heav-en the hu-mil-i-ty of Christ; Walk-ing
 Fa-ther's com-pas-sion in the won-der of the cross; bring-ing



God, rich in mer-cy, came in Christ to re-deem all who
 just-ly be-fore Him, lov-ing all that is right, that the
 peace and for-give-ness, and a hope yet to come: Let the



trust in His un-fail-ing grace.
 life of Christ may shine through us. King of
 na-tions put their trust in Him.



heav-en, we will an-swer the call. We will fol-low, bring-ing



hope to the world, filled with pas-sion, filled with



pow-er to pro-claim sal-va-tion in Je-sus' name.

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Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – “Here God has established civil authority, to sit in judgment not only on life and death but also on matters of minor importance. Thus magistrates are to punish the disobedience of children, theft, adultery, perjury, in short, all sins which are forbidden in the Second Table of the Law. For he who grants jurisdiction over a man's life also grants jurisdiction over matters of minor importance. This text is, therefore, significant and worthy to be noted; that God has instituted civil authority and placed the sword into its hand that license may be curbed, lest savagery and other sins grow out of all bounds. If God had not conferred this divine power upon man, what sort of lives . . . would we be leading? Because He foresaw that there would always be much evil in the world, He established this external remedy, which the world had hitherto not had, lest license spread beyond limit. Thus God safeguards our life and property as with a fence or wall.”

—Martin Luther - W 41, 361

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of September 6 through September 13

TODAY: *2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37; Ephesians 5:15-33*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM

MONDAY: *2 Kings 4:38—5:8; Ephesians 6:1-24*
No School
Church Office closed

TUESDAY: *2 Kings 5:9-27; Philippians 1:1-20*

WEDNESDAY: *2 Kings 6:1-23; Philippians 1:21—2:11*
School Chapel 8:45AM
Ladies Aid 12:00Noon
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *2 Kings 9:1-13; 10:18-29; Philippians 2:12-30*
Shoebox Party 10AM-2PM
Lutherans for Life 7:00PM

FRIDAY: *2 Chronicles 29:1-24; Philippians 3:1-21*
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N

SATURDAY: *2 Chronicles 31:1-21; Philippians 4:1-23*

NEXT SUNDAY: Rally 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 August 30, 2026
Sunday School 8 students, 3 teachers

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, August 30 – **84**
Wednesday, September 2 – **14**

Online views
Sunday, August 30 – **11**

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)
August 30: Physical-\$3,526.00; Online-291.50
Total-\$3,817.50

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Is Jesus *really* the Messiah? That's what even mighty John the Baptizer wondered when he was wasting away in prison. Come and learn Jesus' answer to that question, and how we can answer our own troubled hearts when suffering and doubts arise.

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.

WALKING IN THE WORD WEDNESDAYS

Beginning September 30
Wednesdays, 6:00–7:00 PM

Join us this fall for Walking in the Word Wednesdays, a special five-week educational series designed to deepen our understanding of God's Word and strengthen our walk with Christ.

Together we will read and discuss *The Quiet Ambition: Scripture's Surprising Antidote to Our Restless Lives* by **Ryan Tinetti**, professor at Concordia Seminary. In a world that constantly urges us to strive for more, this book invites us to discover the peace, purpose, and contentment that God gives through His Word. We are especially excited to welcome **Professor Ryan Tinetti** as our guest instructor for the final session on **Wednesday, October 28**, where he will share additional insights from the book and lead our concluding discussion. Whether you have read the book before or are encountering it for the first time, this series offers an excellent opportunity to grow in faith alongside your church family. Don't feel like reading the book? Come anyway! The classes will be valuable for all.

When: Wednesdays, 6:00–7:00 PM
Dates: September 30–October 28
Location: Salem Lutheran's Sanctuary

We hope you'll join us as we walk together in the Word and discover the quiet confidence that comes from resting in Christ!

2. RALLY SUNDAY Join us on **Sunday, September 13**, as we celebrate **Rally Sunday** and kick off a new year of Sunday School and Bible study! Together we'll give thanks for the opportunities God provides to grow in His Word and encourage one another in the faith. Following the service, everyone is invited to stay for a meal and enjoy food and fellowship with our church family. The meal will be provided, just come and enjoy time together!

3. 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.

4. LUTHERANS FOR LIFE -Thank you for being a congregation that supports Life! Our next Chapter meeting will be September 10 at 7 pm. We are inviting everyone to attend this meeting. We will have a short "Life" devotional as we start our meeting. On the agenda is the Life Chain on the first Sunday in October. We have attended this event for over 15 years. It takes place on Lindbergh. It's so easy to do! No matter your personal situation, you can do this with us! Standing or sitting silently for one hour, being a witness for LIFE. Please ask Jane Thur, Judy Niederwimmer, Ginger Sorensen, Penny Fuller, Marlin Stellhorn, Merna Stellhorn, Cindy Schulz, Pattie Trampe or Landolph Lee.

5. LADIES AID-- Ladies, hope to see you all on this Wednesday for our first meeting of the 'new' year. Our new officers will be installed, we'll discuss upcoming applebutter cooking, plans and possible projects for the year, and we will plan our annual October outing. Bring your ideas and a sandwich. Dessert and drinks are provided. All the ladies of our congregation are welcome to join us.

6. JOIN THE FUN AT BREW IN THE LOU 2026, a Big Blue Spark production. Special thanks to our title sponsor, Southern Bank, for helping bring LESA's 14th Annual Brew in the Lou Festival back to Francis Park on Saturday, October 10, 2026, from 1-5 p.m.

Join us for a one-stop tasting of St. Louis' best beer, wine, spirits, homebrew, and food favorites along the banks of the Lily Pond at Francis Park, featuring local, regional, and national craft breweries, distilleries, and wineries.

Discounted ticket sales end on Friday, October 9, and general admission will be \$65 on the day of the event so don't wait! Get your tickets today and save while discounted pricing is available. No VIP tickets will be sold day of the event—preevent sales only!

All proceeds support Lutheran education in LESA schools. Visit www.lesastl.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

7. THE 36TH ANNUAL THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM AT CONCORDIA SEMINARY will take place September 22-23, 2026. Titled “I Will Uphold You: Ministry in Mental Health”, this symposium examines the care for those experiencing mental health challenges, particularly as mental health care has become increasingly associated with psychiatrists, psychologists and other licensed professionals often to the exclusion of pastors and their spiritual care of souls. How can the church reclaim its voice and its proper role of caring for souls struggling with mental health issues? What is the distinctive role of pastors and other church workers as compared to secular, or even Christian, counselors? Join the conversation at the 2026 Theological Symposium. Visit www.csl.edu/symposium for more information and to register.

8. LASE SPECIALIZED EDUCATION invites you to support our ministry to children with unique learning needs through your attendance at our upcoming Merry Mingle event on November 7, from 9:30am-12:30pm. We would love for you to join us in celebrating 70 years of God's faithfulness through LASE, and look ahead with us to the next 70 years.

Registration details can be found on our website: <https://lutheranspeciald.org/merry-mingle/>

9. APPLEBUTTER is coming up this month!!!

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 26 beginning at 6:00AM

You have done a great job bringing in pint and quart jars—thank you! We'll still take them (used or new, Ball and Kerr brands **only**)—but don't forget to sign up for the day(s) you are able to come help! This is a great time to spend together with your Salem family to complete a big task, and there's room for everyone to participate.

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.

We especially need help on JAR WASHING DAY! It's a bit more involved than just washing the jars—and with lots of hands, it will go much more smoothly. Even if you can't come for long, come for a little while and help as you are able.

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

Angela's Athletic Initiative Fundraiser

"I am once again fundraising to help fight blood cancers with Blood Cancer United (formerly The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society). Once again have a higher fundraising minimum of \$3500 to meet. Since I've last sent a letter I've added 3 more states (North Dakota, Arizona, and Kentucky) to my total. Up next I'm planning on one (yet to be chosen) this fall and the Disney marathon in Florida in January. I want to say thank you for all your support over the years, together we have already done so much!

"...Blood Cancer United funds research and supports families through their journey with all sorts of blood cancer – that's one of the reasons the name has changed – Blood Cancer United is about more than just leukemia and lymphoma, as they always have been, but now with a name that better expresses that. That support can make all the difference when someone faces something like cancer, it means someone to turn to, someone who can give you information, and additional support in a scary and overwhelming situation. Many of the treatments for blood cancers that are in use now in some way result from funding Blood Cancer United has provided. You can make a difference – in a world that feels like it's falling apart some of the time, you can do something to help put someone else's world back together. Thank you for all your support!"

–Angela Brinker

Way to go, Angela! If you'd like to support Angela in her fundraising endeavors, you can! There is an upcoming trivia night, or you can give directly on her fundraising website.

TRIVIA NIGHT Saturday, September 26, 2026

Doors Open at 6:00, Questions at 6:30

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

4712 Clifton Ave, St Louis, MO 63109

\$25/person OR \$200/table of 8

Eight Rounds – 10 Questions per Round

Silent Auction, Awesome Games, Mulligans, 50/50 Raffle

Bring your own snacks and drinks (alcohol or non-alcohol)

For Reservations and/or Questions

Text or call Angela Brinker at 314-809-8769 or email
at angelabrinker@yahoo.com

If you cannot attend but would still like to help you can visit my fundraising website at <https://pages.lla.org/tnt/team/wdw27/ABrinker>