

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

September 13, 2026

Sixteenth 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: The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant;
Jan Sanders van Hemessen (ca 1556)*

*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

Joseph was a man wronged, repeatedly. However, as we find him in Genesis 50, those wrongs against him did not lead him to live with bitterness or a desire for revenge. Instead, we find that God provided him with patience and compassion even against those who had so terribly sinned against him. We are often quick to anger and slow to forgive. May He work patience and wisdom in our hearts when we hear about the numerous ways God's gifts are twisted. Thanks be to God that He is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8).

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)

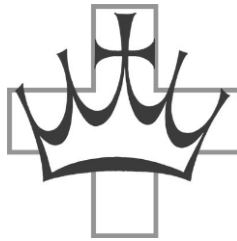
ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Give Me Jesus (LSB 976, stzs 1, 4-5)



Text and tune: African American spiritual
Text and tune: Public domain



INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES *(based on Micah 7)*

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

C: Amen!

P: Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity,

C: and passing over transgression for the remnant of His inheritance?

P: He does not retain His anger forever,

C: because He delights in steadfast love.

P: He will again have compassion on us;

C: He will tread our iniquities underfoot.

P: You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

C: You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as You have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: This is what God says of Himself. We carry in our hearts many failures and sins. Let us carry them no longer. Rather, let us go to this God so that He might cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Silence for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: I confess that I have sinned against You and against my neighbor. I have not trusted in You with my whole heart, nor have I loved my neighbor as myself. Often, I have held back the forgiveness you would grant me. Rather than reaching out in mercy, I have waited for my neighbor to reach out to me. Forgive me, Father, for failing to be Your instrument of grace in this world. Cleanse me of my sin and send me once more to speak Your word of forgiveness to those who sin against me. Amen.

P: There is no God like your God. He does not retain His anger, but delights in steadfast love. In Jesus' death on the cross, He cast all your sins into the sea. As God's called servant, hear this word as if from the mouth of God Himself: I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen!

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KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

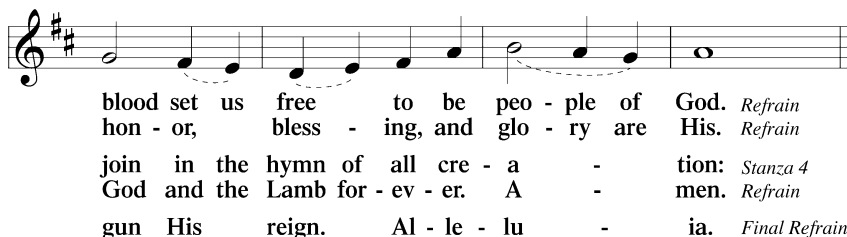
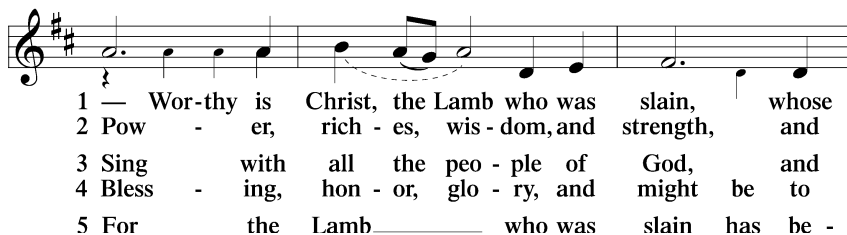
P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

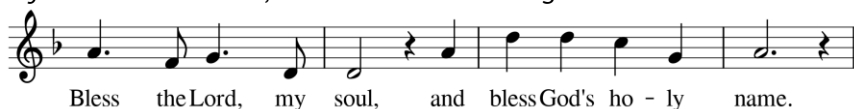
L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



PSALM 103:1-12

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



Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C – Refrain

The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

C – Refrain

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

C – Refrain

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1-12

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

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

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

Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: His Mercy Is More (Matt Boswell and Matt Papa)



What love could re-mem-ber no wrongs we have done; Om -
What pa-tience would wait as we con-stant-ly roam; What
What rich-es of kind-ness He lav-ished on us; His
nis-cient, all-know-ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa-ther, so ten-der, is call-ing us home. He
blood was the pay-ment, His life was the cost. We
in-to a sea with-out bot-tom or shore;
wel-comesthe weak-est, the vil-est, the poor; Our
stood 'neath a debt we could nev-er af-ford;
sins, theyare man-y, His mer-cy is more. Praisethe Lord!
Hismer-cy is more. Strong-er than dark-ness,
newev'-ry morn; Our sins, theyare man-y, His mer-cy is more.

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SERMON: "Living *From* Forgiveness" Matthew 18:21-22

Pastor Dressler

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE - "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his
benefits." Psalm 103:2

(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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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 161

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

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

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, 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.**

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 963



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

Text: Traditional; tr. International Consultation on English Texts, alt.

Tune: Jeffrey N. Blerch, 1967

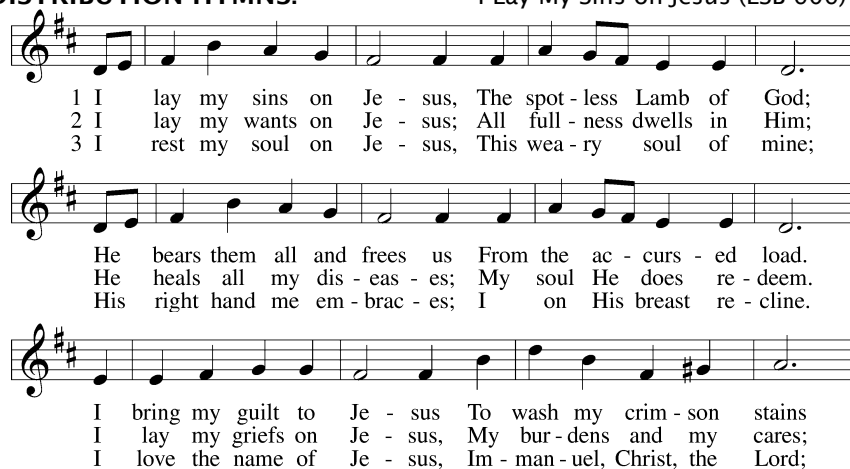
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(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

I Lay My Sins on Jesus (LSB 606)



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;
He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.
I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;

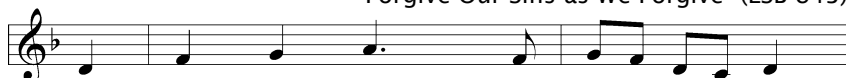


Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
 Like fra-grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89

Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" (LSB 843)



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
 2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
 3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-87, alt.

Tune: A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony, 1820, Harrisonburg

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



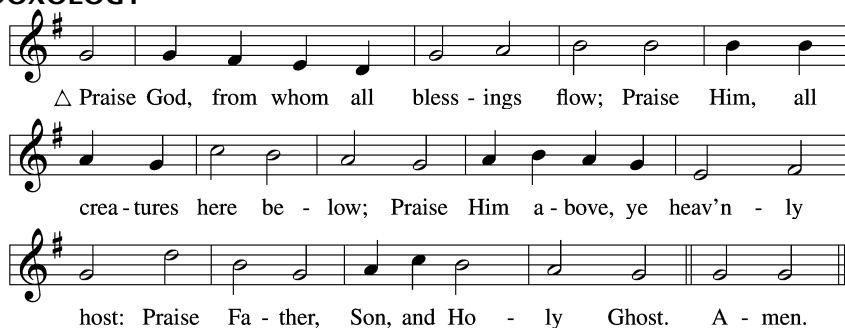
I Am the Bread of Life (S. Suzanne Toolan)

"The bread that I will give is my
 "Unless you eat of the
 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, that
 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that
 come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the
 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, who has
 me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world."
 "And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

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(Please stand)

DOXOLOGY



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN: The River Is Here (Andy Park)

Verse 1

Down the moun - tain the riv - er flows, and it
brings re - fresh - ing wher - ev - er it goes.
Through the val - leys and o - ver the fields the
riv - er is rush - ing and the riv - er is here. The

Refrain

riv - er of God sets our feet to danc - ing, the
riv - er of God fills our hearts with cheer. The
riv - er of God fills our mouths with laugh - ter, and
we re - joice for the riv - er is here.

Verse 2

The riv - er of God is teem - ing with life and
all who touch it can be re - vived; And

those who lin - ger on this riv - er's shore will

come back thirst - ing for more of the Lord. The

Refrain
riv - er of God sets our feet to danc - ing, the

riv - er of God fills our hearts with cheer. The

riv - er of God fills our mouths with laugh - ter, and

we re-joice for the riv - er is here.

Verse 3
Up to the moun - tain we love to go to

find the pres - ence of the Lord. A -

long the banks of the riv - er we run, we

dance with laugh - ter giv - ing praise to the Son. The

Refrain

riv-er of God sets our feet to danc-ing, the
 riv-er of God fills our hearts with cheer. The
 riv-er of God fills our mouths with laugh-ter, and
 we re-joice for the riv-er is here.

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Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – "Jesus' call to bear the cross places all who follow him in the community of the forgiveness of sins. Forgiving sins is the Christ-suffering required of his disciples. It is required of all Christians."

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

For the week of September 13 through September 20

- TODAY: **Rally Sunday**
2 Chronicles 32:1-22; Colossians 1:1-23
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Fellowship Meal 11:15AM
- MONDAY: *2 Chronicles 33:1-25; Colossians 1:24—2:7*
- TUESDAY: *2 Chronicles 34:1-4, 8-11, 14-33; Colossians 2:8-23*
Church Council 7:00PM
- WEDNESDAY: *2 Chronicles 35:1-7, 16-25; Colossians 3:1-25*
School Chapel 8:45AM
Voters' Booklet deadline 9:00AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM
- THURSDAY: *2 Chronicles 36:1-23; Colossians 4:1-18*
- FRIDAY: *Nehemiah 1:1—2:10; 1 Timothy 1:1-20*
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N
- SATURDAY: *Nehemiah 2:11-20; 4:1-6; 1 Timothy 2:1-15*
Drive-thru prayer 10:30AM-12:30PM
Jar Washing 12Noon
- NEXT SUNDAY: Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Elders 11:15AM

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A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD -Week of September 6, 2026

Sunday School 5 students, 2 teachers

Worship Service Attendance

Sunday, September 6 - 71

Wednesday, September 9 - 12

Online views

Sunday, September 6 - 13

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

September 6: Physical-\$5,420.00; Online-1,474.11

Total-\$6,894.11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." That's what Jesus says . . . but it doesn't always *feel* true, does it? After all, at other points, Jesus calls us to pick up our crosses and follow Him . . . and the cross is no light thing! Join us next week as we try to understand the truth of Jesus' well-known (sometimes difficult-to-believe) claim. See you then!

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. ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in celebration of Rita & Nick Hall's 50th wedding anniversary.

3. RALLY SUNDAY IS TODAY!! 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!

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. 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.

6. THE LUTHERAN RESALE SHOP is the only Lutheran thrift Shop in the greater St. Louis/St. Charles area. And we need your help for one day! We are doing our "change-over" to fall clothing on Monday, September 14 from 10 am until 3 pm. We have stand up and sit down jobs for any lady or gentlemen that can help. Anyone helping that day will get \$10 in merchandise as a thank you! Please bring your sack lunch. We are at 6701 W. Florissant, 63136. Parking is on the side street, Hodiamont, or in back of our building. Please call us at 314-389-9970 for any questions. Thank you so much!

7. 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://lutheranspecialized.org/merry-mingle/>

8. 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>