

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

October 11, 2026

Twentieth 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

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: Preparations for the Feast

*We are Salem, a family nurturing God's children
to live loving lives in faith.*

HOLY COMMUNION

In accordance with the historic practice of the Christian Church, our congregation practices close communion, meaning that normally our members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations commune here. Please speak to the pastor about exceptions to this general practice. Please also note that this practice in no way intends to comment on the state of anyone else's faith: we simply understand our communing together is also a public profession of unity in doctrine, which not everyone shares. Those who do not commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to indicate that you are not communing) or remain in the pew during communion and pray.

LIFE THOUGHT

The wedding feast is prepared, yet people have lots of reasons for not attending. However, the excuses given for rejecting God are as implausible as the excuses people give to defend abortion and assisted dying (Matthew 22:5). Still, as God invites us into His great wedding banquet, He reminds us that this feast has been prepared for all and that every person is still precious to Him (Isaiah 25:6-7). Therefore, we have the task of extending His gracious invitation to "as many as you find" (Matthew 22:9).

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Preacher: Pastor Martin Dressler

Fieldworker: Nick Vukalovich

Organist/pianist: Elin Hogan-Gomez

Greeter: Kathy Adler

Prayer Team: Fred Petty

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Soon and Very Soon (All God's People Sing 218)



1. Soon and ver - y soon
2. No more cry - in'there, we are goin' to see theKing!
3. No more dy - in'there,
4. Soon and ver - y soon



Soon and ver - y soon
No more cry - in'there, we are goin' to see theKing!
No more dy - in'there,
Soon and ver - y soon

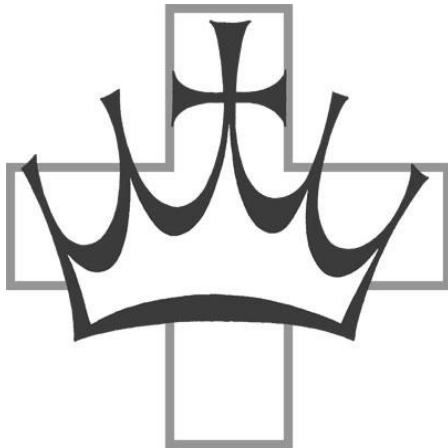


Soon and ver - y soon
No more cry - in'there, we are goin' to see theKing! Hal-le
No more dy - in'there,
Soon and ver - y soon



lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! We're goin' to see theKing!

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INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES *(based on Psalm 36:5-9)*

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

C: Amen.

P: The Lord brought me to the banqueting house,

C: and His banner over me was love.

P: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

C: Your faithfulness to the clouds.

P: How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!

C: The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

P: They feast on the abundance of Your house,

C: and You give them drink from the river of Your delights.

P: For with You is the fountain of life;

C: In Your light do we see light.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Since our God is a fountain of Life, let us take refuge in the shadow of His wings, seeking His forgiveness for the sake of Christ.

Silence for reflection.

P: Faithful Father in heaven,

C: We confess that we have not always been faithful. You brought us to Yourself in baptism and have always remained true to Your promises. But we have not remained true to ours. We wander away from You. We often fear, love, and trust in other things. We frequently do not love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive our inconstancy and wash away our sin, that we might delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: How precious is God's steadfast love! God is constant. He does not change in His will toward you or His love toward you. That is why He sent Jesus to live, die, and rise for your Salvation. In His name 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.

KYRIE - Refrain

Cantor

. . . let us
pray to the Lord:

O - Lord, O - Lord, have mer - cy

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C: Refrain

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Refrain

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

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NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

Refrain

☐ Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He

lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to

sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! 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 God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; 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

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

He will swallow up death forever;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the
earth,

for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might
save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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PSALM 23

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



The Lord is my shep-herd; there is noth-ing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul.

and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

C – Refrain

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil;

and my cup is running over.

C – Refrain

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

C – Refrain

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EPISTLE

Philippians 4:4-13

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: Alleluia. The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." Let the one who hears say, "Come." Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. Alleluia.



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HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him

into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

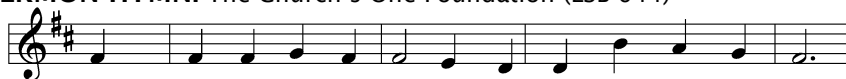
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: The Church's One Foundation (LSB 644)



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
 Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth,
 By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more
 And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt.
 Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76



SERMON: "The Royal Wedding" Matthew 22:11-13 Pastor Dressler

OFFERING (prayer requests)

STEWARDSHIP VERSE – "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Philippians 4:8

(Please stand)

PRAYERS - *Each petition concludes with "Lord, in Your mercy."
Congregation responds with verse below.*



Text: Luke 23:42

Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-94

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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin.
Follow the direction of the usher to approach the altar.
Gluten-free wafers are available by request.*

PREFACE

LSB 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

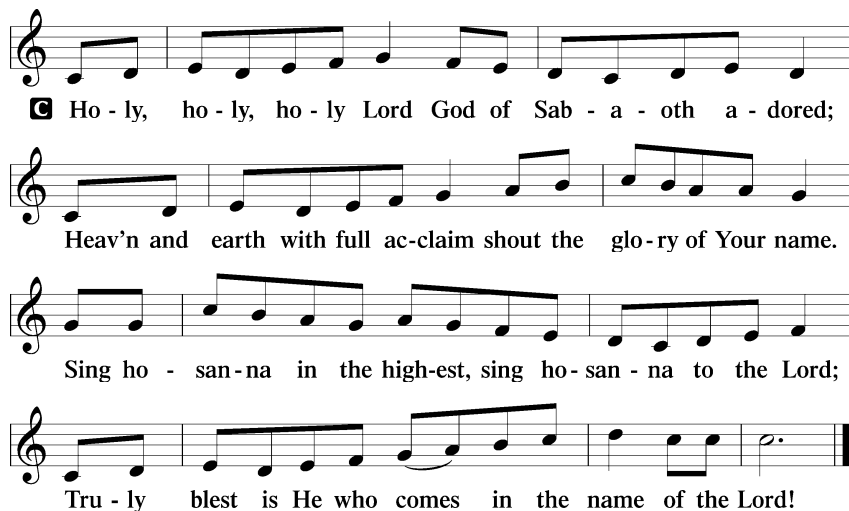
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

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

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

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

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

PAX DOMINI

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

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 962

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, grant us Your peace.

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

Tune: Paul D. Weber, 1949

Text: © 1975 International Consultation on English Texts. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

Tune: © 2001 Paul D. Weber. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: His Banner Over Me Is Love (AGPS 118)

I'm feast - ing at His
 He placed my feet on the
 Je - sus is the vine and
 I am my be - lov - ed's and

ban - quet - ing ta - ble; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 firm foun - da - tion; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 we are the branch - es; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 He is mine; His ban - ner o - ver me is

love. I'm feast - ing at His
 love. He placed my feet on the
 love. Je - sus is the vine and
 love. I am my be - lov - ed's and

ban - quet - ing ta - ble; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 firm foun - da - tion; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 we are the branch - es; His ban - ner o - ver me is
 He is mine; His ban - ner o - ver me is

love. I'm feast - ing at His
 love. He placed my feet on the
 love. Je - sus is the vine and
 love. I am my be - lov - ed's and

ban - quet - ing ta - ble; His ban - ner o - ver me is
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love. His ban - ner o - ver me is love.
 love. His ban - ner o - ver me is love.
 love. His ban - ner o - ver me is love.
 love. His ban - ner o - ver me is love.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (LSB 641)

Refrain

You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of
 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal
 5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less

heed his voice; So when You call Your
 grat - i - tude That You should count us
 Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one
 tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -
 let us be, To serve each oth - er

Refrain

fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
 in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97

Tune: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-96

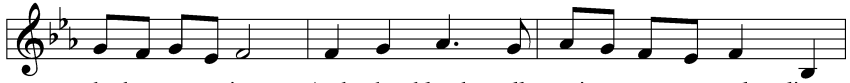
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Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling (LSB 630)



1 Now, my tongue, the mys - t'ry tell - ing Of the glo - rious
 2 Giv'n for us, and con - de - scend - ing To be born for
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the Twelve, His
 4 Word made flesh, the bread He tak - eth, By His word His
 Δ 5 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther



bod - y sing, And the blood, all price ex - cel - ling,
 us be - low, He with us in con - verse blend - ing
 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
 flesh to be; Wine His sa - cred blood He mak - eth,
 and the Son, Hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



Which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, Once on earth a -
 Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, Till He closed with
 Keeps the feast its rites de - mand; Then, more pre - cious
 Though the sens - es fail to see; Faith a - lone the
 While e - ter - nal a - ges run; Ev - er too His



mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
 won - drous end - ing His most pa - tient life of woe.
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives Him - self with His own hand.
 true heart wak - eth To be - hold the mys - ter - y.
 love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225-1274; tr. The Hymnal 1940

Tune: Chants ordinaires de l'Office Divin, Paris, 1881

Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 937



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
 Δ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled, These eyes have seen sal -
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



Text (sts. 1-2): James Quinn, 1919-2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948-2025

Tune: American

Text (sts. 1-2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

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.

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BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN: My Lord, What a Morning (LSB 968)

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; My Lord, what a
morn-ing; Oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the
stars be-gin to fall, When the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You'll hear the trum-pet sound, To wake the
2 You'll hear the sin-ner cry, To wake the
3 You'll hear the Chris-tian shout, To wake the

na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right

Refrain

hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.

Text and tune: African American spiritual

Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK –"Who then can fully appreciate what this royal marriage means? Who can understand the riches of the glory of this grace? Here this rich and divine bridegroom Christ marries this poor, wicked harlot, redeems her from all her evil, and adorns her with all his goodness. Her sins cannot now destroy her, since they are laid upon Christ and swallowed up by him. And she has that righteousness in Christ, her husband, of which she may boast as of her own and which she can confidently display alongside her sins in the face of death and hell and say, 'If I have sinned, yet my Christ, in whom I believe, has not sinned, and all his is mine and all mine is his,' as the bride in the Song of Solomon [2:16] says, 'My beloved is mine and I am his.' This is what Paul means when he says in I Cor. 15[:57], 'Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ,' that is, the victory over sin and death, as he also says there, 'The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.' [I Cor. 15:56]"

—Martin Luther, *The Freedom of the Christian*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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MISSOURI AMENDMENT 3

Life is a gift from God.

Scripture clearly states that God is the Creator of all human life (Job 10:12) from the moment of conception (Ps. 139:13–14).

Life has value.

Human life, though marred by the fall, has a unique and valued place in God's creation (Gen. 9:6; Ps. 8:5).

Life is God's intention.

God sent His Son to die and redeem all human life (John 3:16). Jesus came that you may have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10).

As we prepare for election day,
we are wise to consider
the values above from Scripture.

While the church is not a political entity
and not in the business of endorsing candidates,
it is our Christian responsibility and privilege
to take part in civic action to care for our neighbors –
especially those who cannot speak for themselves
(Prov. 31:8–9).



Missouri District

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

WHAT WOULD AMENDMENT 3 CHANGE?

Missouri Amendment 3 will appear on the Nov. 3, 2026, general election ballot. It would repeal Article I, Section 36, of the Missouri Constitution and replace it with new constitutional provisions addressing abortion, parental consent for minors, and gender transition procedures for minors.

A “yes” vote would:

- Allow legislation to regulate abortion providers and facilities.
- Require informed and voluntary consent, including parental, or judicial consent for minors.
- Allow abortion to be restricted to medical emergencies, rape, or incest under 12 weeks’ gestation, and fetal anomalies.
- Prohibit public funding of abortions except in limited circumstances.
- Prohibit gender transition procedures for minors, with specified exceptions.

A “no” vote would:

- Leave Article I, Section 36, in place.
- Leave abortion access from conception through fetal viability.
- Allow gender transition procedures for minors.

Questions?

For questions specific to Amendment 3, contact Missouri District Life Coordinator Rev. Dr. Jason Wagner at pastorwagner@email.com.

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of October 11 through October 18

- TODAY:** *Deuteronomy 9:23—10:22; Matthew 11:20-30*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Elders 11:15AM
- MONDAY:** *Deuteronomy 11:1-25; Matthew 12:1-21*
- TUESDAY:** *Deuteronomy 11:26—12:12; Matthew 12:22-37*
Board of Christian Nurture 4:15PM
Board of Christian Education 7:00PM
- WEDNESDAY:** *Deuteronomy 12:13-32; Matthew 12:38-50*
School Chapel 8:45AM
Ladies Aid outing 11:00AM
Walking in the Word 6:00PM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM
Elin out of office
- THURSDAY:** *Deuteronomy 13:1-18; Matthew 13:1-23*
Shoebox Party 10AM-2PM
Elin out of office
- FRIDAY:** *Deuteronomy 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28—15:15;*
 Matthew 13:24-43
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N
- SATURDAY:** *Deuteronomy 15:19—16:22; Matthew 13:44-58*
- NEXT SUNDAY:** Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM

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A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD -Week of October 4, 2026
Sunday School 7 students, 3 teachers

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, October 4 - **88**
Wednesday, October 7 - **16**

Online views
Sunday, October 4 - **12**

Tithes and Offerings (Weekly Budget: \$8,200.00)
October 4: Physical-\$9,794.30; Online-1,281.50
Total-\$11,075.80

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Join us next week for Part 2 of our Ask the Pastor Study. We had a couple questions that were too big to handle at a single go, so we're going to take our time with them. Two of the questions are - "Where do we go when we die?" In other words, what happens to us between death and the second coming of Christ? Another question is this, "What is the relationship between human freedom and God's foreknowledge and providence? How do they fit together?" These are HUGE questions! **Make a point of joining us, even if Bible study is not a normal part of your Sunday schedule.**

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

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—and he has offered to sign your copy of the book! How neat!

Weren't able to make it for our first few weeks? Guess what—that's totally okay. Join us next week!

2. LADIES AID - Just a reminder! Our annual outing in October this year is lunch at Gingham's Restaurant in St. Charles on Wednesday, October 14th. We will meet at the old schoolhouse at 11:00 and carpool. Please call Myrna at 314-570-2700 to make your reservation, and so we know we're not leaving you behind when we leave at 11:00. All the Salem ladies are welcome to join us for a delicious lunch and fellowship. Looking forward to sharing an enjoyable afternoon with everyone.

3. OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH, and this year, we will celebrate our clergy and future clergy on Sunday, October 25. The meal will be provided, and we will once again be gathering a freewill offering to bolster our Benevolent Fund.

The Benevolent Fund has become even more critical, as other organizations who have historically been in positions to help members of the community who are in need no longer receive the funding necessary to do so. Baskets will be available for this, and there will also be a designated spot to place any small gifts or cards you may wish to bring in for our guests of honor: Pastor Dressler, Pastor Briggs, Rev. Thur, and Nick Vukalovich.

4. SALEM SAUSAGE AND KRAUT Mark your calendars for Salem's sausage dinner for November 8. Yes, we are going to have a sit-down meal once again, served buffet-style. Advance ticket purchases online **are required** and are now on sale. There will be two seating times available: 11:30AM -1:00PM and 1:30PM-3:00PM. Find the link on our website, or go directly to: <https://tinyurl.com/u9cdcrnn>

*Note: Carry-outs will be available, as well as raw and cooked sausage, and cooked sauerkraut to go. **For questions or assistance purchasing tickets, please call Keith at 314-541-5878.** If you are interested in volunteering to help and you haven't yet been asked, call Keith about that as well.*

5. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NOVEMBER 8 SAUSAGE SUPPER: If you haven't already been asked to help and are willing to volunteer to help, please see the sign-up sheets on the table in the narthex. We are also asking for members to bake cakes for the meal. There is a separate sign-up sheet for this on the table.

6. TRUNK OR TREAT On Thursday, October 29, we'll have a Trunk or Treat in our parking lot. It will be open for trunk-or-treaters from 4-5pm, and, as with all projects, we cannot do it without **YOUR** help.

We will need people to:

- +sign up to bring their vehicle to pass out candy/small gifts
- +help us manage parking and our waiting area
- +bring in candy/small items to pass out to the trunk-or-treaters
- +come in your costume to have fun with us

This will be rain or shine! If shine, we'll be outside. If rain, we'll shift gears and set up in the gymnasium. What a blessing to have such a facility!

Please consider how you can help, and if you have any questions or want to be assigned an area to assist, call Susan in the School Office (314-741-8220) or Elin in the Church Office (314-741-6781) and they'll put you to work 😊

7. ALTAR GUILD HELP NEEDED: Would you like to be directly involved in fulfilling Jesus' command to us all to eat His body and drink His blood in the Lord's Supper? The Altar Guild needs your help! We need help with Communion set-up and Communion clean-up. Your commitment is only 1 time per month, OR only 12 times per year.

This is not a major time commitment, but it is an important one! The Altar Guild is essential in the life of God's Church. You will be trained and given written instructions. Retired and love to travel? Not a problem as we are more than happy to trade spots with each other. Remember the words of Isaiah's commission from the Lord: "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)

See Ginger Sorensen with any questions or interest. Find her in-person or give her a call at 314-583-7445.

