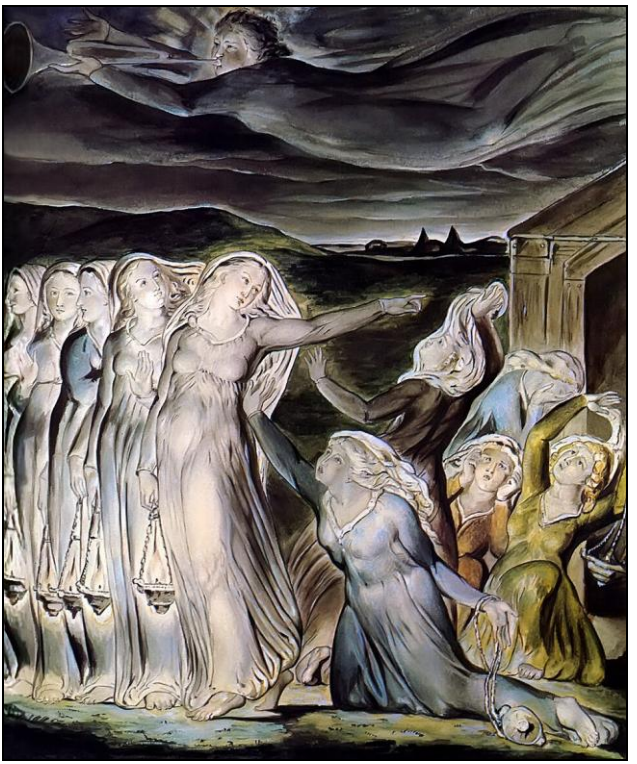
Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

November 8, 2026

Twenty-fourth 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–Dr. Patricia Jackson, 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 or Elin Hogan-Gomez.

On the cover: The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins
William Blake, 1822

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

Sadly, through things like abortion, abuse, poverty, and neglect, many people are deprived of a home filled with love, peace, and joy. God shows His love by preparing a "lovely dwelling place" (Psalm 84:1) for all people at His side through the death of Jesus, His Son. As we wait for Christ to gather us, His bride, to that eternal home with Him, we are wise to keep the light of faith burning brightly by continually hearing God's Word and by loving others by sharing His Word with them while there is still time (Matthew 25:1-4).

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
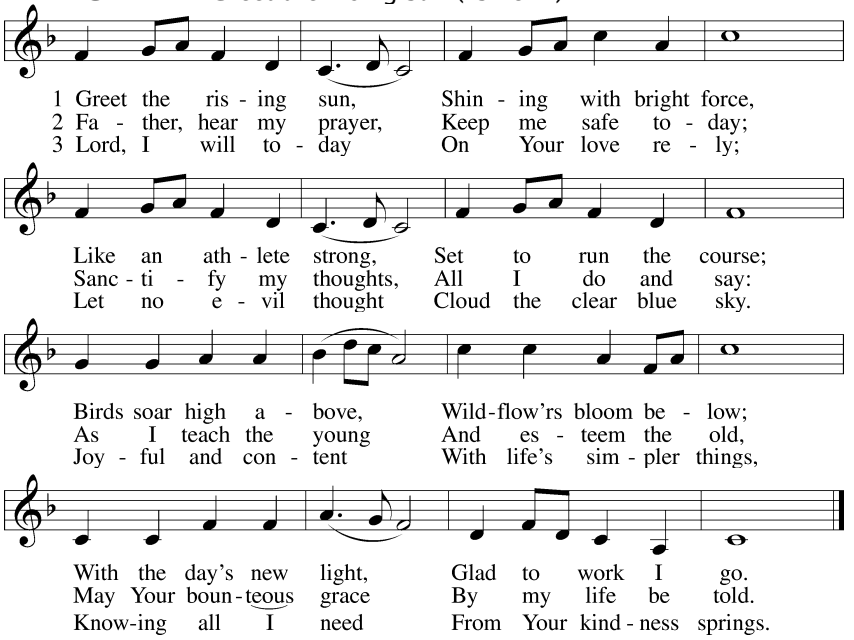
Preacher:	Pastor Martin Dressler
Fieldworker:	Nick Vukalovich
Organist/pianist:	Elin Hogan-Gomez
Greeter:	Kathy Adler
Prayer Team:	Fred Petty

(Please silence your cell phones)

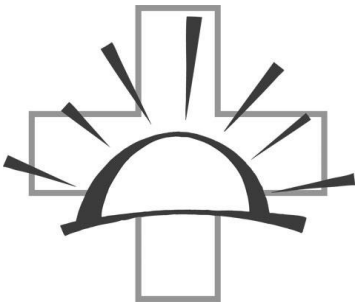
ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Greet the Rising Sun (LSB 871)



Text: Zhao Zichen, 1888–1979; tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Chinese
Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345



INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

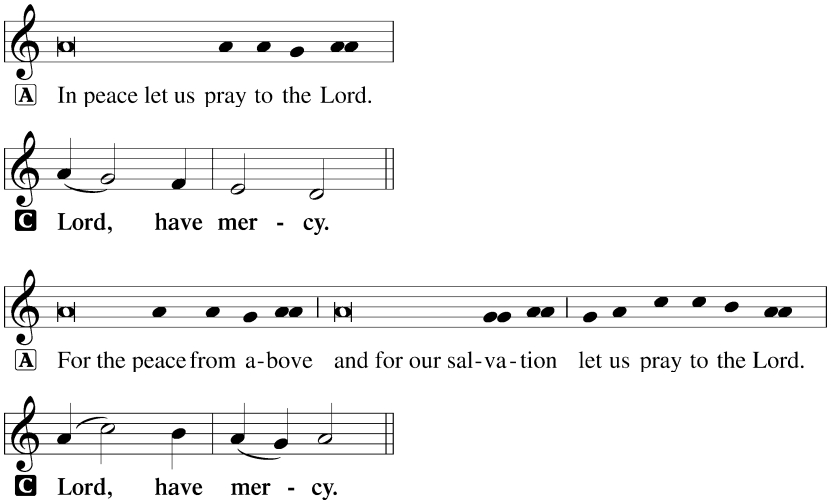
C: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbor as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
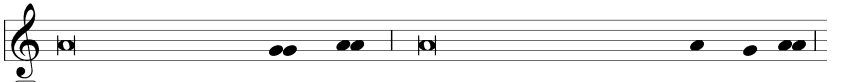
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
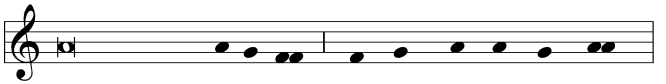
C: Amen.
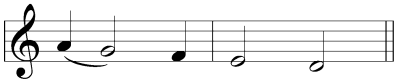
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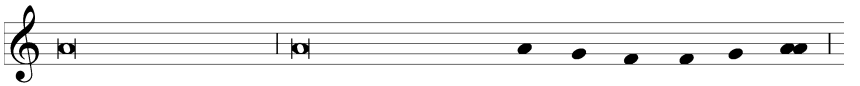
KYRIE
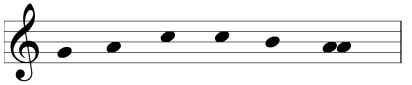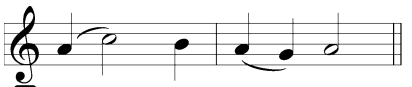




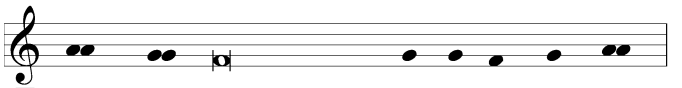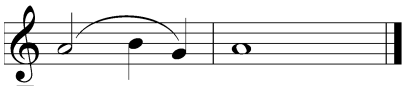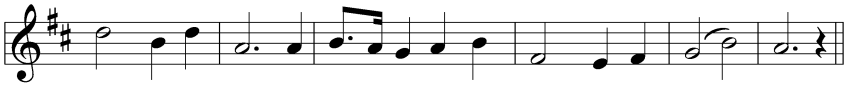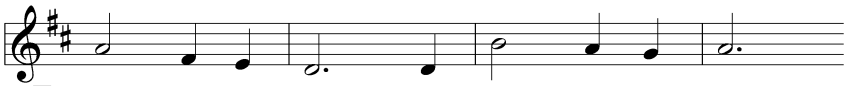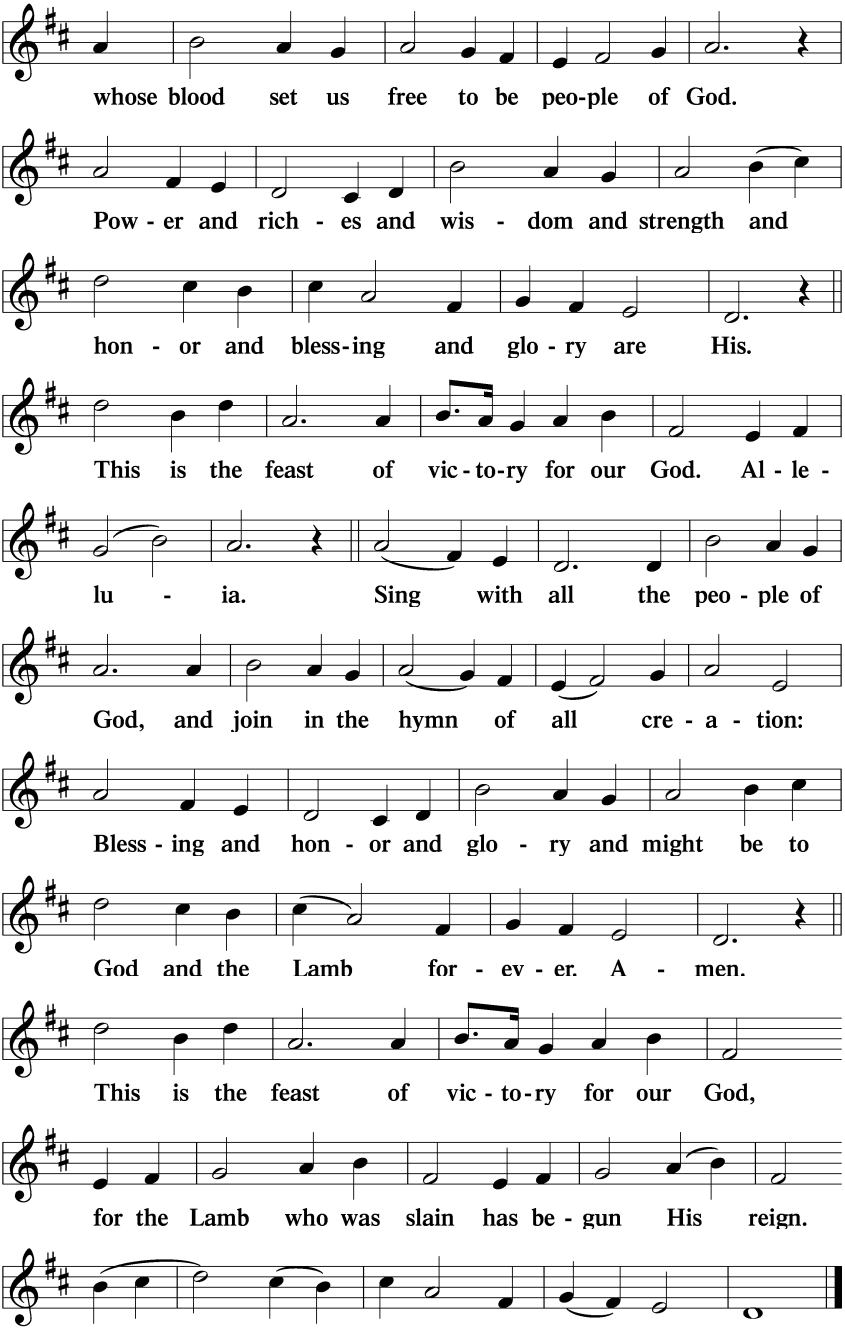














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THIS IS THE FEAST






whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and
hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.
This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
L: Let us pray.
C: Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same 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 *Amos 5:18-24*

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
  Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
  as if a man fled from a lion,
  and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
  and a serpent bit him.
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
  and gloom with no brightness in it?
"I hate, I despise your feasts,
  and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
  I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
  I will not look upon them.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
  to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
But let justice roll down like waters,
  and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 70

L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
  O LORD, make haste to help me!
C: Let them be put to shame and confusion
  who seek my life!

L: Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
  who desire my hurt!
C: Let them turn back because of their shame
  who say, "Aha, Aha!"

L: May all who seek you
  rejoice and be glad in you!

C: May those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"

L: But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
C: You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

EPISTLE

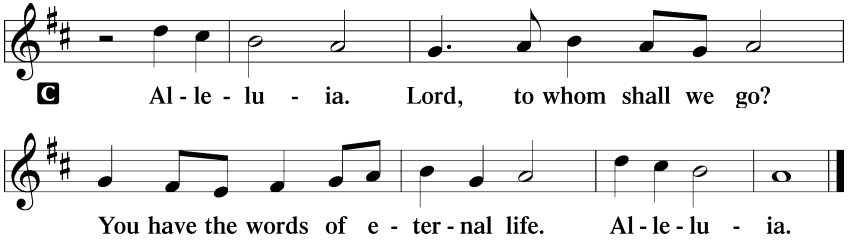
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the

foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)
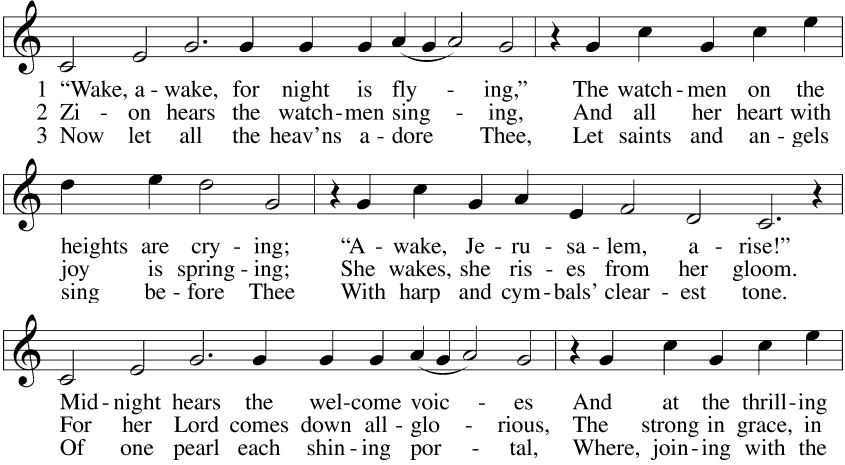
ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM

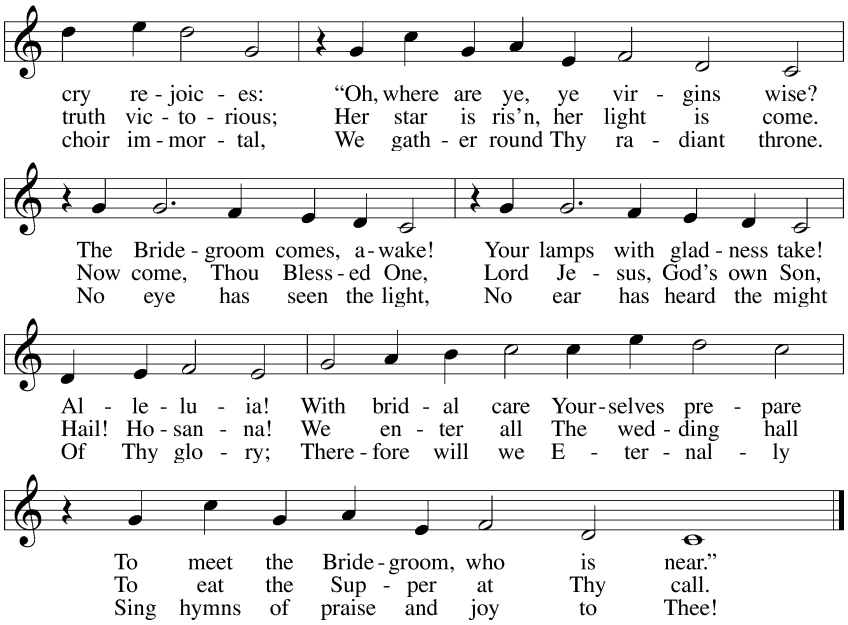
Makenna Jade Wallace



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (LSB 516)





Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

SERMON: "Proper Prior Planning" Matthew 25:1-2 Pastor Dressler

OFFERING (*prayer requests)*

STEWARDSHIP VERSE – "But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!" Psalm 70:5

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
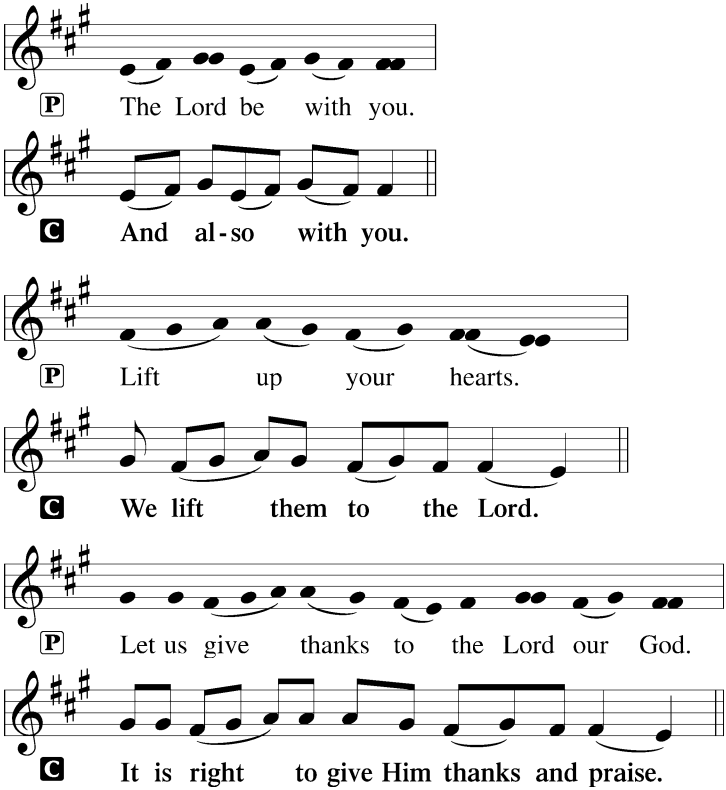
P: Lord, in Your mercy,
C: **hear our prayer.**



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

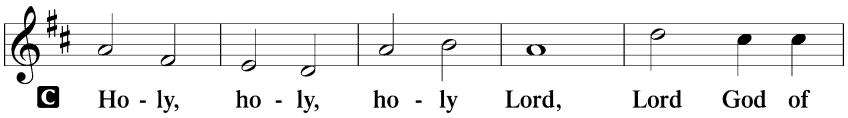
Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin.
Follow the direction of the usher to approach the altar.
Gluten-free wafers are available by request.

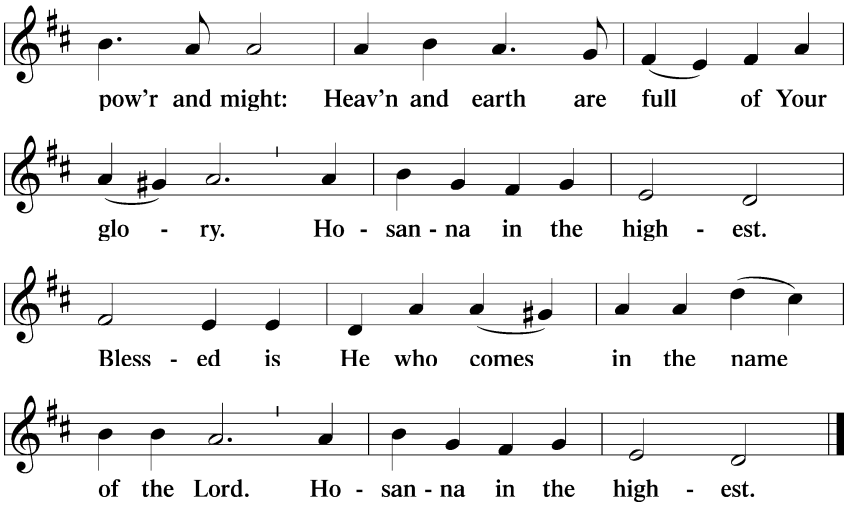
PREFACE *LSB 177*



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *LSB 178*





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

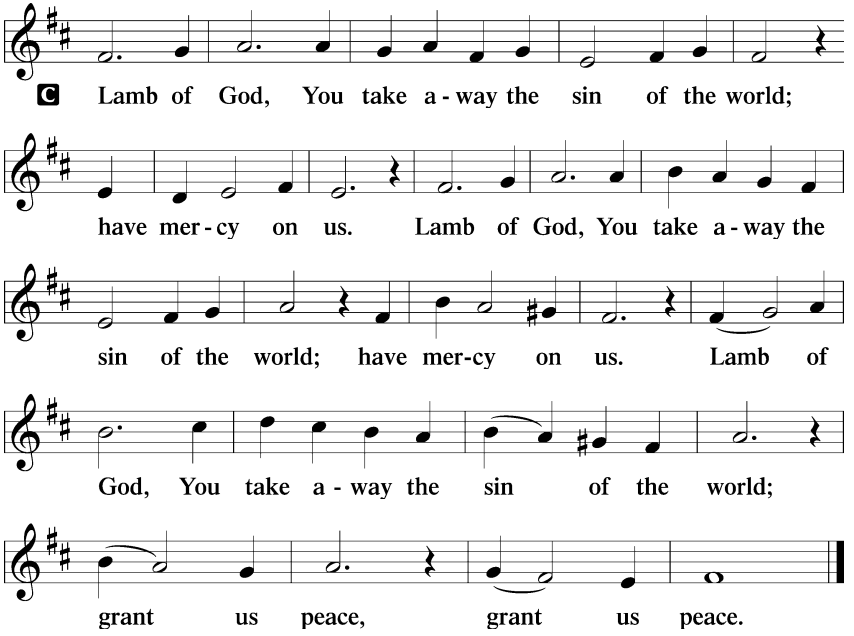
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

PAX DOMINI

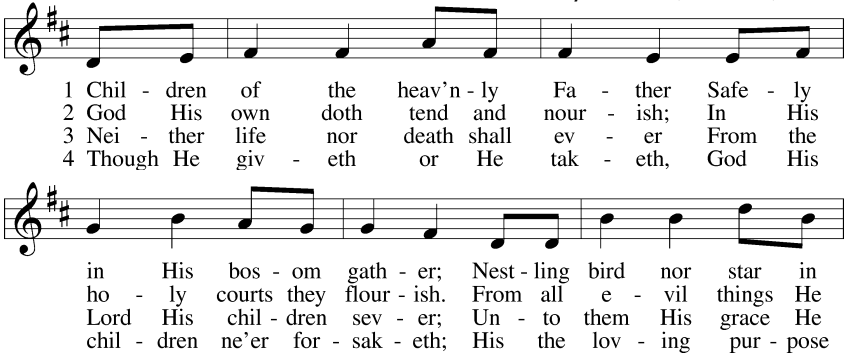
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: Amen.

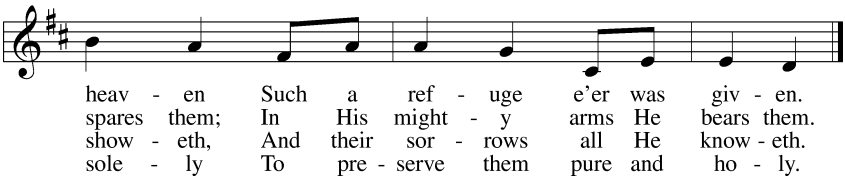
AGNUS DEI LSB 180



(Please be seated)
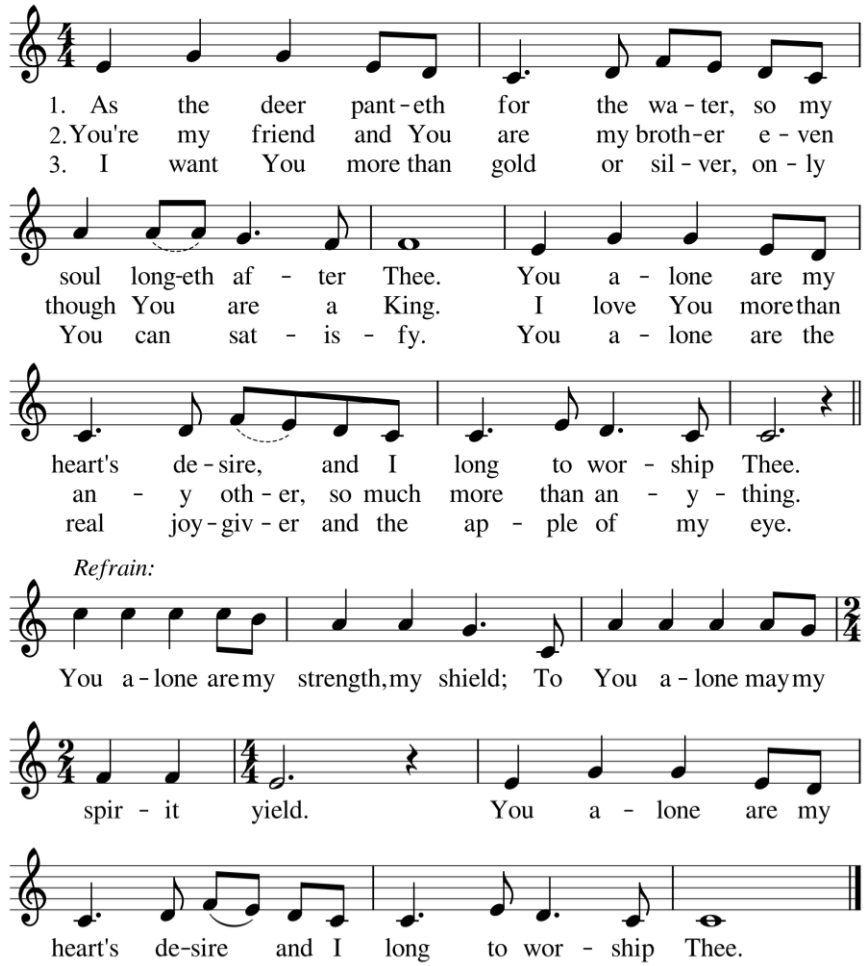
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: Children of the Heavenly Father (LSB 725)





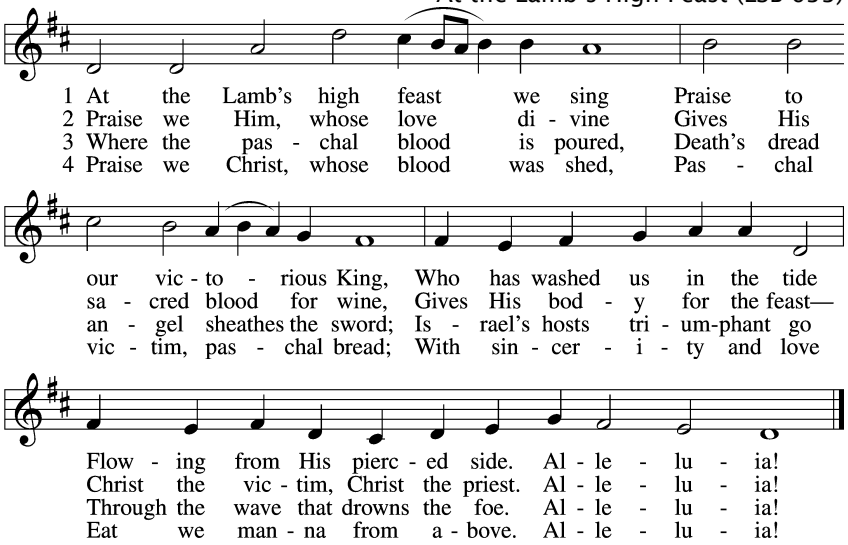
Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga wisor, 1873, Sweden

As the Deer (Martin Nystrom)



CCLI License # 11503973

At the Lamb's High Feast (LSB 633)



5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

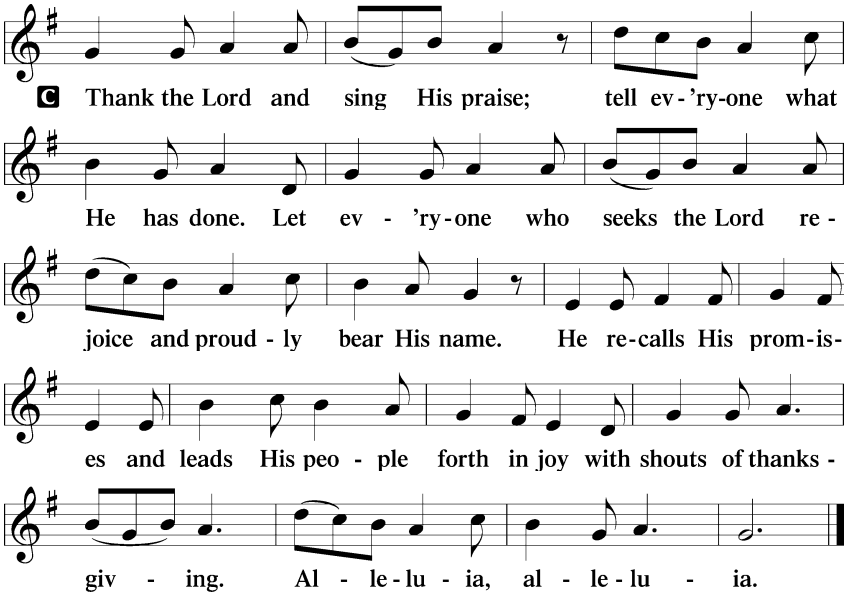
7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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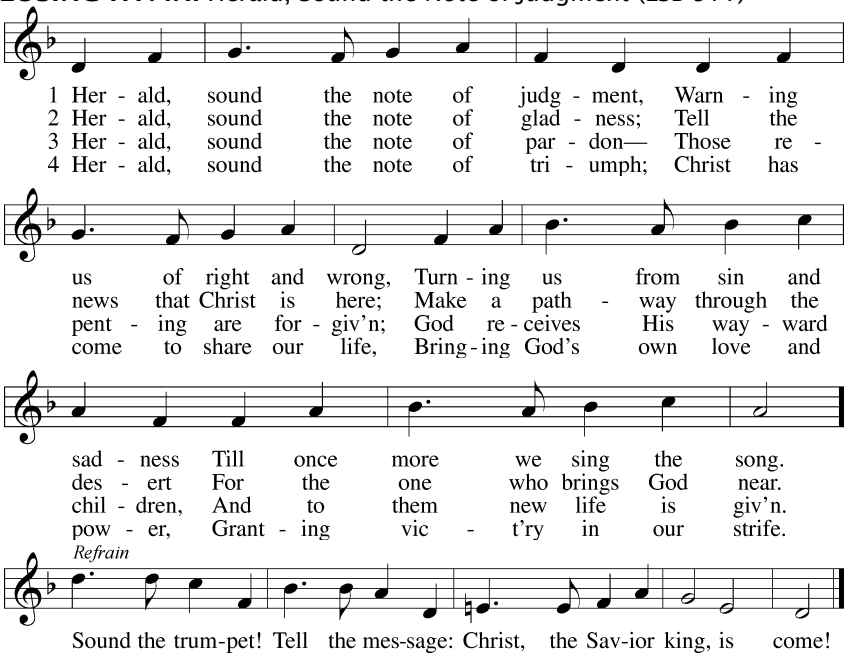
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BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

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: Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment (LSB 511)



Text: Moir A. J. Waters, 1906–80
Tune: David McCarthy, 1931
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Tune: © 1975 Stainer & Bell Ltd, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003345

Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK –"Justification is the means whereby we appropriate the saving act of God in the past, and sanctification the promise of God's activity in the present and future...Justification is primarily concerned with the relation between man and the law of God, sanctification with the Christian's separation from the world until the second coming of Christ...Justification is the new creation of the new man, and sanctification is his preservation until the day of Jesus Christ."
— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book
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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of November 8 through November 15

TODAY: *Jeremiah 20:1-18; Matthew 24:29-51*
Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with Communion 10:00AM
Sausage Supper 11:30-3:00PM
Elders 11:15AM

MONDAY: *Jeremiah 22:1-23; Matthew 25:1-13*
No School

TUESDAY: *Jeremiah 23:1-20; Matthew 25:14-30*
Board of Christian Nurture 4:15PM
Board of Christian Education 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY: *Jeremiah 23:21-40; Matthew 25:31-46*
School Chapel 8:45AM
Ladies Aid 12Noon
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

THURSDAY: *Jeremiah 25:1-18; Matthew 26:1-19*
Shoebox Party 10AM-2PM

FRIDAY: *Jeremiah 26:1-19; Matthew 26:20-35*
Book of Luke Bible Class 10:30AM-12N

SATURDAY: *Jeremiah 29:1-19; Matthew 26:36-56*

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 November 1, 2026
Sunday School 5 students, 3 teachers
Friday Bible Class 6

Worship Service Attendance
Sunday, November 1 – **77**
Wednesday, November 4 – **10**

Online views
Sunday, November 1 – **15**

Tithes and Offerings *(Weekly Budget: $8,200.00)*
November 1: Physical-$7,239.00; Online-$201.50
Total-$7,440.50

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Jesus' ministry was filled with signs pointing to His identity and His mission. But Jesus promises only *one* sign to the "evil and adulterous generation," the sign of Jonah. What is that sign? And what has humanity made of it? What do *you* make of it?! Join us next week to learn more!

To access by phone: **312 626 6799**. *Follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked (***271 170 8930** *#). When asked to enter participant code hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (***523312***#).*

To access online: Go to Zoom.com. Click "join a meeting" at the top of the page, and enter **271 170 8930** *in meeting ID box. The passcode is* **sPzuL5**. *Questions? Call the office! 314-741-6781.*

2. SALEM SAUSAGE AND KRAUT is today! Tickets for dine-in **are required** and are still on sale online. There will be two seating times: 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 (no ticket needed), as well as raw and cooked sausage, and cooked sauerkraut to go.

There will also be a country store set up, and proceeds will go to the Benevolent Fund. Also available at this table will be a LIMITED AMOUNT of applebutter from this year's batch.

3. LUTHERANS FOR LIFE has a vital message of the sanctity of human life. We live in a culture that often views an unplanned pregnancy as a crisis to be solved through elimination. But a crisis pregnancy is an opportunity for the Church to display the radical, supportive love of Jesus Christ. Our "Life" crosses are again on our church lawn. Thank you to every who helped put them up!

4. IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF *THE LUTHERAN WITNESS* *(LW)* magazine, I (Rev) want to draw your attention to President Matthew Harrison's article on FAITH. It is worth the entire issue. In it he writes: When I confess I have faith, I am confessing I have Jesus. When I say, "My faith helps me every day," I'm saying, "My Jesus helps me every day." When I say, "He had faith. He's in heaven," I'm saying, "He had Jesus. He's in heaven." Faith simply lays hold of Jesus and all His gifts. If I say, "Can I share my faith with you?" I mean: "I want to share Jesus with you." The content of faith is not me and my work, but Jesus.
The rest of the issue is "We plant---God gives the growth."
The *LW* is on the *LW* table in the narthex. Take it home. Read it. Return it next Sunday, for sure in two Sundays.

Thank you from Rev

Many thanks to you all for the thoughtful words, cards, and generous gifts on Clergy Appreciation Sunday. It was much appreciated.

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Thank you from Pastor Briggs

Dear Church Family,

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for the thoughtful cards, generous gifts, kind words, and expressions of appreciation during Clergy Appreciation Month.

Your thoughtfulness and generosity mean more than words can express. It is truly a blessing to be part of such a loving and supportive church family. Your encouragement reminds me how special it is to serve alongside people who share in faith, fellowship, and love.

Thank you for making me feel so appreciated and for your continued kindness and support. I am grateful for each of you and feel truly blessed to be part of this congregation.

With heartfelt gratitude and blessings,

Thank You!
Pastor Briggs

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Thank you from Nick

I want to thank you all dearly for all the support each of you has shown me. Although I have only been with you for two years, you are all dear to me. Thank you for being so welcoming and such a warm congregation towards me.

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Thank you from the Board of Christian Nurture

Thank you to everyone who was able to participate in our Clergy Appreciation/Benevolent Fund Sunday. Whether you joined us for the meal, gave a donation to the Benevolent Fund, or expressed your gratitude to our clergy and future clergy in some way, we thank you! We are grateful the Salem is such a “willing to participate” congregation.