

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 24-25, 2023



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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www.salemlutheran.org



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*The Holy Ministry preaches Christ
despite persecution*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

THEME OF THE DAY: From its birth, the Church has been persecuted, but history shows that the Church has grown most when it was challenged and persecuted most. This was true in Jerusalem, in the Roman Empire, and in the early Lutheran days. God has always been a mighty fortress for his people.

Still today the Church is persecuted. Every day thirteen Christians worldwide are killed because of their faith. Another twelve are arrested or imprisoned simply because they profess faith in Christ Jesus. In the US we have freedom of religion enshrined as a constitutional right, but that is no guarantee for a life free of persecution. Until Judgment Day, some will attempt to shout down the truth of Christ. We will be persecuted but that won't stop us. The holy ministry preaches Christ despite persecution.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Ministry" simply means "service." Throughout history, God has called individuals to serve God's people by sharing God's Word. Some today feel they do not need to be part of a church, saying, "I can be a believer without any of that." Yet Jesus keeps calling ministers to share his gospel: pastors, teachers, missionaries and evangelists. The One who made us knows what we need better than we do.

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Guest Worship Leader: Pastor Percy Damrow

Piano: Paige Reiners

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Order of Worship



HYMN: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

CW 621



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,
frame he knows. In his hand he gent - ly bears us,
face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,
res - cues us from all our foes; Al - le - lu - ia,
all who dwell in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
al - le - lu - ia! wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows!
al - le - lu - ia! praise with us the God of grace!

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them. (Psalm 32)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.
We have done those things that we should not have done,
And we have not done those things that we should have done.
Have mercy on us Lord!
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Response: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

CW 617

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, because your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in your eternal love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Genesis 5:21-24

Enoch walked with God in life and God brought him home to heaven.

²¹When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah.

²²After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. ²⁴Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Paul taught that many people in this world cannot bear sound doctrine. Instead, they persecute it.

¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:

²Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

Jesus guaranteed that when we carry out gospel ministry in his name there will be many that hate us for it.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions:

²¹“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. ²²You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²³When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴“The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

²⁶“So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. ²⁸Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. ³⁰And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

³²“Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children’s Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Jesus, Priceless Treasure

CW 823



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, fount of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would op - press me
3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; death, I now de - cry thee;
4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,
5 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me. Ah, how long in an - guish
can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!
Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,



shall my spir - it lan - guish, yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
nor thy threats a - larm me while I sing of peace.
Naught to me thy sto - ry told with tempt - ing voice.
though the storms may gath - er, still have peace with - in.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
Light - nings flash and thun - ders crash; yet, though sin and
God's great pow'r guards ev - 'ry hour; earth and all its
Pain or loss or shame or cross shall not from my
Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, thou art still my



naught to hide thee; naught I ask be - side thee.
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
depths a - dore him, si - lent bow be - fore him.
Sav - ior move me since he deigns to love me.
pur - est plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

Sermon

Based on Genesis 5:21-24

"Walking with God"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated.

Offering



 **Connect Card**

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



 **Give Online**

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:



heav'n 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,

bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

HYMN: Draw Near

CW 662

Refrain

Draw near, draw near! Take the bod - y of your Lord.
Draw near, draw near! Drink the blood for you out-poured!

- 1 Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
- 2 Christ our Re - deem - er, God's e - ter - nal Son,
- 3 Let us ap - proach with faith - ful hearts sin - cere
- 4 With heav'n-ly bread he makes the hun - gry whole,

and drink the ho - ly blood for you out-poured.
has by his cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.

Saved by his bod - y and his ho - ly blood,
 He gave his life for great - est and for least,
 Christ, who in this life all the saints de - fends,
 Lord of the na - tions, to whom all must bow,

with souls re - freshed we give our thanks to God.
 him - self the of - f'ring and him - self the priest.
 gives all be - liev - ers life that nev - er ends.
 in this great feast of love be with us now.

Please stand at the pastor's direction.

Response of Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

Psalms 118:1

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: **We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

1 Corinthians 11:26

Closing Prayer & Blessing

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn: I Know My Faith is Founded

CW 797 sts. 2-3



2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, for Sa - tan seeks by
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve you; though per - se - cu - tion,



night and day to rob me of this trea - sure and
grief, and pain should seek to o - ver - whelm me, let



take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with you be -
me a stead - fast trust re - tain. And then at my de -



side me I shall be un - dis - mayed; and led by your good
par - ture, at home with you I'll be, and there will I in -



Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bid with
her - it all you have prom - ised me. In life and



me, O Sav - ior, a firm - er faith be - stow; then
death, Lord, keep me un - til your heav'n I gain, where



I shall bid de - fi - ance to ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
I by your great mer - cy the end of faith at - tain.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

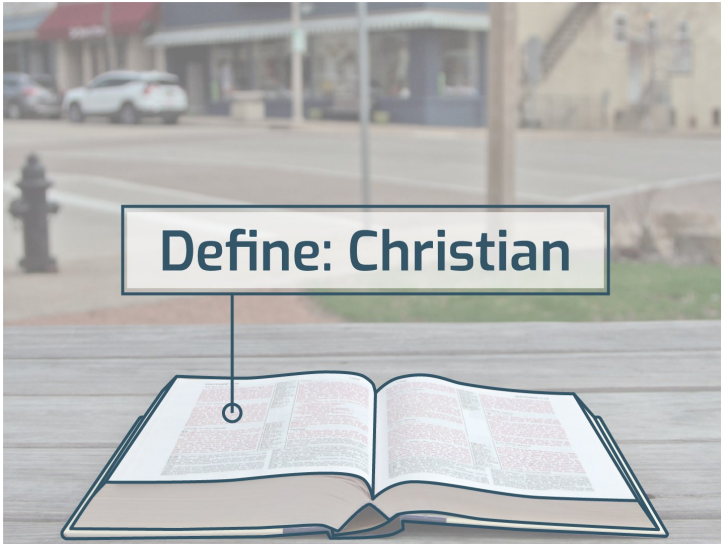
Setting One from Christian Worship
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For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Define Christian—The Christian Loves God Above All

Bible Readings: Exodus 32:15-29; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Matthew 10:34-42

Hymns: 704, 702, 711, 774



A New Worship Series Begins Next Week—*DEFINE CHRISTIAN*

"What is a Christian?" Human answers may vary, but in this series we see Christ himself define who Christians are and what they do. We are reminded that people could sometimes look at our behavior and assume we were unbelievers. Throughout this series though, Jesus shows us that ultimately a Christian is not a sinless person of good, but rather a sinner who runs to the perfect Christ for forgiveness. But in a mystery of grace, as we receive the mercy of Christ it moves us to work toward a life that better fits Christ's beautiful definition. God blesses us faith in Christ for heaven, and faithfulness to Christ on earth.

Our worship will follow this path:

July 2nd – The Christian Loves God above All

July 9th – The Christian Finds Rest in Jesus

July 16th – The Christian Is Planted by the Word

July 23rd – The Christian Lives as Wheat among Weeds

July 30th – The Christian Seeks Spiritual Wealth

August 6th – The Christian Trusts God to Provide

August 13th – The Christian Answers Doubt with Faith

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- † **Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- † Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for **hearing assistance**. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- † You will find a **connection card** in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers. Cards can be placed in the offering basket or left on the table near the sanctuary entrance.
- † Salem members give an **offering** to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- † Children's bulletins & "*quiet bags*" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- † If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "*cry room*" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- † Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.

