



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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www.salemlutheran.org



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Define Christian—
The Christian loves God above all*

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.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Gracious Holy Spirit, you come to us through your Word to create pure hearts within us and to renew our strength to serve. Bless our praise today and help us live lives of holiness. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Not all love is good. It is self-destructive to love bad things. However, it is just as harmful to love good things in a bad order. For example, it would seem to be a good thing that a man loves his dog. But if he loves his dog more than he loves his wife, his "love" for both is disordered. That is not in the best interests of the man, his wife, or even his dog. For love to be healthy, it needs to be properly ordered.

The Christian understands that everything in this present world is temporary. God's love, however, is eternal. He promises the Christian everlasting life. And so the Christian struggles not simply to avoid loving bad things. The Christian struggles to love God above all other good things too.

WORSHIP SERIES: "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 "good person" who never sins, 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 with faith in Christ for heaven, and faithfulness to Christ on earth.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano: Jessica Klatt

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Order of Worship



HYMN: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

CW 704



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, to his im - age
3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus; his death from the
4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to
e'er con - form; heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us, sun - shine
sec - ond death, from our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us, quick - ens
from the dead, death and grave must soon re - lease us. Je - sus,



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,
fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in tears of sor - row,
us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti - fy, while liv - ing,
thou art now our head. We are tru - ly thine own mem - bers,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and
we shall reap in heav'n - ly joy, and the fears that
flesh and blood and die to sin, and the grave that
where thou liv - est, there live we; take and own us



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
now an - noy shall be laugh - ter on the mor - row. Christ, I
shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
con - stant - ly, faith - ful Friend, as thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.
suf - fer here with thee; there, O share thy joy with me.
here I die to thee, there to live e - ter - nal - ly.
here I live to thee, al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

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: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Glory Be to God *(Gloria in Excelsis)*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
 Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on
 us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on
 earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
 with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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

Exodus 32:15-29

While Moses is with God on Mt. Sinai, the Israelites fall into idol worship

¹⁵Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back.

¹⁶The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

¹⁷When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, "There is the sound of war in the camp."

¹⁸Moses replied:

"It is not the sound of victory,
it is not the sound of defeat;
it is the sound of singing that I hear."

¹⁹When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰And he took the calf the people had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.

²¹He said to Aaron, "What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?"

²²"Do not be angry, my lord," Aaron answered. "You know how prone these people are to evil. ²³They said to me, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has

happened to him.’²⁴ So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”

²⁵ Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. ²⁶ So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.

²⁷ Then he said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’ ” ²⁸ The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. ²⁹ Then Moses said, “You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:11-16

St. Paul describes the man of God in action, struggling to love God above all things.

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 10:34-42

Jesus calls us to love him above all—more than family or friends, more than personal safety, and even life itself.

³⁴“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to turn

“ a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

³⁶a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

³⁷“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. ⁴²And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated.

Children’s Devotion

Hymn of the Day: *Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake* CW 702



1 “Come, fol - low me,” the Sav - ior spake, “all in my
2 “I am the light, I light the way, a god - ly
3 “I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your
4 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord and take the



way a - bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day,
soul’s sal - va - tion, your heart from ev - ’ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed and, firm - ly cling - ing to his Word,



o - bey my call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
 from sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
 in suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, take my ex - am - ple for your guide.
 well I show how you must so - journ here be - low.
 of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 bat - tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Sermon

Based on Exodus 32:15-29

"Loving God is Number One!"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
 Father Almighty.**

From there 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.**

Be seated.

Offering



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.



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.

Hymn: Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

CW 711



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As the first dis - ci - ples heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! In your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his voice in -
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
help us hear your call; give our hearts to your o -



vites us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all!

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through 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: God Bless Our Native Land

CW 774



1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may she ev - er stand
2 For her our prayers shall rise to God a - bove the skies;



thro' storm and night! When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
on him we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, guard-ing with



wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.
watch - ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Define Christian—The Christian finds rest in Jesus

Bible Readings: Exodus 33:12-23; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:25-30

Hymns: 818, 833, 706, 834

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.
- † 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.

