

Salem Lutheran

14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org

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: Savior Jesus, thank you for bringing me once again to this house of peace and rest. Bless me through your word and fill my heart with joyful praise at the good news of forgiveness. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Without rest, we suffer in work, health, and wellness. Christians know we need more than just physical rest. We need spiritual rest too. The Christian knows that the only place to find that type of rest is in Jesus. Jesus provides the rest that our hearts need: the removal of our sins, the cleansing of our guilty conscience, and a gentle new yoke of discipleship. In Jesus, the Christian finds rest from his burdens, rest from his battles, and rest forever in heaven.

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 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.

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:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano: Jessica Klatt

Song Leaders: Jessie Wolfe, Carolyn Forster, Luke & Alli Dorn

Order of Worship



HYMN: I Run to Christ

CW 833



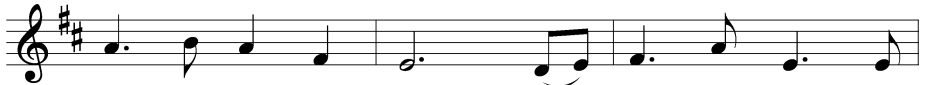
1 I run to Christ when chased by fear and find a ref-uge
2 I run to Christ when worn by life and find my soul re-
3 I run to Christ when stalked by sin and find a sure es-



sure. "Be - lieve in me," his voice I hear; his words and
freshed. "Come un - to me," he calls thro' strife; fa - tigue gives
cape. "De - liv - er me," I cry to him; temp - ta - tion



wounds se - cure. I run to Christ when torn by grief and
way to rest. I run to Christ when vexed by hell and
yields to grace. I run to Christ when plagued by shame and



find a - bun - dant peace. "I too had tears," he
find a might - y arm. "The dev - il flees," the
find my one de - fense. "I bore God's wrath," he



gent - ly speaks; thus joy and sor - row meet.
Scrip - tures tell; he roars but can - not harm.
pleads my case— my ad - vo - cate and friend.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger 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.**

HYMN: My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

CW 818 sts. 1-2



1 My soul finds rest in God a-lone, my rock and my sal - va - tion;
2 Find rest, my soul, in God a-lone a - mid the world's temp - ta - tions;



a for - tress strong a - gainst my foes, and I will not be
when e - vil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my sal -



shak - en. Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, and
va - tion. Though rich - es come and rich - es go, don't



lies like ar - rows pierce me, I'll fix my heart on
set your heart up - on them; the fields of hope in



right - eous - ness, I'll look to him who hears me.
which I sow are har - vest - ed in heav - en.

Refrain

O praise him, hal-le - lu - jah, my de - light and my re - ward;
 ev - er - last - ing, nev - er fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my God.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end, grant us your promised rest and the full joys of your salvation; 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 33:12-23

The Lord gives Moses spiritual rest by promising to be with him and giving him a glimpse of his glory.

¹²Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.'¹³If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

¹⁴The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

¹⁵Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶How will anyone know that you are pleased with me

and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

¹⁷And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

¹⁸Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

¹⁹And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

²¹Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

While the Christian cannot escape our sinful nature, we find delight in God's law and rest in Christ's deliverance.

¹⁵I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²²For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus invites those who are weary and burdened to come to him for rest.

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Come unto Me, Ye Weary

CW 706



- 1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, and I will give you rest."
- 2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, and I will give you light."
- 3 "Come un - to me, ye faint - ing, and I will give you life."
- 4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



- O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!
O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!
O cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to aid our strife!
O pa - tient love of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt,

It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way,
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, the fight is fierce and long,
 which, though we be un - wor - thy of love so great and free,
 of joy that has no end - ing, of love that can - not cease.
 but thou hast brought us glad - ness and songs at break of day.
 but thou hast made us might - y and strong - er than the strong.
 in - vites us ver - y sin - ners to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Sermon

Based on Matthew 11:25-30

"The Christian Life: Jesus invites us to lighten the load"

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 pow - er, God of might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na in the high - est, 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 + 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

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of several phrases, each with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." This phrase is repeated twice. The final phrase is "A - men. A - men." The score ends with a double bar line.

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. 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.

Distribution Hymn: Still, My Soul, Be Still

CW 834



1 Still, my soul, be still and do not fear though winds of
2 Still, my soul, be still; do not be moved by less - er
3 Still, my soul, be still; do not for - sake the truth you



change may rage to - mor - row. God is at your side;
lights and fleet - ing shad - ows. Hold on to his ways
learned in the be - gin - ning. Wait up - on the Lord



no long - er dread the fires of un - ex - pect - ed sor - row.
with shield of faith a - gainst temp - ta - tion's flam - ing ar - rows.
and hope will rise as stars ap - pear when day is dim - ming.

Refrain



God, you are my God, and I will trust in you and not be



shak - en. Lord of peace, re - new a stead - fast spir - it with - in



me to rest in you a - lone, to rest in you a - lone.

After the distribution 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.**

Psalm 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.**

Be seated.

Hymn: My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

CW 818 st. 1

3 I'll set my gaze on God a-lone and trust in him com-plete - ly;
with ev - 'ry day pour out my soul, and he will prove his
mer - cy. Though life is but a fleet - ing breath, a



sigh too brief to mea - sure, my king has crushed the
 curse of death and I am his for - ev - er.

Refrain

O praise him, hal - le - lu - jah, my de - light and my re - ward;
 ev - er - last - ing, nev - er fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my God.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship
 Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version[®],
 NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[™] Used by permission. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted under OneLicense # 48708 and CCLI # 630266

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Define Christian: The Christian is planted by the Word

Bible Readings: Isaiah 55:6-11; 1 Corinthians 3:5-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Hymns: 644, 895, 925

Join us for the rest of this worship series!

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.
- † 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.

