

THE NEED FOR FOLLOWERSHIP

Followers of Christ
See the True Purpose
of his Power



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Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*The Need for Followership: Followers of Christ
See the True Purpose of his Power*

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, bless us this day through your word and sacrament. Turn my heart away from the world and draw me closer to you in all things, knowing my place in your heavenly home. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Power is neither inherently good nor bad. Fire can be used to make food safe or burn homes down. Electricity can power a home or end a life. What matters is the purpose of the one behind that power. Jesus' miracles show his limitless power. Witnesses understood that Jesus used his power for good, but not all understood Jesus' true purpose. Some thought Jesus' purpose was to make this temporal life better. And while Jesus did that at times, his ultimate purpose was to save us from sin and give us the gift of eternal life. Followers of Christ see the true purpose of his power.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: Have you ever been a part of a group that needed better leadership? We become frustrated when politicians, management, or coaches don't lead well. Leadership is extremely important. Jesus Christ is the leader of our congregation, our home, our lives. His leadership is perfect in every way. Therefore, when things are wrong, what we need is not better leadership, but better followership. In this series, we ask Christ to empower us with his Spirit so that we might better follow his lead. May we better reflect the beauty of his life, better make his priorities our own, and better serve our God & neighbor.

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:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Keyboard: Luke Dorn

Vocalists: Luke & Alli Dorn

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Word of God, Come Down on Earth

CW 537



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, speak and heal our
4 Word that speaks your Fa - ther's love, one with him be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
mor - tal blind - ness; deaf we are: our heal - er be;
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
loose our tongues to tell your kind - ness. Be our Word in
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
pit - y spo - ken, heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:8-9)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

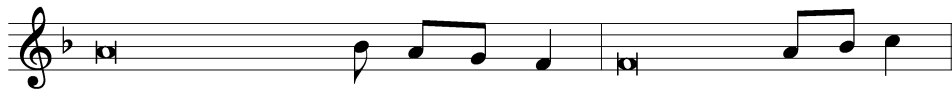
Glory Be to God *(Gloria in Excelsis)*



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. 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, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Through the prophet Isaiah God promised that he would come, making the blind see and the lame leap. But the ultimate purpose of his coming was to save us.

⁴say to those with fearful hearts,
 “Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
 he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
 he will come to save you.”

⁵Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶Then will the lame leap like a deer,
 and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
 and streams in the desert.

⁷The burning sand will become a pool,
 the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Acts 3:1-10

Christ gave his follower Peter the power to heal a man who was lame from birth. When healed, the man does not go first to family and friends but to the temple to praise God.

¹One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ²Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” ⁵So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

⁶Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. ⁸He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹When all the people saw

him walking and praising God, ¹⁰they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

Mark 7:31-37

Jesus uses his power not to elicit praise from the crowd but to demonstrate his love for a man who was deaf and mute.

³¹Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. ³²There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

³³After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. ³⁴He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). ³⁵At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

³⁶Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. ³⁷People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated.

Children's Devotion



"Let the little children come to me..."

Matthew 19:14, NIV

Hymn of the Day: Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

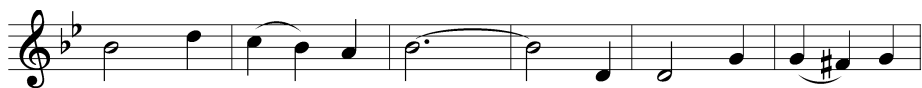
CW 769



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old was strong to
2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, gave speech and
3 O be our great de - liv - 'rer still, the Lord of



heal and save; it tri-umphed o - ver pain and death, o'er
strength and sight; and youth re - newed and fren - zy calmed re -
life and death; re - store and quick - en, soothe and bless, with



dark - ness and the grave. To you they came, the
vealed you, Lord of light. And now, O Lord, be
your life - giv - ing breath. To hands that work and



blind, the mute, the par - a - lyzed and lame, the lep - ers
near to bless, al - might - y as be - fore, in crowd - ed
eyes that see give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r that whole and



in their mis - er - y, the sick with fe - vered frame.
street, by beds of pain, as by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.
sick and weak and strong may praise you ev - er - more.

Sermon

Based on Mark 7:31-37

"We follow a God of perfect healing"

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

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

M: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

M: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

M: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

M: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

M: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

M: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

M: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

C: Amen.

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

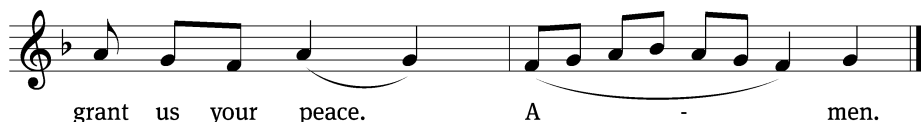
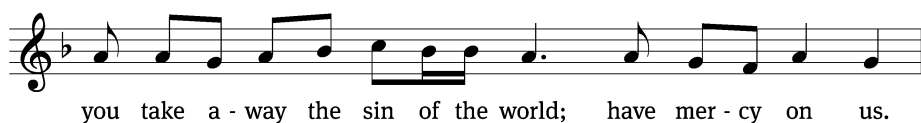
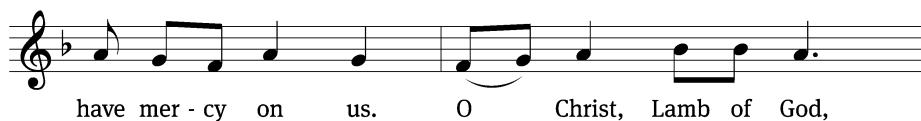
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + 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



Be seated.

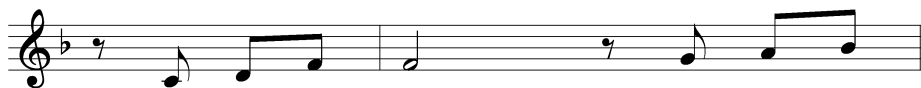
Communion Distribution

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.

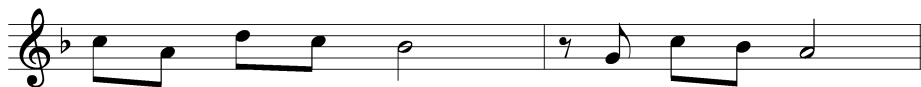
Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

Distribution Hymn: What Is This Bread

CW 665



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	that	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh, yes!	By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from	the	dead:	this	bread	we	break,	
Je - sus	shed	for	mine;	the	cup	of	grace	
live	and	he	should	die	un -	der	the	rod?
Word	and	prom -	ise	clear,	in	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set	free!	I	do	be -	lieve	



this	life	we	take,	was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
brings	his	em -	brace	of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	why	have	you	not	for -	sak -	en
he	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
that	I	re -	ceive	his	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	his



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

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

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.

Closing Song: Compassion Hymn

By Keith & Kristyn Getty

Vocalists will sing stanzas one and three.

The congregation may join in the refrain and stanzas two and four.

1. There is an everlasting kindness you lavished on us,
When the radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost.
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress,
For your streams of forgiveness and the shade of Your rest.

Refrain:

What boundless love, what fathomless grace

You have shown us, O God of compassion.

Each day we live an offering of praise

As we show to the world Your compassion.

2. **And with compassion for the hurting You reached out Your hand,
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again.
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears;
Heard the sigh of the weary, let the children draw near. (All Refrain)**

3. We stood beneath the cross of Calvary and gazed on Your face,
At the thorns of oppression and the wounds of disgrace;
For surely You have borne our suffering and carried our grief,
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief. **(All Refrain)**

4. **How beautiful the feet that carry this Gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need;
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless, with the mercy of Christ. (All Refrain x2)**

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Central Africa Medical Mission Video

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Ministry Fair

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. After services this weekend we invite you to visit with various groups and leaders of our church at their ministry fair booths in the entry. Celebrate the ways God is working among us and see how you might get connected to Christ and to Salem!

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Followers of Christ Are Armed for the Battle

Bible Readings: 1 Kings 18:21-39; Ephesians 6:10-18; Mark 9:14-27

Hymns: 870, 517, 869



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 with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags 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 a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**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.**

