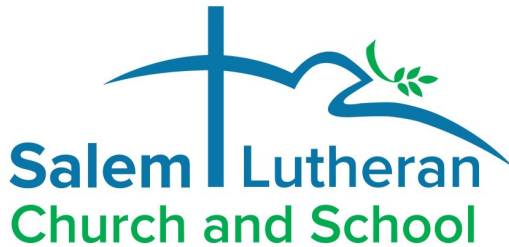


A Time to Prioritize:

A Time to Embrace
and a Time to Refrain



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Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

A Time to Prioritize--

A Time to Embrace and a Time to Refrain

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: Father in heaven, thank you for your blessings in this past week. Be with us through your word now in worship, and guide us as we serve you in the week to come. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: God's first commandment tells us to have no gods before him. This includes obvious false idols of wood and stone, but also any desire or activity or thing that we would be tempted to hold closer in our heart than God. Our series on serving God with our time begins in the most obvious place: prioritizing God in our lives means recognizing the need to embrace him and refrain from the world.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: Everything we have is a gift from God. "Stewardship" is the term we use to describe the lifelong management of all the resources God has given us. That includes a quickly-depleting resource called "time." Everything competes for it. Taking the time to manage the time we have has huge implications on how we individually and as a church use it for Christ and each other. "A Time for Everything" is a stewardship series that draws our attention specifically to the precious gift of time.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Guest Preacher: Pastor Jon Enter

Piano/Organ: Madison Boerner

Choir Director: Luke Dorn

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, children ages 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to learn more about Jesus in Sunday JAM, starting at 9:15am in the Kindergarten room. This week teens & adults are invited to a presentation by Salem teen Isaiah Shah about his mission trip to South Vietnam this summer. The presentation will be in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: A Time for Perspective--A Time to Be Born and a Time to Die

Bible Readings: Acts 13:26-39, Galatians 6:7-10, Mark 8:31-38

Hymns: 817, 704, 867, 817

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: God, We Sing Your Glorious Praises

CW 911 sts. 1-3



1 God, we sing your glo - rious prais - es as we
2 We re - mem - ber, Lord, your cov - 'nant, which ex -
3 Filled with all your Spir - it's pow - er, we com -



tell your awe - some deeds; you have fash - ioned
tends from heav'n to earth: how Christ's death and
mit our - selves a - new to be faith - ful



all cre - a - tion, and you meet each crea - ture's needs.
res - ur - rec - tion con - quers sin, re - news our birth.
to your gos - pel in the dai - ly work we do.



We re - joice in how your peo - ple tast - ed
Thank you for this gos - pel mes - sage, which in -
We will shout your glo - rious prais - es, tell - ing



your great faith - ful - ness; graced through ev - 'ry
spires your Church to preach grace to ev - 'ry
all who have not heard; grace for ev - 'ry



gen - er - a - tion, we your might - y acts pro - fess.
gen - er - a - tion in our deeds and in our speech.
gen - er - a - tion is em - bod - ied in your Word.

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: 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn: God, We Sing Your Glorious Praises

CW 911 st. 4

4 Lord, with joy we lift our voices as we
celebrate your grace which you shower
on your people gathered here and every place.
Blessed by water, Word, and table, we, your



Church, now pledge to share grace with ev - 'ry
gen - er - a - tion in our wit - ness, work, and prayer.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; 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

Joshua 24:14-24

What will be the priority for the Israelites? Whom will they serve? Faced with the choice to serve God or idols, Joshua reminds the people why he and his family will make the Lord their priority.

¹⁴“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

¹⁹Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy

God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.”

²¹But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the LORD.”

²²Then Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD.”

“Yes, we are witnesses,” they replied.

²³“Now then,” said Joshua, “throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.”

²⁴And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Sunday) Psalm: I Will Give Thanks to the LORD Psalm 111B

The Men’s Chorus will sing the first refrain and the verses. The congregation is invited to join in the other refrains and the Gloria.

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.



Great are the works / of the LORD;
they are pondered by all who de - / light in them.
Glorious and majestic / are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures for - / ever. **Refrain**

He has caused his wonders to be re - / membered;
the LORD is gracious and com - / passionate.
He provided redemption for his / people;
holy and awesome / is his name.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be - / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

Make the most of your time! Don't waste time in a life of sinful choices, but rather be filled with the Spirit and follow the will of the Lord.

¹⁵Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 6:25-34

Our first priority is the kingdom of God! Our place in Christ removes all other worries or desires that could become our priority.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

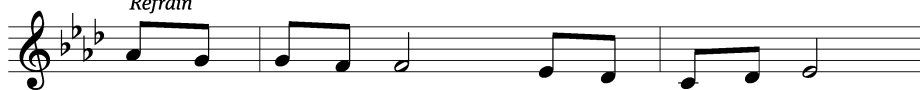
Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Where Your Treasure Is

CW 828

The Men's Chorus will sing the first refrain and verses one and two. The congregation is invited to join in the refrains and verses three and four.

Refrain



Where your trea - sure is, there your heart shall be.



All that you pos - sess will nev - er set you free.



Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.



Where your trea - sure is, your heart shall be.



1 What do you gain from all your wor - ry,

2 Look at the ra - vens high a - bove you.

3 Be - hold the lil - ies in their splen - dor.

4 O lit - tle flock, do not be fright - ened;



what you should eat or what to wear?

They do not work their whole life through,

In grace and beau - ty are they dressed,

yours is the king - dom of the Lord.



There is no peace in stress or hur - ry.

and yet God feeds them and pro - tects them.

and yet so soon their bloom is fad - ed.

Give your pos - ses - sions to the need - y;



Refrain

Do you not know that you are held with - in God's care?

So how much more will God pro - tect and care for you?

So how much more will those who look to God be blessed?

ob - tain a trea - sure in God's heav - en safe - ly stored.

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



 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.

Hymn: Oh, Blest the House

CW 760 sts. 1-2, 5



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, where Je - sus
2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found and all in
5 Then here will I and mine to - day a sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not
hope and love a - bound; they trust their God and
prom - ise make and say: though all the world for -



whol - ly his— how sad and poor and dark it is!
serve him still and do in all his ho - ly will.
sake his Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

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: May the Peace of God

CW 929



1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther,
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,



and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,
and this grace which makes us what we are,



and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion



keep our hearts and minds with - in his love.
make us one in spir - it and in heart.

Refrain



And to him be praise for his glo - rious reign



from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.



We de - clare the name of the Lamb once slain—



Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship
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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.**

