



Salem Lutheran Church
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 17, 2018 - 8:30 a.m.



INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

*Larger print bulletins are available from the ushers.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Cornet Voluntary

John Travers (1703-1758)

BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

Amen.

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Eternal God our creator,

in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.

Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners;

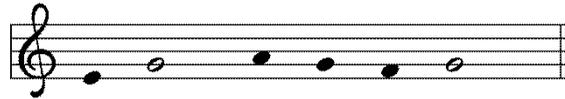
and for his sake, God † forgives you all your sins.

Amen.



MORNING PRAYER

ELW #298



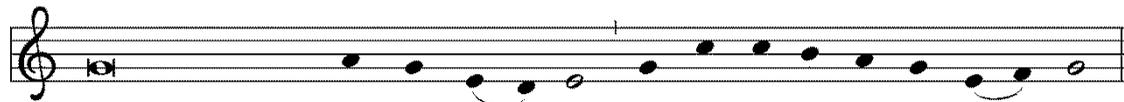
O Lord, o - pen my lips,



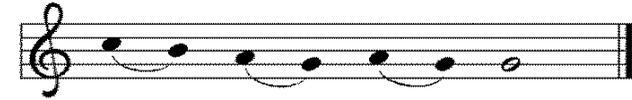
and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Al - le - lu - ia.

PSALMODY

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Today's psalm will be spoken responsively beginning with the women

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²**to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

³On the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

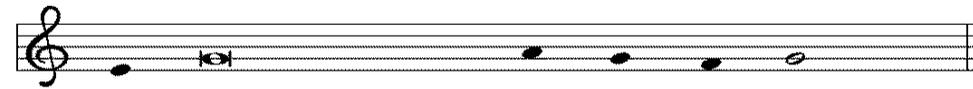
⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

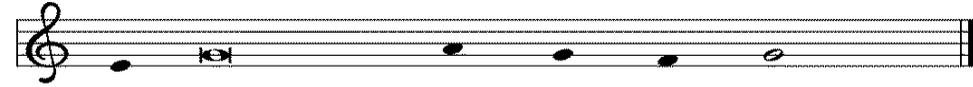
¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the court of our God;**

¹⁴They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵**That they may show how up right the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**



Give glory to God, our light and our life.



Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

GATHERING HYMN

What Is This Place

ELW #524

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

You have been born a - new
through the living and abiding word of God.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

ELW #334

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Salem's Mission and Vision

We are God forgiven and mission driven.

As God's people...we desire to be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

Belonging means:

..that we all belong! We all have a place! We all fit!

Healing means:

...that we all have brokenness and are in need of wholeness. God's Word, the Bread of Life, and so much more, helps us to take these important steps forward!

Growing means:

...we are designed by God to change, to grow, to evolve. We are committed to that process for everyone who is open to it!

Serving means:

...that Jesus made clear that being a servant was central to being a disciple. Therefore, we see that everyone who is a follower is a servant, as well.

Believing means:

...that faith and not works is central to our life. Simple, and yet profound trust in the promise of forgiveness and mercy, and the presence of the Spirit, guides us in all we do.

PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray—

for those who govern nations of the world . . .

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

Sent Fourth by God's Blessing

ELW #547

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson	Reader: Rhonda Schriever
Organist: Ruth Sheldon	Communion Servers: Allison Rice, Rhonda Schriever
Ushers: Al Sterrenberg, Rollyn Moe	Altar Guild for June: Marilyn Hoffman, Gloria Kvale

The radio broadcast this morning is given by the congregation of Salem Lutheran Church in honor of the 56th anniversary of Ordination of Pastor Merlin Norris. Pastor Norris was ordained June 17th at Lost Island Lutheran Church, Graettinger Iowa. Congratulations to Pastor Norris & Marietta and their family. God's blessings and thank you for all you do in the service of God.

Flowers have been placed in respect of the Dykstra family.

The 8:30 a.m. worship service is broadcast weekly on KLOW-FM 107.3.

Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2018 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on KLOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City. The service can also be heard at 8:30 a.m. on cable channel 2.

CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR 2018 DATE - 592.1771. Cost is \$83.
Dates available: July 8, 15, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 23, 30

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. Call the office to reserve a date.

Salem's Clothes Closet will be open Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Salem's Summer Schedule

The Saturday worship service will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel until the warmer weather is here. When it is warmer the service will be held in the air-conditioned Lounge.

The traditional worship service will be held at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Coffee Fellowship will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

The outdoor worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on the south lawn weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held in the sanctuary. You may bring lawn chairs or blankets. Folding chairs will be available.

Pastor Roger Dykstra's mother, Dorothy Dykstra, 94, of Sioux Center, IA, died Sunday, June 10, 2018 at Sioux Center Health, in Sioux Center, IA. Funeral services will be 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 15, 2018, at First Reformed Church in Sioux Center, IA, with Rev. Stephen Breen officiating. Burial will follow in the Memory Gardens at Sioux Center, IA. Visitation will be Thursday, June 14th, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., with family present, at the Memorial Funeral Home of Sioux Center. Condolences may be sent to the Dykstra family at: 780 Hodge St, North Liberty IA 52317.

Church Dashboard for Contributions 6/10/2018

Not Available

Attendance

Those worshipping June 9/10: 133

Summer Financial Needs: Remember whether you are at worship or on vacation, Salem still needs to keep working. We need \$6,500-\$7,000 per week every month to meet our expenses.

Summer Food Service Program...Summer Food and Fun...

Serving Monday – Friday at 11:00 a.m. in Salem's Fellowship Hall.

The Summer Food Service Program was established to ensure that all children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. These free meals meet Federal nutrition guidelines and are provided to all children in qualifying area. All children/youth – infant thru 18 years can eat at the site for free. Meals will be served at Salem Lutheran Church.

Readings for next week: Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm 141, Acts 13:13-26, Luke 1:57-80



Encounter with Heaven sponsored by the Fine Arts Guild

Ever wondered what really happens at the point of death? Karen Gunderson, author of *Encounters with Heaven – Stories of God's Surprising Presence* along with her son Ryan, will be presenting *Encounter with Heaven*, an experiential evening combining Karin's incredible true stories from her work as a hospice harpist, with beautiful harp, piano, flute, 3-part vocals and more.

The Gunderson's will be giving a concert Wednesday, June 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church. Enjoy a combination of peaceful music on popular Christian pieces like *What A Wonderful World*, *It is Well with My Soul*. You will also be invited to participate in singing a few favorite hymns as well.

Help us collect 100,000 books for the children of Houston.



BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS

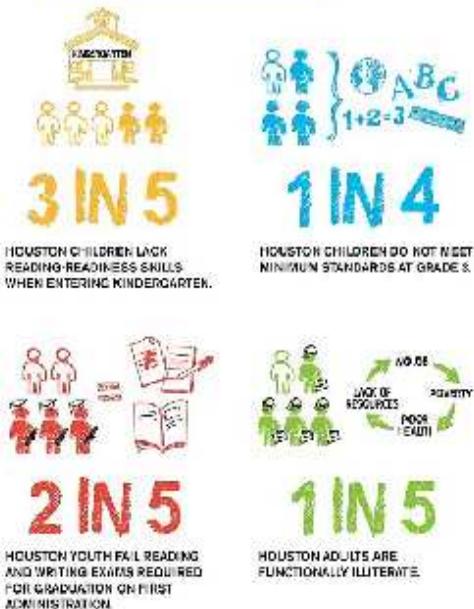
The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering
Houston Literacy Campaign



The Gathering will be collecting books for students in Pre-K through 6th grade.

The Gathering has recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston. Building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage.

In joining the Gathering's Blast Off for Books campaign, you will help ensure bright futures for Houston's students. The books you donate will be distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city as part of the Gathering's Service Learning experience. By putting books in the hands of Houston's economically disadvantaged students, you can help change lives.



Info graphic from The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy.
<http://www.bushhoustonliteracy.org/>

Find the orange sheets in the narthex and outside the office with the list of books the Houston Independent School District identified for the Gathering participants to bring to Houston.

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Service
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship—Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Communion Service – Sanctuary

MONDAY, JUNE 18

11:00 a.m. Summer Lunch – Fellowship Hall
2:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open
6:00 p.m. Quilt Club – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
11:00 a.m. Summer Lunch – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

11:00 a.m. Summer Lunch – Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. Worship Leader Practice

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

11:00 a.m. Summer Lunch – Fellowship Hall
2:00 p.m. WELCA Meeting – Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

11:00 a.m. Summer Lunch – Fellowship Hall
5:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal – Sanctuary

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

5:30 p.m. Casual Worship Service – Chapel
5:30 p.m. Anderson/Nelson Wedding - Sanctuary

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

Salem WELCA Meeting Thursday, June 21 – 2:00 p.m.
Ruth Circle's program, *Dress Like a Girl*, will be presented by Rachel Eggum Cinader.
Music will be provided by Emma Martinson.
Hostess is the Grace Circle.

Salem Contact Information:

Pastor Joel Guttormson: 641.596.0535
Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey: 563-581-9965
Ashley Hoffman, Communications:
Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184
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