



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Sonatina in G, Op. 20, No. 1

J.L. Dussek (1760 – 1812)

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

**Surely, God is in this place
and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**

God's love is for you
and for all people everywhere.

**That we may share God's love and life,
may we be renewed
in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.**

The living Christ is with us.
Praise the Lord!

~ posted on **Life in Liturgy**. <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>

GATHERING SONG

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

ELW #399

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



INTRODUCTION

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

Bible Page #747

A reading from Isaiah.

God claims the right to sole rule, because God announces things that actually do happen, while supposed divine opponents remain silent. God is Israel's redeemer, that is, the best brother or sister they ever had.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

Bible Page #164

A reading from Romans.

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

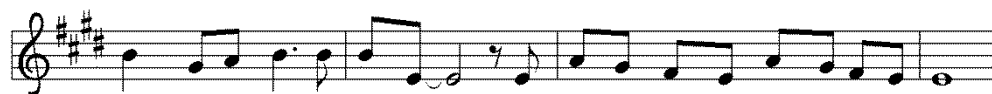
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil

ELW #512



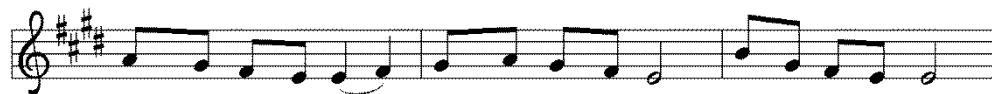
Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Bible Page #14

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the co-existence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW #679

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world.

Please respond at the end of each petition: Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**
A brief silence.

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERING

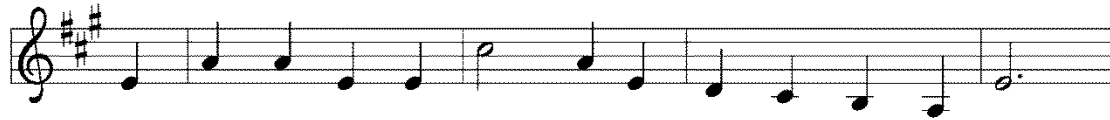
MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

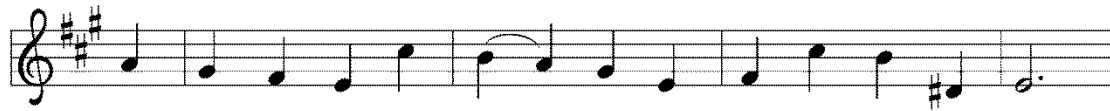
We Plow the Fields and Scatter

Verse 1

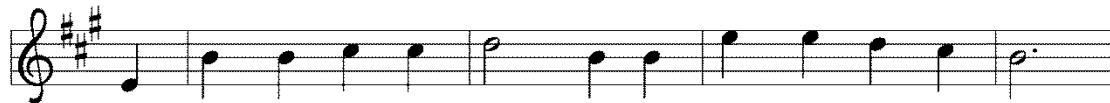
ELW #681



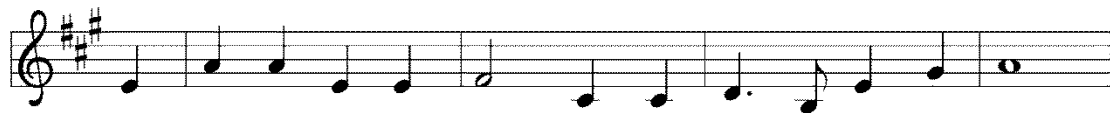
1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
 2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
 3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
 You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
 The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
 No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
 much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
 but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of your son who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

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 SONG

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

ELW #379

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson
Assisting: Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey
Organist: Ruth Sheldon
Ushers: Adam & Jennifer Sauer Family

Reader: Janelle Gilbertson
Video Coordinator: Carol Abbey
July Altar Guild: JoAnn Villa

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Coffee and rolls are served in the fellowship hall Sunday mornings following the 8:30 a.m. service.

The radio broadcast this morning is given by Janice Canny in loving memory of Clair Canny from Janice and family.

The 8:30 a.m. worship service is broadcast weekly on KLOW-FM 107.3. Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2017 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 dates. Cost for 2017 is \$83. Dates available: October. 29.

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 in 2017.

The Outdoor Worship Service is held Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. on the south lawn. You may bring lawn chairs/blankets to sit on. Folding chairs will be available. In the event of inclement weather the service will be held in the sanctuary.

The Lake Mills Care Center needs your help. As summer activities for residents increase, more volunteers are needed to help. This may include assisting wheel chairs, accessing community outings, spending time with a resident outside, reading to individuals, sharing your talents. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Administrator; Amana Creen, or Activities; Chris Johnson or Catherine Van Hove at 592-4900.



Summer lunches are served through the summer from 11 – 12:00 p.m. weekdays at Salem. Open to all children 18 and younger. NO Enrollment, NO Cost! **Volunteers needed to distribute food and help to manage the site. Salem has Tuesdays. Call the office at 641.592.1771 to volunteer.**

Readings for next Sunday:

1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Those worshipping July 15/16: 155

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

SUNDAY, JULY 23

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Outdoor Service – South Lawn
6:30 p.m. Youth Board - Library

MONDAY, JULY 24

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Program – Fellowship Hall
1:00 p.m. Mission Quilters – Fellowship Hall
2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open

TUESDAY, JULY 25

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Program – Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Stephen’s Ministers – Lounge

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Program – Fellowship Hall
1:45 p.m. Mills Harbour Communion
2:00 p.m. One Vision Meeting - Library
2:30 p.m. LMCC Communion
5:15 p.m. Good Samaritan - Lounge
5:30 p.m. New Life Nutrition – Room #4

THURSDAY, JULY 27

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Program – Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, JULY 28

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Program – Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. McDonald/Henderson Rehearsal – Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Rehearsal Dinner – Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, JULY 29

3:00 p.m. McDonald/Henderson Wedding - Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Casual Worship – Lounge

SUNDAY, JULY 30

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship – South Lawn

SALEM CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Joel Guttormson: 641.596.0535 Email: joelguttormson@gmail.com
Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey: 563-581-9965 Email: melindamcmc@gmail.com
Ashley Hoffman, Communications: Email: salemlminfo@gmail.com
Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184
Salem Office: 641.592.1771 Email: salem@wctatel.net