



Salem Lutheran Church

401 SOUTH LAKE STREET LAKE MILLS, IA 50450

Phone (641)-592-1771

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OUR MISSION: We are God forgiven and mission driven.

OUR VISION: 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.

WEEKLY ANOUNCEMENTS – SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—SEPTEMBER 27th- OCTOBER 3rd

THIS WEEKS TEXTS –SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

PSALM: 25:1-9

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32



An Invitation to Grace

It is so easy and so tempting to build ourselves up at the expense of others. "I can't imagine ever doing that." "How can people live like that?" "Who would do such a thing?" At some point we all think or say these sorts of things. Like it or not, we use these words to comfort ourselves at the expense of others. These words are a reminder that all people stand in need of God's grace.

Each of this day's readings shows us this reality. In the parable of the two sons, Jesus invites us to choose between two sons when neither fully does the will of their father. Here Jesus makes the point that we are all equally in need of God's grace. Ezekiel proclaims God's invitation, "Turn, then, and live" (Ezek. 18:32). This is an invitation that extends to all people, from a God deeply desiring a loving and life-giving relationship with humanity.

In Philippians, we are reminded of Jesus' act of grace on the cross, emptying himself, becoming sin so that all creation might be redeemed through him. In response, we discover a vision of the day in which all creation speaks with a unified voice, declaring Jesus Christ is Lord.

This is a day of confession and forgiveness. We confess our need for God, our distance from God, and our failures before God. In response, to our joy, we discover again the grace of God outpoured. All humans are in need of God's grace; God extends grace to all, and one day we will confess that salvation as one people. All of today's readings reveal the way in which all humans are equal in the eyes of God.

Salem Lutheran Church Council announces that the Sanctuary is open for In-Person Worship at a capacity of approximately 80 people seated on the main floor.

Social distancing for seating will be designated with ushers assigned to seat those attending worship.

Please enter the church at the Narthex entrance on the west side. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available at this entrance for all who enter.

Please note wearing a mask is mandatory. Wearing a mask will primarily protect others, especially the vulnerable.

Please do not attend In-Person worship if you are not feeling well or if you have recently had a close contact (closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) to a person with COVID-19.

At this time, there will be only one In-Person Worship service offered. Radio/live stream remains available. Outdoor worship will continue as weather allows.

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

During this time of social distancing, there are several ways to continue your giving.

- **By mail.**
- **You can sign up for a weekly or monthly ACH withdrawal (Simply Giving), or PayPal. For ACH, call the office and I can get you a form to complete.**
- **By PayPal - go to our website (www.salemlakemills.com) home page, scroll to the bottom left and there is a Donate button. Click on it and will take you to a PayPal or credit card donation page.**

Call the office with any questions.(641.592.1771)

We as a church still have financial obligations to meet at this time. I pray that all stay calm & healthy.

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY – WEEKLY GIVING

LAST SUNDAY: 09/20/20 \$ 5,241
YEAR-TO-DATE: as of 09/23/20 \$ 161,500
LAST YEAR: as of 09/23/19 \$ 191,859
DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ -30,359

Starting Sunday, Sept. 13th, the first 15 minutes of the church service will showcase the VBS story of the week along with Music, Dancing, and Bible Buddies. This will be the format for the first 5 weeks of Faith Formation.

Week 3: Jesus' Power Helps Us Be Bold

Story: Acts 3:1-4:31
Verse: Isaiah 40:29

Week 4: Jesus' Power Lets Us Live Forever

Story: Mathew 26:17-28:10
Verse: Romans 8:11

Week 5: Jesus' Power Helps Us Be Good Friends

Story: Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35
Verse: John 15:12



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS –EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

PSALM: 80:7-15

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

Call the church office 641-592-1771 to schedule a time for a small group (10 or less). These visits can happen at the yard of your home, at the Oakwood Park shelter, your garage or anywhere outdoors that groups of 10 can safely meet.

Best practices of physical distancing and prepackaged supplies will be used.



WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY-SATURDAY: Clothes Closet (Open by appointment) Rita Anderson 641-592-5085

MONDAY- 1:00 Quilters meet (Bring your own drink)

2:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open

WEDNESDAY- 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Please let the office know if you would like to be added to Constant Contact. This is email program that alerts you to communications from Salem.

Carolyn has adjusted hours for the next four weeks. The office will be open from Noon to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

Christ in our Home for October, November, and December 2020 are available in the air lock by the staff entrance.

Reserve your special date to sponsor a 2020 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast. The service is heard on K1OW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2. Cost for 2020 is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE - 641.592.1771.

2020 BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

Oct. 11, 18, 25,

Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, Dec. 13