



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Confirmation Sunday
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023 – 9:00am



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.

Sunday—9:00am Worship Service

Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson

Organist: Ruth Sheldon

Readers: Gavin Paton, Cora Sauer, Kaylie Sylvara, Tori Sterrenberg

Sound: Al Skellenger

Live Stream: Brad Evenson

Ushers: Lyle & Orloue Thomson

Acolytes:

Liturgical Choir:

Communion Servers: Gavin Paton, Cora Sauer, Kaylie Sylvara, Tori Sterrenberg

Altar Guild for May: Margaret Okland, JoAnn Villa

Worship Coordinator: Mary Peterson

**The Live Stream Broadcast is Given in Loving Memory of
Dad's Birthday From Sondra Nelson & Family.**

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INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Gavin Paton

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, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Amen.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

BAPTISMAL SONG

Springs of Water, Bless the Lord

ELW #214

The choir or cantor will sing three of the verses of the canticle, others may join in the refrain.

Refrain – All



Springs of wa - ter, bless the Lord.



Give God glo - ry and praise for - ev - er.

Leader or All *Refrain*



- 1 Buried with Christ in death, you are raised with him to life.
- 2 Bathed in the foun-tain of life, you are born to a liv - ing hope.
- 3 You are God's work of art, cre - ated in Christ Jesus.
- 4 You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.
- 5 All of you are one, u - nited in Christ Jesus.
- 6 Re-joice, all you bap-tized, called to be chil-dren of God.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

In Christ Called to Baptize

ELW #575



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

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

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60 **Cora Sauer**

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 31:1-5; 15-16

Todays psalm will be read responsively beginning with the lector

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10 **Kaylie Sylvara**

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and

precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

We stand for the reading of the gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.151



GOSPEL

Luke 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so

that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

We stand for the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way

ELW #758



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Tori Sterrenberg

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us. Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The pastor concludes the prayers.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Each confirmand making affirmation of their baptism are invited to stand as parents and sponsors each in turn present their child

We present...Makenzie Budach, Gavin Paton, Cora Sauer, Tori Sterrenberg, Kaylie Sylvara, Hayden Wempen...who desires to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

The family and sponsors are invited to be seated as the confirmands remain standing.

Makenzie, Gavin, Cora, Tori, Kaylie and Hayden; I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

AFFIRMATION

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Each confirmand with their family and sponsors may kneel as pastor, parents and sponsors lay on hands and prays...

Stir up in...Makenzie, Gavin, Cora, Tori, Kaylie and Hayden...the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

THE 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 and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.

DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to Christ's table to receive Holy Communion. Those not prepared to receive are invited to come for a blessing. The ushers will direct you to one of the stations where communion will be served. If you desire to receive communion where you are sitting, the ushers will direct the communion assistants to come to you. For those who prefer, the inner ring of the communion tray has white grape juice. All the bread being served is gluten free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Makenzie Ann Budach

Date of Birth: March 14, 2009 - Rochester MN

Baptism: May 23, 2009 - Salem Lutheran Church – Lake Mills IA

Sponsors: Rob Nelson, Chris & Christine Budach

Parents: Jill Ann Budach & Brian David Budach

Verse: And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. 1 Peter 5:10

Gavin Dennis Paton

Date of Birth: May 27, 2009 - Albert Lea MN

Baptism: September 13, 2009 - St. Michael's Church – Farmington MN

Sponsors: Bryant Dagestad & Elizabeth Buehrer

Parents: Brianna Nichole Baumann & Derek William Paton

Verse: The giant in front of you is never bigger than the God who lives in you. John 4:4

Cora Ann Sauer

Date of Birth: September 16, 2008 - Albert Lea MN

Baptism: November 23, 2008 - Salem Lutheran Church - Lake Mills IA

Sponsors: Sara & Todd Pederson, Amanda & Jeremy Ruhland

Parents: Jennifer Ann Sauer & Adam David Sauer

Verse: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Tori Marie Sterrenberg

Date of Birth: May 14, 2009 - Albert Lea MN

Baptism: June 28, 2009 – Salem Lutheran Church – Lake Mills IA

Sponsors: Lynne & Ryan Keough

Parents: Karen Marie Sterrenberg & Brian David Sterrenberg

Verse: Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, Save Me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" Matthew 14: 29-31

Kaylie Victoria Sylvara

Date of Birth: February 16, 2009 - Mason City IA

Baptism: June 21, 2009 – Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Scarville IA

Sponsors: Cassie Petersburg and Rachel Ginbey

Parents: Samantha Victoria Anderson & Wade Allen Anderson

Verse: So do not fear for I am with you: do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Hayden Kathleen Wempen

Date of Birth: February 13, 2009 - Mason City IA

Baptism: March 22, 2009 - Salem Lutheran Church – Lake Mills IA

Sponsors: Tony Rasmussen & Stacy Eekhoff

Parents: Kristin Ann Wempen & Bradley Dean Wempen

Verse: I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him. Psalm 34:4-5