



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

**Welcome to the House of the Lord**

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 18, 2022 – 9:00am

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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.

**Sunday--9:00am Worship Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Joel Guttormson

**Organist:** Ruth Sheldon

**Readers:** Wayne VanVeldhuizen

**Special Music:** Brady Kurtz

**Liturgical Choir:**

**Sound:** Al Skellenger

**Live Stream:** Brad Evenson

**Acolytes:**

**Ushers:** Margaret Okland, Dolly Gregor, Gary Heimdal

**Communion Servers:** The Wempen Family, Jen Sauer

**Altar Guild for September:** Margaret Okland, Shelley Hagenson

The Live Stream Broadcast is given in Loving Memory of Janet Bergo  
for her 80th Birthday on September 25th, from Rita Anderson.

### **Salem Contact Information:**

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## INTRODUCTION

*As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. “Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all.” Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God’s gracious favor we have everything we need.*

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

### BELLS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven ☩ and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God’s abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*We Are Called*

ELW #720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



*Refrain*  
 We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

5

## 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.**

## KYRIE

ELW p.213



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
 Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**  
 Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
 Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

## SONG OF PRAISE

*Now the Feast and Celebration*

ELW #167



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



I Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of

God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

**CHILDREN'S TIME** *One for All* (1 Timothy 2:1-7) Whirl Story Bible p.490

## BLESSING OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Let us pray for all who are beginning another year of faith formation, that both students and teachers will be blessed in their time together growing, serving and believing; to be shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

*Teachers place hands on the heads or shoulders of students for the blessing*

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not forbid them, for such is the kingdom of heaven," Lord, bless your children who now stand before you in prayer. Help them to understand the depth of your love. Fill them with your grace and wisdom, let their lights shine, so that they may grow to be confident in their faith, loving God and their neighbors. **Amen.**

*Students place hands on the heads or shoulders of teachers for the blessing*

God of wisdom, your Son came among us as a teacher.

Send your blessing on all who are engaged in the work of education:

give them clearness of vision and freshness of thought, and enable them so to train the hearts and minds of their students that they may grow in wisdom and be prepared to face the challenges of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Together let us pray,*

**God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup>saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALMODY

***Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!***

ELW #875

*The refrain will be played through first instrumentally. It will be sung before and after the reading of the psalm.*

The musical notation consists of two systems, each with a treble staff and a bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!



Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le-lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le-lu - ia!



Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le-lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le-lu - ia!



## PSALM

Psalm 113

*Today's psalm will be spoken responsively beginning with the lector*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> **Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup> **The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup> **but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup> **enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!



*Refrain:*

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.216

*We stand for the reading of the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -

lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Alleluia

**GOSPEL**

Luke 16:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY *The Numberless Gifts of God's Mercies* ELW #683



1 The num - ber - less gifts of God's mer - cies my tongue can - not  
 2 Like all of the stars in the heav - ens, God's mer - cies can  
 3 I'll nev - er count all of God's mer - cies, but oh, I can



fath - om or tell. Like dew that ap - pears in the morn - ing,  
 nev - er be told. They shine through the dark - ness of mid - night;  
 give God my praise for all of that love, my thanks - giv - ing



they come to us shin - ing and full. The num - ber - less  
 their beau - ties can nev - er grow old. Like all of the  
 and love to the end of my days. I'll nev - er count



gifts of God's mer - cies my tongue can - not fath - om or tell.  
 stars in the heav - ens, God's mer - cies can nev - er be told.  
 all of God's mer - cies, but oh, I can give God my praise!

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**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**

*We will be seated for the prayers.*

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*The Pastor concludes the prayers*

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

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## MEAL

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## OFFERING

### MUSICAL OFFERING

Your Grace Still Amazes Me

Brady Kurtz

### OFFERING PRAYER

*Together let us pray,*

**Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

## PREPARING FOR THE TABLE

People of God, people of life. We gather as a holy communion, for a meal that has been shared countless times, in countless places, and in countless ways.

The first time this meal was shared, Jesus was gathered around a table with a ragged collection of people—outcasts, betrayers, the power-hungry, the fragile, lonely, lost.

The first time this meal was celebrated, Jesus promised that it was for all time, that whenever the bread was broken and the wine was poured, wherever the story was told around a table, he would be there.

Today we remember the story as it's been told a thousand times over; we eat the bread, and we drink the wine, and we affirm that we all belong at this table and that Jesus is here.

So if we come to this table angry, **let this bread and wine be our peace.**

If we come to this table broken, **let this bread and wine be our grace.**

If we come to this table betrayed, **let this bread and wine be our wholeness.**

If we come to the table in despair, **let this bread and wine be our life.**

For this is a holy table, with food to fill the hungry world and wine to quench thirsty hearts. **Thanks be to God.**

When Jesus ate with his friends, he took bread, and after blessing it, he broke it and gave it to them saying: **“Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.”**

Then he took the cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying: **“Drink. This cup poured out for you and for all people is the promise of God. Whenever you drink it, remember me.”**

We remember Jesus’ death and resurrection, our hope and our life. We break the bread and share the one cup. **Thanks be to God.**

### **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**

Christ invites you to this table.

Come, taste and see.

### **DISTRIBUTION**



## COMMUNION SONG

*As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW #465

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Together let us pray,*

**God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

## BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**



**SENDING SONG*****God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*****ELW #678**

- 1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je - sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
 all at peace in health and free-dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
 ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
 Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
 O - pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



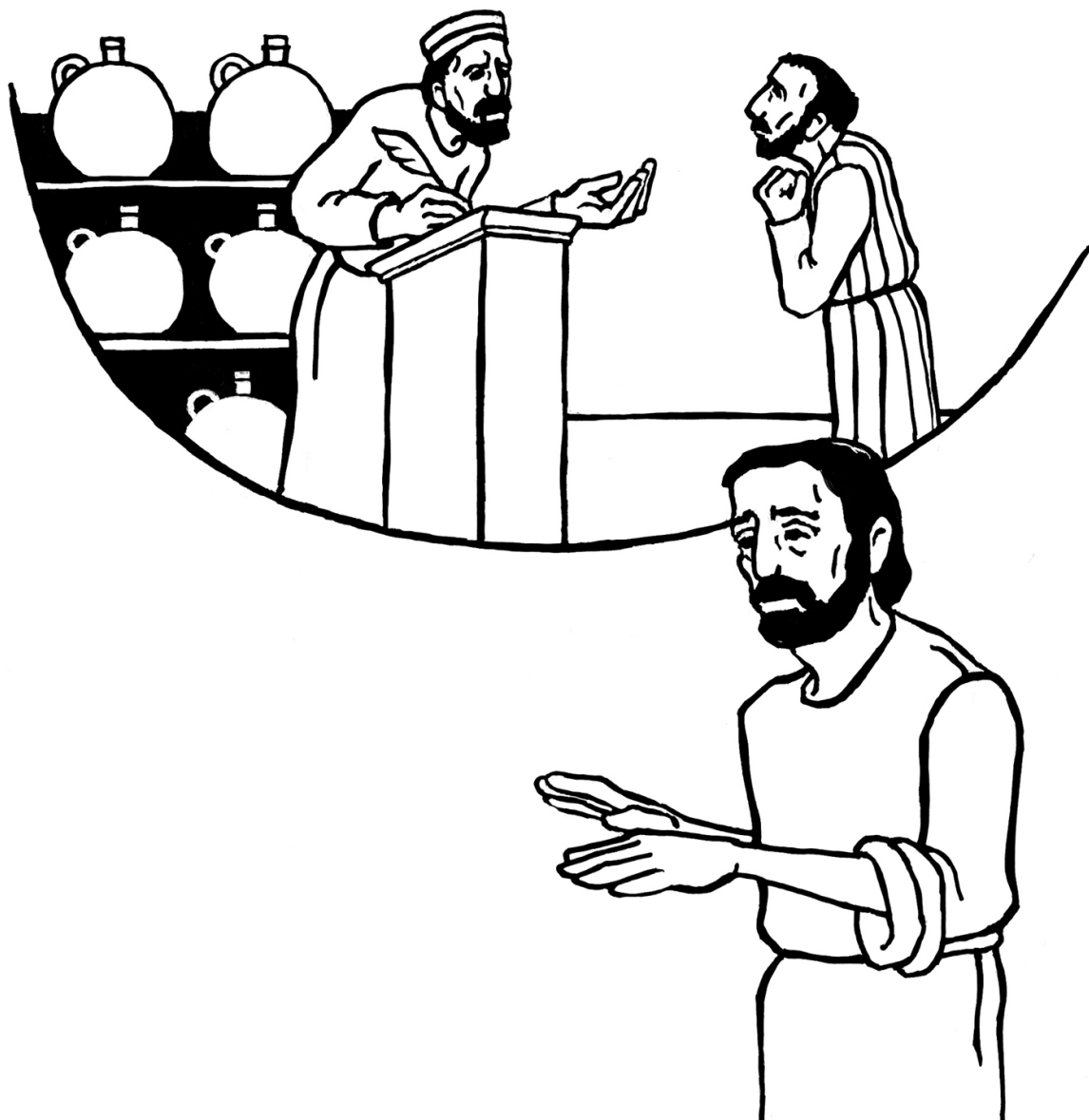
thank-ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra-cious do - nor of our days.  
 born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 heal - ing, teach-ing, and re - claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**







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