

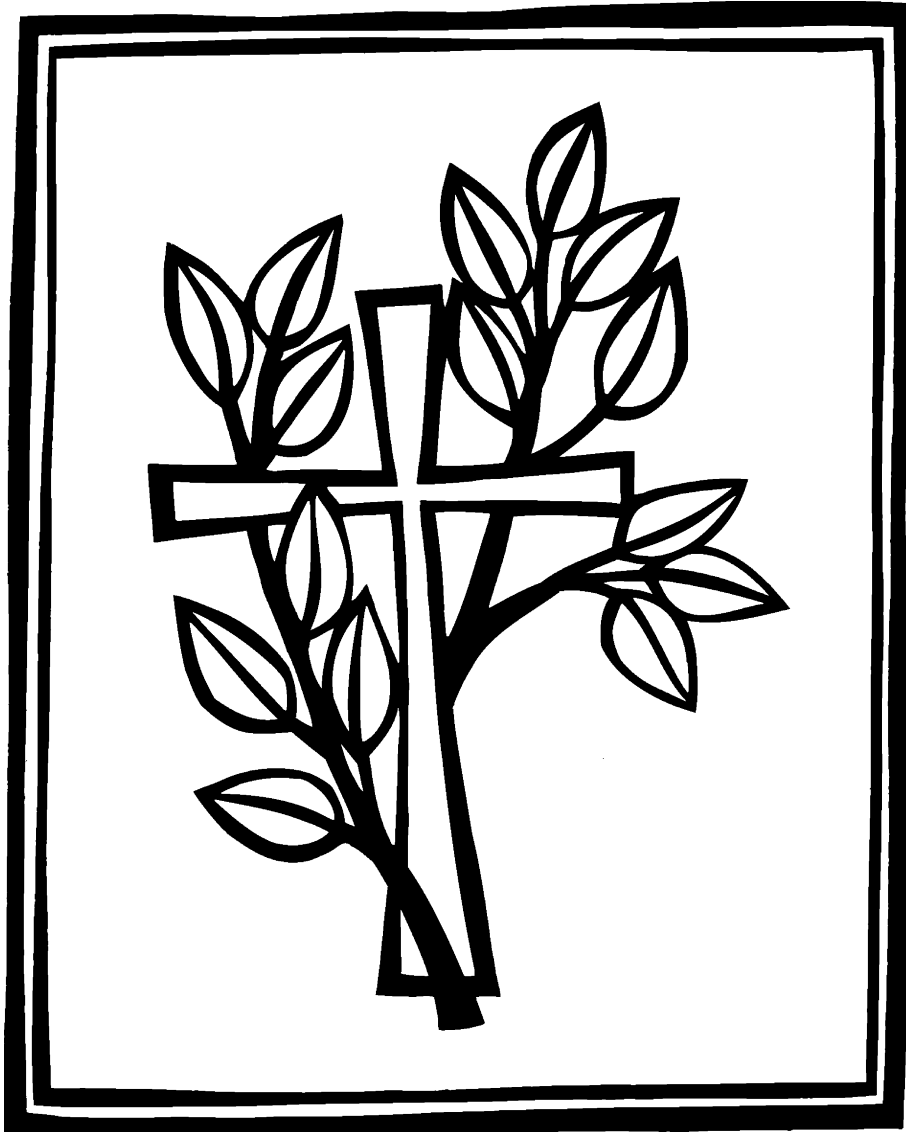


Salem Lutheran Church  
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

**Welcome to the House of the Lord**

**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 3, 2023 – 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 Judith Wozniak**

**Organist:** Ruth Sheldon

**Readers:** Shannon Bruhns

**Sound:** Al Skellenger

**Live Stream:** Brad Evenson

**Acolytes:**

**Liturgical Choir:**

**Communion Servers:** Becky Helgeson, Doug & Shannon Bruhns, Craig & Cindy Haugsdal, Sondra Nelson

**Ushers:** Lyle & Orloue Thomson, Al Sterrenberg

**Altar Guild for August:** Linda Helgeson, Rhonda Schriever

**Worship Coordinator:** Shannon Bruhns

**The Live Stream Broadcast is Given In Memory  
of Loved Ones From Bill & Linda Tweeten**

**The Flowers by the Pulpit are in Loving Memory of “Doc” Nelson’s Birthday.**

**Salem Contact Information:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
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## INTRODUCTION

*The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.*

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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 God, the one who forms us, †Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray*

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. <sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor

did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. <sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 26:1-8

*We will speak today's psalm responsively beginning with the men.*

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

**<sup>2</sup>Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

**<sup>4</sup>I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

**<sup>6</sup>I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar, <sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds. <sup>8</sup>LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in


harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with

his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*      ELW #667



1 “Take up your cross,” the Sav - ior said,  
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



“if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,  
his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.”  
sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
to save your soul from death and hell.  
one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

## PROFESSION 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 OF INTERCESSION

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict (*especially*). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**



God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor (*especially*). Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

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## **MEAL**

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## **OFFERING**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**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.

### **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**

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

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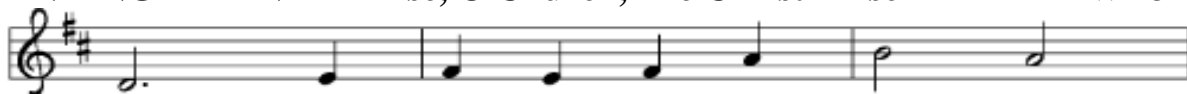
### **SENDING**

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### **BLESSING**

*Blessing of summer feeding program volunteers*

God of abundance, you fed the hungry with manna from heaven and five  
thousand with a few loaves of bread and couple of fish. Bless those have met and  
fed our youth all summer with a cheerful heart and a nourishing meal. May their  
hospitality, service and nourishment be a sign of your love to all people. **Amen.**



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,  
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low  
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber our well the fu - ture;  
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



from this meal of love and grace;  
 af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;  
 God has called us to dai - ly breath;  
 cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



may we through such love en - vi - sion  
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed  
 pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,  
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
 to re - lease and to con - sole.  
 Spir - it - ed then let us live.  
 from this day and un - to death.



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

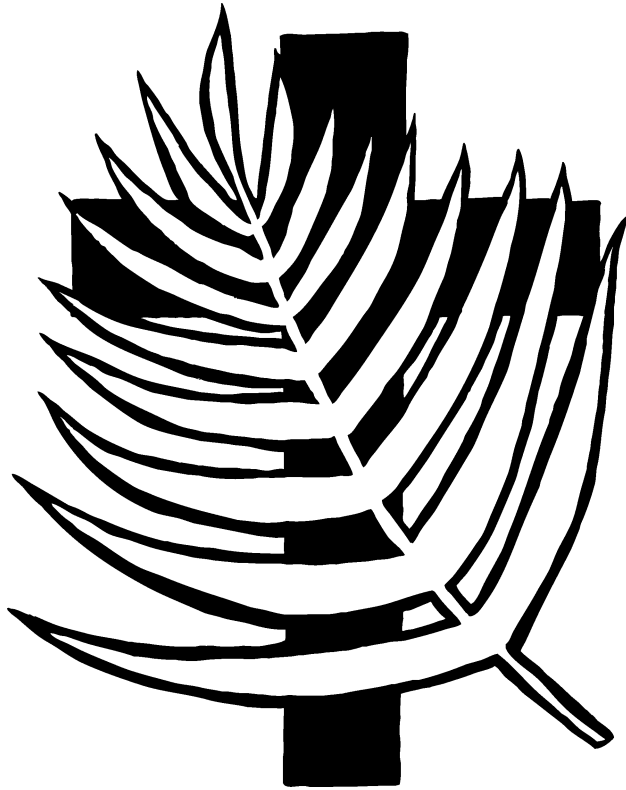


God, the won - der of our days.  
 Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.  
 Spir - it, grace by whom we live.  
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **POSTLUDE**

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