



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 4, 2021 – 5:30pm



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.

Saturday--5:30pm Worship Service Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson Organist: Ruth Sheldon Reader: Ruth Sheldon Liturgical Choir: Open Sound: Shannon Bruhns Acolytes: Shannon Bruhns Ushers: Shannon Bruhns Communion Servers: Altar Guild for September: Jean Rondeau & Pat Thorson	Sunday--9:00am Worship Service Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson Organist: Ruth Sheldon Readers: Willie Skellenger Liturgical Choir: Al Skellenger, Willie Skellenger, Nancy Guttormson, Larry Rice Sound: Chike Ikefuama Live Stream: Brad Evenson Video: Chike Ikefuama Acolytes: Lyle Thomson Ushers: Lyle and Orloue Thomson Communion Servers: Altar Guild for September: Jean Rondeau & Pat Thorson
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The radio broadcast is given in loving memory of Mary Adam's birthday from Bruce Adams and family. Mary's birthday is September 4th.

Salem Contact Information:

Pastor Joel Guttormson: 641.596.0535 joelguttormson@gmail.com Shannon Bruhns, Council President: 641.592.5978 / 641.590.1532 shelby@wctatel.net	Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184 Barb Kinseth, Custodian Marci Adeogun, Office Admin: 641.590.1182 Salem Office: 641.592.1771 salem@wctatel.net
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INTRODUCTION

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

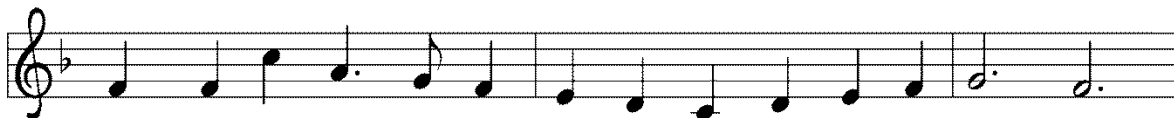
Amen.

We stand for the Gathering Hymn.

GATHERING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW #858



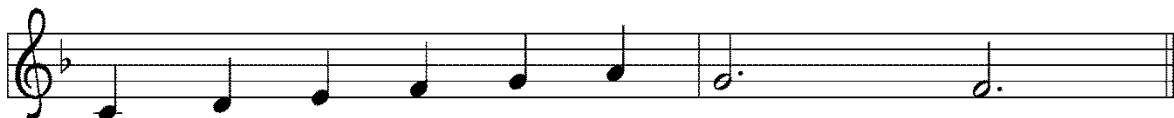
- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a-dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.
sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy shall dai - ly at-tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 146

Today's psalm will be read responsively beginning with the pulpit side

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion,
throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING

James 2:1-10, 14-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? WOV p.31*
We stand for the hearing of the gospel.



GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus

ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW #612

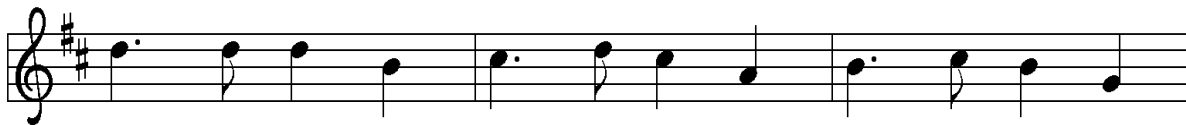
Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

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 OF INTERCESSION

All may be seated as the pastor invites us into our time of prayer.

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. Unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence. We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered as the pastor concludes the prayers.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

The offering is being collected at the beginning of the service as you walk in. The usher will bring the offering forward for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need at the time of the offering song and prayer.

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,
 you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life,

in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.

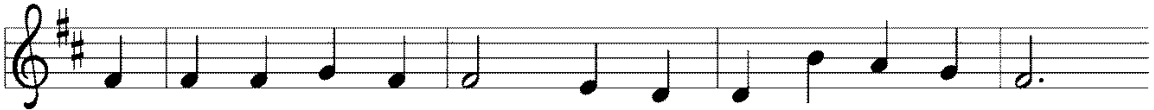
The holy Trinity, ✚ one God, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

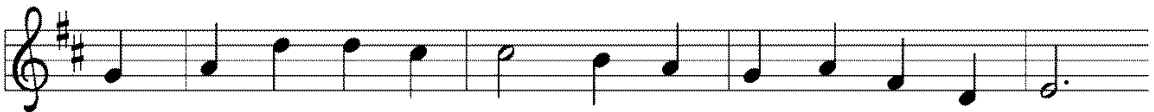
SENDING HYMN

O Living Bread from Heaven

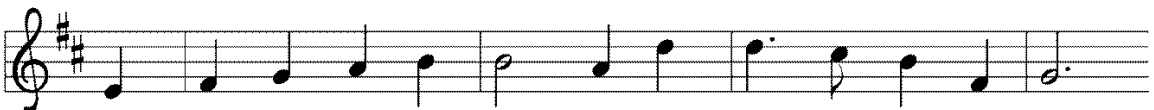
ELW #542



- 1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
- 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
- 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strength - ened with heav'n-ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your-self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won-drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

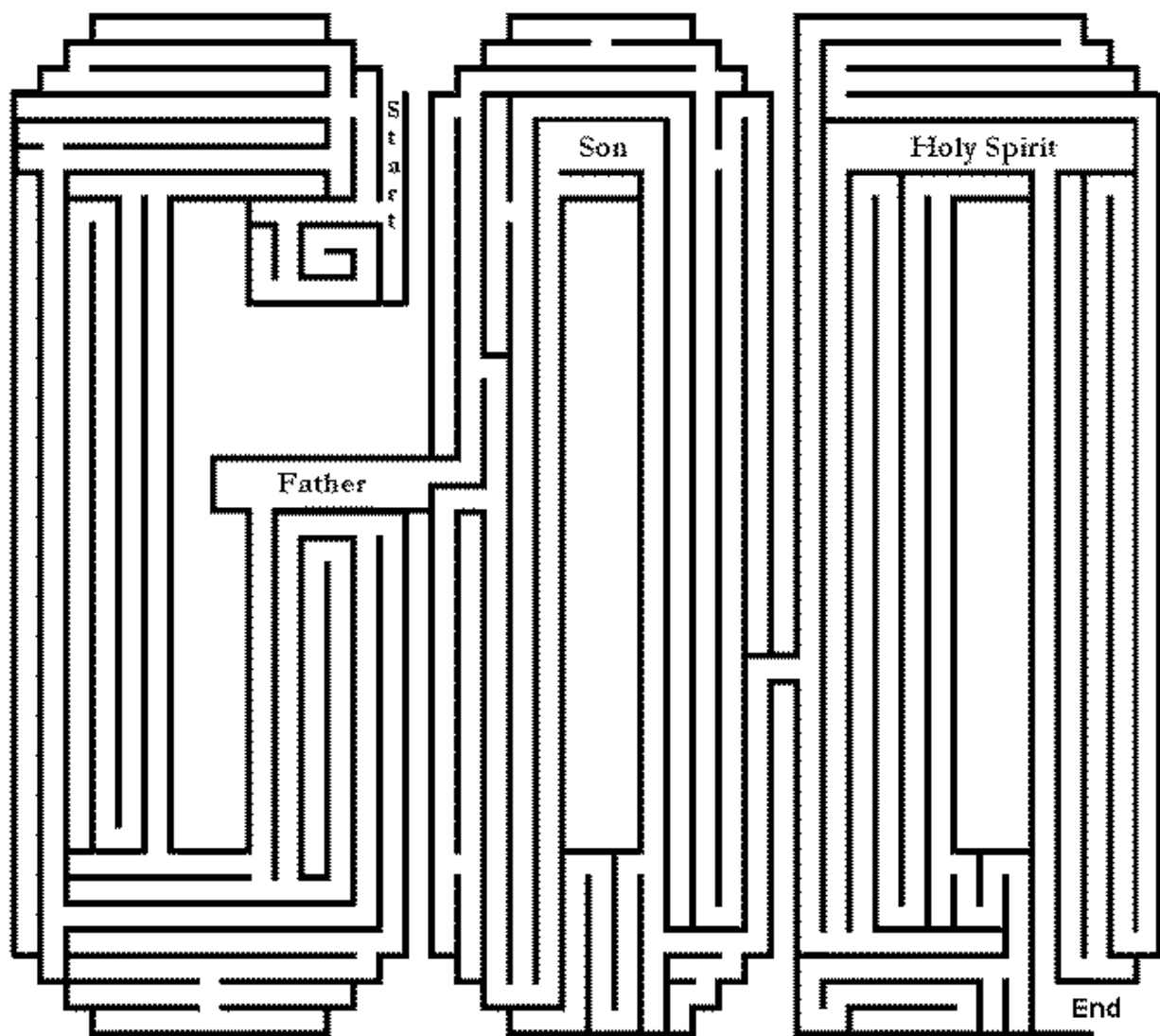
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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Teach Me to Pray



Loving God. (Praise God)

**Sometimes I forget to be helpful
and kind, please forgive me.** (Confess Your Sins)

Thank you for being there for me. (Thank God)

Help those who are hungry. (Pray for Others)

Help me be a better person. (Pray for Yourself)

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen (Closing)