



Salem Lutheran Church

Welcome to the House of the Lord
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2015 - 10:30 a.m.



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 Syrophenician 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 her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

P: We are called here this morning to learn of Christ's healing love.

C: Help us, O Lord, to learn your lessons of compassion.

P: Everyday there are many ways in which we can offer help to others.

C: Help us, O Lord, to be ready to reach out to all in need.

P: Come, let us worship the One who prepares us for service.

C: Let us sing our songs of praise to the One who has healed us. AMEN.

Gathering Song *By Grace We Have Been Saved* WP 25

*Prayer of Confession

Dear God, we ask your blessing on all those who labor, who work to provide for themselves and bring us the comforts we have come to expect. Bring humility to us when we build towers that touch the sky and are impressed by our own feats. Bring compassion to us when we forget those who work under unjust conditions. Bring grace to us when we are most in need of your healing touch.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

God watches over the weary, and grants grace to all.
Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*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

Let us pray. Pastor: 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. **C: Amen.**

***First Reading** Isaiah 35:4-7a Page 735 in the Bible

***PSALM** Psalm 146

¹ Hallelujah! 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.

³ Put 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.**

⁵ Happy 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;**

⁷ who 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.**

⁹ The 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 2:1-17 Page 247 in the Bible

***The Gospel** Mark 7:24-37 Page 43 in the Bible

Children's Sermon / Sermon

Sermon Song *Healer of Our Every Ill*

Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*

2 In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*

3 Give us strength to love each other, ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*

4 You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

***Apostle's Creed (Spoken together)**

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

Response: Hear our Prayer

***Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering Song *Come and Taste*

WP 30

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

Dialogue

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.

*Words of Institution

*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.

Communion

Distribution of Communion

When Holy Communion is served, all Christians who recognize the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament and the offer of forgiveness of sins are invited to the Lord's Table. Children are invited forward to receive a blessing. Please follow the ushers' instructions in coming for communion. Glasses of white grape juice are located in the center of each tray of wine for those who would prefer it. Gluten-free communion wafers are also available.

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst.

By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

*Blessing

Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

*Closing Song

Step by Step

WP 132

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Preaching & Presiding: Pr. Melinda McCluskey
Pianist: Kathy Nelson
Altar Guild for September: Joan Kloster & JoAnn Villa

The radio broadcast this morning is in memory of Duke Moe's birthday, September 8th, from Clarine and Pam.

The 8:30 a.m. worship service is broadcast weekly on KLOW-FM 107.3.

Salem has a wheel chair available for use. It is kept in the narthex.

We have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. Call the office to reserve a date - 641.592.1771.



Salem offers a safe and easy way to give online. Scan the QR code to go to the website. There you can click the **Donate Now** button to make your gift. You decided the amount. You will need either a credit or debit card to complete the transaction. Thank you for your support of ministry at Salem Lutheran!

We have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. **Call the office to reserve a date - 641.592.1771.**



The Board of Education has been busy planning the upcoming program year at Salem. We will use the *Whirl* Curriculum again for Grades 6 and under. 7th & 8th Grade will continue on their confirmation journey together.

There will also be an adult learning opportunity (see below) that we are very excited about! See you all on September 13th!

Adult Learning Opportunity

GIFT – Growing in Faith Together is an adult Bible Study adult (high school and older). It begins Sunday, September 13 at 9:40am. Grab a cup of coffee and meet in the lounge.

Ever wonder how the Bible became the book we know today? Why the four Gospels tell different stories of Jesus? Animate: Bible is a seven session study that covers the basics of biblical scholarship. In each session we will watch a video featuring a lead voice from Christian faith, spend time on personal reflection and journaling, followed by sharing ideas with the group

If you have questions, contact Pastor Melinda.

Rally Sunday is around the corner

Sunday School starts on September 13th at 9:30.

Register on our website at www.salemlakemills.com

Worship Schedule for Fall will be:

8:30 Traditional Worship

9:30 Fellowship - Education - Sunday School

10:30 Contemporary Worship

<i>Who goes Where?</i>
3 year-olds—2nd Grade
⇒ West Hallway
3rd Grade—8th Grade
⇒ East Hallway
9th-Adult
⇒ Lounge

WELCA Guest Day September 17 – 11:30 a.m.

Lunch will be followed by the Elizabeth Circle's program *Singing for the Love of It* by the 3 CD's: Linda Hill – Kiester, Julie Quamme – Rake, Audrey Kiihn – Bricelyn. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Next Week's Lessons:

Exodus 3:1-14, Psalm 1, Exodus 20:2-4, Matthew 6:19-21

God's work. Our hands.

A Lutheran Service Project Sunday, September 13

Members of Lake Mill's area ELCA Lutheran Churches are teaming up the afternoon of Sunday, September 13 for what is called God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. The summer feeding program has ended (5120 meals served) so it's time to give the fellowship hall a thorough cleaning. This will be one of the *God's Work, Our Hands* projects. The second project is building a fire pit to be used by youth for its 5th Quarter events. Following home football games Lutherans are inviting youth to gather around a fire for food, fellowship, and fun. The Junior High events are held at Salem Lutheran just off the east side of the building.

Tag along event...This same Sunday members of Salem will be tackling cleanup of the courtyard. The plastic play equipment will be removed, sold or hauled away and the stones cleaned up and raked. Snacks and a beverage will be provided for volunteers.

SALE – SALE

Part of cleaning up the courtyard area will be getting rid of the children's play equipment that has not been used for several years. There will be a rummage sale on those items from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Items will be placed on the concrete in the center of the courtyard. Pick up what you want and leave a donation which will go to the Sunday School. At 2:00 p.m. we will dispose of what remains.



Salem Member Publishes Book

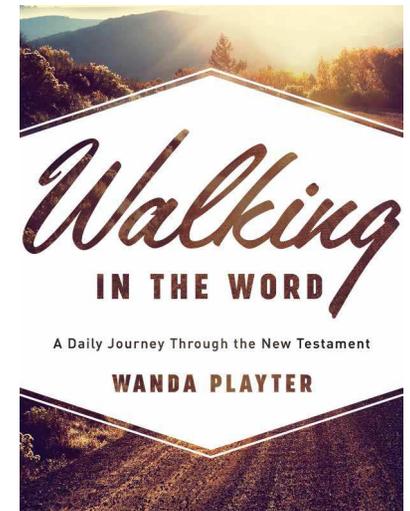
Salem member Wanda Playter recently released her first book, titled *Walking in the Word, A Daily Journey Through the New Testament*.

Wanda will be doing a book signing and speaking at Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills on Sunday, September 20th following the 8:30 worship service during coffee time.

Walking in the Word is an easy to read daily devotional that will take you on a journey through the New Testament in a year, with room for you to add your personal thoughts, prayers and dreams.

Growing up is tough. During this time in your life, you're finding your identity and deepening your faith. There are so many difficult choices to make that will change the course of your life forever. *Walking in the Word* visits many of those situations with advice on how to move through them.

For more information on Wanda and her book, visit WandaPlayter.com.



THIS WEEK AT SALEM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Worship - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Communion Worship Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day Office closed, Food Shelf Closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

10:00 a.m. Caregivers Support Group - Lounge

1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Bloodmobile

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

5:30 p.m. Board of Ed Meeting

6:00 p.m. Informal Communion Worship – Chapel

6:45 p.m. Sunday School Teacher Orientation

7:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Youth Group - Lounge

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

2:00 p.m. Martha Circle – Resource Room

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:30 p.m. Middle School 5th Quarter – Salem

High School 5th Quarter - Winnebago

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

1:00 p.m. Brian/ Chelsea (Skellenger) Souder Reception – Fell. Hall

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Rally Sunday/Teacher Installation/3 Year Old Milestone

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Sunday School; Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service - Sanctuary

2:00 p.m. God's Work, Our Hands Projects

Those worshipping August 26/30: 146

Last week's giving to the Glory of God: \$4246

"Starting Strong" Pledges to date: 69 Pledges - \$28,085

Last week's "Starting Strong" giving: \$2905

If you have not returned your pledge you may do so at any time.

Please remember in prayer this week:

The Family & Friends of Beverly Smithe, Danny Brackey, Clarine Johnson, Rita Jane Rosenberg (sister of Janet Bergo) and Doris Greimann (mother of Nancy Oltman)

Don Adams, Marilyn Hoffman, Manise 'Pete' Erickson, Gavin Thompson, Lloyd Okland, David E. Steffens, Viola Simmons, Roger Juveland, Darlene Madson

Prayer Families: Glen/Sandra Moretz, Michael Moretz, Lee Morgan, Marian Morgan, Merlin Morgan, Alexander Mosby, Jeff Mosby, Nicholas Mosby, Nicole Mosby, Christina Movick

"Visit us on the web at www.salemlakemills.com"

Like us on Facebook. Search Salem Lake Mills



Salem Contact Information

Pastor Peter Soli, Interim Pastor: 507.369.6303

Email: Peter.Soli@DialogWorks.org

Pastor Melinda McCluskey: 563-581-9965

Email: melindamcmc@gmail.com

Janelle Gilbertson, Communications:

Email: janelle.gilbertson@yahoo.com

Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Email: salem@wctatel.net

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