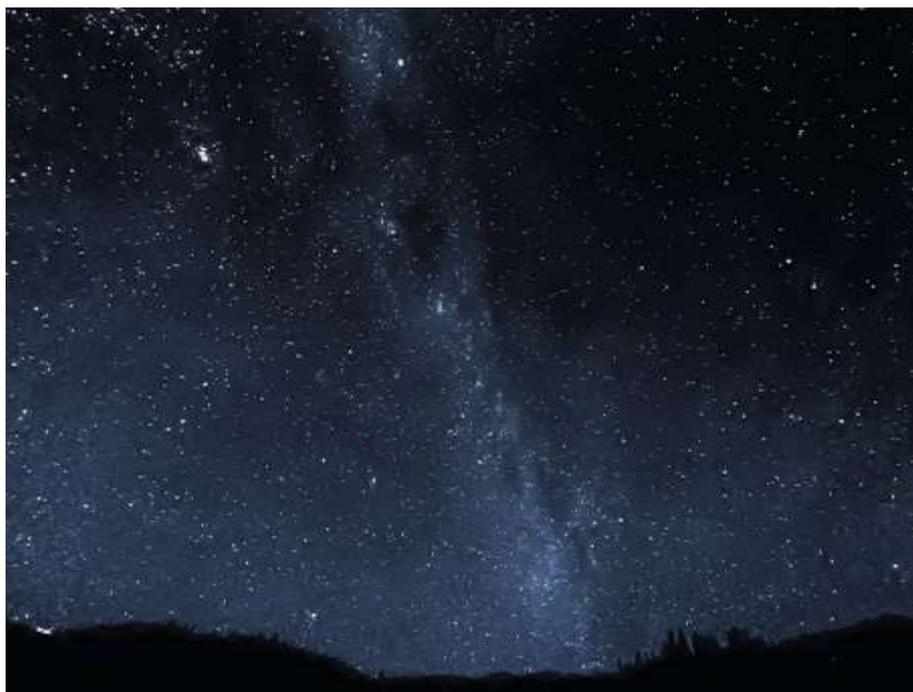


Welcome to Worship at

Salem Lutheran Church

803 Second Street N • Shell Lake WI 54871-4600
715-468-7718 • slsalemlutheran.org



17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2020

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

WOV pg. 46

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.

You are the treasured people of the LORD,
a people holy to the LORD our God.

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Word

FIRST LESSON:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they

shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalm 25:1-9

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

REFRAIN: Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

REFRAIN: Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love.

SECOND LESSON:

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPOTLIGHT ON SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL:

Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his

mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

SERMON: "The Blame Game" Rev. Susan Odegard

HYMN OF THE DAY **HYMN #801**
"Change My Heart, O God"

CREED AND CONFESSION WOV pg. 49
In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Prayer

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions (*especially*), change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community (*especially*); make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Meal

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 the 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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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This Week at Salem

Today: In-Church Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Monday, September 28th: Bible Study – 3:30 p.m.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Billie Aderman
Gail Auerbach (*sister-in-law of Diane Brandt*)
Curt Atkinson (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Jerry Best
Judy Bever (*niece of Joan Foley*)
Rhiannon Bauer (*friend of Pastor Sue & Larry Odegard*)
Delores Brandt (*mother of Dan Brandt*)
Levi Cooper
Jerry Curtis
Mike Flach (*nephew of Mavis Flach*)
Sherry Friel
Doug & Shirley Gallop
Jerry Goveronski (*son-in-law of Margaret Jones*)
Stacey Hanson (*daughter-in-law of Craig & Brigitte Hanson*)
Pat Haremza
Roger Harrison
Holly Herland
Jennifer Hinker (*daughter of Ralph & Carol Thompson*)
Addy Holmes (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Jeff Jara (*son-in-law of Sharon Norstog*)
Tim Kennedy (*friend of Margaret Jones*)
Juany Kielley-Dahlen
Mark Krueger
Janie LaFave (*friend of Sandy Cardwell*)
Dave Lynch (*relative of Judy & Alison Ricci*)
Ashley Muench
Kak Reinhart (*mother of Mary Butler*)
Ann Stellrecht (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Jan Sutherland
Dawn Swan
Lee & Dotty Swan
Bobbie Tackett (*daughter of Craig & Brigitte Hanson*)
Connie Thate (*sister of Sandy Cardwell*)

For Our Servicemen and Women in the Military

Those Homebound and in Nursing Homes: Marilyn Boles,
Larry Fletcher, Anna Johnson, Donna Parker, Connie Richter,
Judee Rydberg

The Grieving Family and Friends of Linda Amerson