

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
4715 Hermantown Rd., Hermantown, MN 55811

POLLINATOR SUNDAY
~ JUNE 7, 2026 ~ 10:00 am
GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*** INVOCATION**

P: We gather in worship in the name of God the Creator of fluttering butterflies, buzzing bees, and soaring bats, in the name of Jesus Christ who redeems the broken ecosystems and polluted habitats, and the name of Holy Spirit whose heals and restores creation for the sake of all God's living creatures

C: Amen.

*** OPENING SONG "For All Things Worth Praising"** (tune ELW 547)
words by David Bjorlin, sung to The Ash Grove (ELW 547)

Vs. 1 For all things worth praising – the vast and amazing –
the marvelous moments of awe and delight;
The thunderstruck feeling of baffling healing,
the sudden reversal of wrong into right;
The span of creation that sparks inspiration;
the bounty of beauty that nature displays;
For wonders you gave us to stun us and save us,
to you, their Creator, we lift up our praise.

Vs. 2 For all things worth praising – the vast and amazing –
but also the common, forgotten, and small;
The atoms that form us, the sunbeams that warm us
– invisible forces sustaining us all;
The intricate features of littlest creatures;
the numberless mercies eluding our gaze;

For all things enchanted that we take for granted,
to you, their Creator, we lift up our praise.

*** CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgive us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

* **GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* **KYRIE**

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**Refrain: Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;

for this holy house for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor,

that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;

that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

* **HYMN OF PRAISE**

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Glory to God in the highest, the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks we praise you
for your glory. Glory to God in the highest,

the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the
right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest and
peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the
Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest and peace to God's
people on earth. Glory to God in the highest,
the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: God of liberation and healing,

**C: just as you cast demons to liberate and restore the one
afflicted, do the same for us today. Cast out the demons from
our world that destroy your creation and empower us as your
disciples to be the ones who liberate and restore your creation
back to health and wholeness. For the sake of the wellbeing of
each of us who inhabit your creation and our planet that we call
home. In the name of your redeeming Son, we pray. Amen.**

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Hosea 5:15-6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt
and seek my face, and in their distress they seek me, saying,
⁶“Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn, that he may heal
us; he has stricken, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will
revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live

before him. ³ Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his going forth is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.” ⁴ What shall I do with you, O E’phraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. ⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God, rather than burnt offerings. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 50:7-15

Please read responsively

⁷ “Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

⁸ **I do not reprove you for your sacrifices; your burnt offerings are continually before me.**

⁹ I will accept no bull from your house, nor he-goat from your folds.

¹⁰ **For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.**

¹¹ I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine.

¹² **“If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world and all that is in it is mine.**

¹³ Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴ Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High;

¹⁵ **and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law

brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”** *Hymn #172*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

* **Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. ²³When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread through all of that district. The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, Christ.***

SERMON

SERMON SONG "This Is My Father's World"

Hymn #824

Vs.1 This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears all

nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders
wrought.

Vs. 2 This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise; the
morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

Vs. 3 This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget that,
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The
Lord is king, let the heaven ring; God reigns, let the earth be
glad!

* **POLLINATOR LITANY**

P: Creating God, you abundantly provide sunlight and seasons,
waters and soils, plants and animals, some that creep and buzz and
flutter:

C: Great is your love.

P: Cosmic Christ, you elevate lilies of the field and birds of the air as
exemplars of faith in anxious times; your earth-shaking death and
resurrection embrace and redeem all creation:

C: Great is your love.

P: Renewing Spirit, your brooding awakens us and all creatures with
life; you summon and gift a prophetic people to do justice and walk
humbly, to build relationships of across divisions and generations,
and to the ends of the earth:

P: Great is your love.

P: For pollinators that reflect your beauty and dance in the laughter
of flowers:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: For a rainbow of butterflies, monarchs and swallowtails, fritillaries and admirals:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: For yellow and rusty-patched, brown belted and bumbling bees, whose busywork is essential for fruitful harvests, whose sweet honey has ever signified a plentiful land:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: For hummingbirds, moths, bats, and other pollen carriers that support the fertility of your intricate and interdependent ecological web:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Hear our lament for species in decline, for areas of silent spring, for destructive human practices that endanger so much upon which we depend:

C: Teach us your way of new life.

P: Help us to see these small, often overlooked and disregarded creatures as key to the earth's regeneration and ours:

C: Teach us your way of new life.

P: Move us to learn from their witness to your cross, your power hidden in weakness, and your promise that includes the littlest ones:

C: Teach us your way of new life.

P: In this Kairos moment, O God, empower us as your people to be pollinators of your love, a love that surrounds all those in need especially those close to our hearts:

C: Grant us your wisdom.

P: In the groaning of creation, O Christ, enliven us to be partners for hospitable habitats,

C: Grant us your courage.

P: In the fullness of your renewal, O Spirit, embolden us to be

plotters of resurrection hope.

C: Grant us your peace. Amen.

* **THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING COLLECTION

P: We will accept our offering at this time.

* **OFFERING "Give Thanks"**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son. (Repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong;"

Let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat)

Give thanks! Give thanks!

* **OFFERING PRAYER**

C: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, or redeemer and Lord. Amen.

MEAL

* **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

* 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.

“Behold the Lamb”

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us - and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

COMMUNION SONGS

“God, Creation Sings Your Praises” (tune of ELW 712)

God, creation sings your praises; mountains echo from afar.
All your blessings here amaze us; hills rejoice how great you are!
In the whole of your creation, in each sea and wood and glade,
We are called to have dominion over all that you have made.
We've ignored your wise instruction to take care of what you give.
For our greed has caused destruction and your world cries out to live.
Though you've given us your bounty by your kind and loving hand,
In the search for power and money, we've abused sea, sky and land.
Lord, you give creation limits so creation will be blessed.
You set planets in their orbits; you give days for Sabbath rest.
You make fruit not for consuming, things to stay where they are

found,
And with great disaster looming — fuel to keep within the ground.
Still, your limits aren't to crush us, or to stifle or devour.
Sun and tide and wind refresh us, giving light and warmth and power.
You give new imagination, love to heal our neighbors' pain,
Lives to build up your creation till the earth is whole again.
God, you give to us a vision of this world we're called to seek,
Where creation joins in singing, where the strong protect the weak,
Where your people serve each other, wanting only what is best.
May we work with one another till creation so is blessed.

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Hymn #879

Vs. 1 For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

Vs. 2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light: ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:

Vs. 4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild: ***Refrain***

Vs. 5 For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n: ***Refrain***

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING OF COMMUNION

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick/homebound/or imprisoned. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POLLINATOR PRAYER

P: God, our Provider, We praise you for pollinators, for the many beings who are indispensable in bringing food to our tables - birds, bats, beetles, butterflies and bees... Bless native plants -their flowering, fruiting, and feeding of this ecosystem. Bless species at risk: rusty-patched and yellow-banded bumble bees. Bless our attempts to partner in the restoration and health of this land. Bless the web of life, our deep connections, our interdependence, our giving and receiving.

C: Amen.

* **BENEDICTION**

P: Go from this place of worship, empowered as co-creators with God, into a hurting creation, to bring life where creation has been

destroyed, and healing where habitats have been harmed. Go in awe and wonder at the beauty of the earth.

C: Amen.

* **SENDING SONG “*The Trees of the Field*”**

You shall go out with joy_
And be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills
Will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy,
And all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
While you go out with joy.

* **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Pollinate the world with the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

** Please stand if you are able*

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WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome those of you visiting with us today. Communion is open to all who believe. ***If you need gluten-free bread or prefer grape juice, please let the servers know.*** As you receive the bread for Communion, please hold your hands out. ***Notify the usher if you want to be served in the pew.***

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

TODAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026

Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 am
Cub Scouts	4:00 pm

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026

Day Care	6:00 am
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TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

Day Care	6:00 am
Thrive! Support Group	6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026

Day Care	6:00 am
Salem Quilters	9:30 am
Trillium Works! The Collective	3:00-4:30 pm

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

Day Care	6:00 am
Keene's Creek Condo Association Annual Meeting	7:00 pm

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026

Day Care	6:00 am
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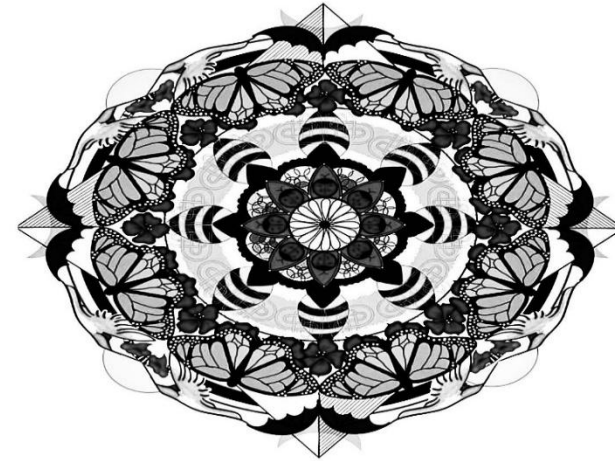
SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026

Private Party-Family Room	12:00 pm
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NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 am
Cub Scouts	4:00 pm

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sundays at Salem

~ Worship ~ 10:00 am ~

~ Coffee Fellowship ~

Rev. John Ansell

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“Our Mission is to pass on the faith by involving all members of our community in Christ’s ministry.”