

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sundays at Salem

~ Worship ~ 10:00 am ~

Coffee Fellowship ~ 11:00 am ~

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.”***

**Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
4715 Hermantown Rd., Hermantown, MN 55811
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 ~ 10:00 am**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*** CALL TO WORSHIP “*Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*”**

Vs. 1 What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to him belong

Who holds our days within his hand?

What comes, apart from his command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand

Refrain: O sing hallelujah!

Our hope springs eternal

O sing hallelujah!

Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death

Vs. 2 What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good

Where is his grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? **[Refrain]**

Vs. 3 Unto the grave, what will we sing?

"Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"

And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him
And we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore **[Refrain]**

Refrain: O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death [Repeat]
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

*** CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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. 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 forgives 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**

“Lord Have Mercy”

Jesus, I've forgotten the words that You have spoken
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim
With a doubting heart I follow the paths of earthly wisdom
Forgive me for my unbelief
Renew the fire again

Chorus

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy on me (Repeat)

I have built an altar where I worship things of men
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from You
Now I am returning to Your mercies ever flowing
Pardon my transgressions
Help me love You again ***Repeat Chorus***

I have longed to know You and Your tender mercies
Like a river of forgiveness ever flowing without end
I bow my heart before You in the goodness of Your presence
Your grace forever shining
Like a beacon in the night ***Repeat Chorus 4x***

* HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glorify Thy Name”

Vs. 1 Father, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Vs. 2 Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Vs. 3 Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Glorious God,

C: your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be

afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 103:8-13

Please read responsively

⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the

Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life. ***Thanks be to God.***

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "ALLELUIA"**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35**

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35**

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who

owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

SERMON SONG "You Are Holy"

Hymn #525

You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more
than we ever understand. You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near; blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil,
raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness,
you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God.

*** 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.

* **JOYS, SORROWS & CONCERNS**

* **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, listen to your children praying, WOV #775

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

P: Merciful God,

C: *receive our prayer.*

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to
ask and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in
Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

* **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, our 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"

Vs. 1 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 DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONGS *please see insert*

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

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **BENEDICTION**

* ***SENDING SONG “Amazing Grace(My Chains Are Gone)”***

Vs. 1 Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind but now I see.

Vs. 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

***Chorus My chains are gone I've been set free!
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me;
And like a flood, His mercy reigns,
unending love amazing grace.***

Vs. 3 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. ***Chorus (2x)***

Vs. 4 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below, will be forever mine.

Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

* **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace, share 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, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Worship.	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship.....	11:00 am

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

Day Care.....	6:00 am
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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

Day Care.....	6:00 am
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

Day Care.....	6:00 am
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NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

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

Snack Drive all of September!

Please continue to bring your donations in!