

From your pastor...



WELCOME
Come Worship With Us

Happy belated Thanksgiving and early Christmas! I hope this finds you enjoying a holiday season full of warmth and love!

Last time we learned how worship in the most basic sense is just demonstrating how much God is worth to us. We saw how our entire lives as Christians are acts of worship. This time, let's think a little bit more specifically and focus on public worship.

Public worship can be defined: "Christians gather at public worship to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel in Word and Sacrament, summarizing and solidifying God's truth by means of ritual and the fine arts." (More simply put, it's a church service!)

The motivation and purpose are always the same. Christians are eager to praise God and to use the means of grace (the gospel in Word and Sacrament, through which God creates and strengthens faith). Everything we do during a church service flows from the desire to glorify God and to put the means of grace to work.

The outward form, or how a church service looks, on the other hand, can vary greatly. There is not a page in the Bible that prescribes what worship should look like. Hymn singing, sermons, and liturgy are all valuable tools that can accomplish the purpose of public worship, but it's up to a congregation to decide which ones to use and how to use them. We'll look at some of the specific tools and how we use them here at Salem in the next newsletters.

Public worship is a wonderful thing. It's the duty but also the delight of every believer. It's where we hear about our Savior together and find encouragement from one another! God urges us to keep it a part of our lives in Hebrews 10:25: *Let us not give up meeting together,*

*as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-
-and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

I look forward to gathering with you and publicly worshipping our God together this holiday season!

- Pastor Wilde

**Church Council News:
Our financial report – as of October 2018**

	Month	Year to Date
Budget Requirements	\$48,793.42	\$487,934.20
Offerings	\$44,859.26	\$429,096.64
Tuition/FEF/ Reg	\$ 2,299.13	\$ 29,982.33
Other	\$1.13	\$ 2,960.32
Total Receipts	\$47,159.72	\$462,039.29
Actual Expenses	\$51,353.19	\$471,925.20
Difference	-\$4,193.47	-\$ 9,885.91

Owed to Internal Line of Credit: \$37,000

The council approved the transfer in Matthew Monroe from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (WELS), Burton.

A special Voters' meeting will be held on December 11 at 7pm to approve the 2019 budget. We will be having an open forum in January.

A committee is being formed to plan for our 150th anniversary in 2019.

OUR CHURCH IS READY FOR CHRISTMAS



- Dec 9** PTO sponsored cookie walk after both services
Dec 9 6pm Band/ Choir Concert at school
Dec 12 7pm Advent Service
potluck at 5:30pm; service at 7pm
Dec 20 6:30pm Children's Service
Dec 24 7pm & 10pm Candlelight Services



Dec 25 10am
Christmas Day
Festival Service

Dec 31 6pm
New Year's Eve
Communion Service

Come and join the celebration!