

**Salem Ev Lutheran Church
Pentecost 18**

**Pastor Bare & Pastor Wilde
October 1 & 4, 2020**

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 401

**Your works, not mine, O Christ, Speak gladness to this heart.
They tell me all is done; They bid my fear depart.
To whom but you, Who can alone For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?**

**Your blood, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my sinful soul;
Your wounds, not mine, contain The balm that makes me whole.
To whom but you, Who can alone For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?**

**Your cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the dreadful load
Of sins that none could bear But the incarnate God.
To whom but you, Who can alone For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?**

**Your death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ransom due;
Ten thousand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
To whom but you, Who can alone For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?**

**Your righteousness, O Christ, Alone can cover me;
No other righteousness Can set a sinner free.
To whom but you, Who can alone For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?**

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Jonah 4:5-11

Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city. He made a shelter for himself there and sat in the shade under it, waiting to see what would happen in the city. Then the Lord God provided a plant and made it grow up over Jonah to provide shade over his head, to relieve him from his discomfort. So Jonah was very happy about the plant. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, so he said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" Jonah said, "I do have a right to be angry—angry enough to die!" So the Lord said, "You have been concerned about this plant. You did not work for it or make it grow. It grew up in one night and perished after one night. So should I not be concerned for Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who do not know the difference between their right hand and their left—and also many animals?"

HYMN 288, 1 & 6

**The gospel shows the Father's grace,
Who sent his Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died
That we might thus be justified.**

**May we in faith its message learn
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 9:6b-16

Not all who are descended from Israel are really Israel, and not all who are descended from Abraham are really his children. On the contrary, "Your line of descent will be traced through Isaac." This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are counted as his descendants. For this is what the promise said: "I will arrive at this set time, and Sarah will have a son." Not only that, but Rebekah also had children by one man, our forefather, Isaac. Even before the twins were born or did anything good or bad, in order that God's purpose in election might continue— not by works but because of him who calls us—it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger." Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved,

but Esau I hated.” What will we say then? Does this mean that God is unjust? Absolutely not! For God says to Moses: I will show mercy to whom I show mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion. So then, it does not depend on human desire or effort, but on God’s mercy.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

“Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. To these he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.’ So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, ‘Why have you stood here all day unemployed?’ “They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ “He told them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.’ “When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: ‘Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!’ “But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. Can’t I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last.”

HYMN OF THE DAY 390

**Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor.
Good works cannot avert our doom;
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is the one Redeemer.**

**What God does in his law demand
And none to him can render,
Brings wrath and woe on ev'ry hand
For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires
The spirit of the law requires,
And lost is our condition.**

**It is a false, misleading dream
That God his law has given
That sinners can themselves redeem**

**And by their works gain heaven.
The law is but a mirror bright
To bring the inbred sin to light
That lurks within our nature.**

**Yet as the law must be fulfilled
Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the law obeyed
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.**

**Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead;
Your death is now my life indeed,
For you have paid my ransom.**

**All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by his grace
All glory to his merit!
O Triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed your saving love;
Your blessed name be hallowed!**

SERMON

FORGET FAIRNESS

Matthew 20:1-16

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN 384

**By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why waver at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
So then this word must true remain:
By grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.**

**By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died, your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought him from his heav'nly throne.**

**By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise
When you are by your sins oppressed,
When Satan plagues your troubled conscience,
And when your heart is seeking rest.
What reason cannot comprehend
God by his grace to you did send.**

**By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried --
By grace, despite all fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?**

**By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice.
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad; all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.**

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

♪ Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glory.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

I will give you thanks for you have become my salvation.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

♪ O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen.

Distribution

Prayer

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Announcements**HYMN 756**

**We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe him near.**

**We may not touch his hands and side Nor follow where he trod,
But in his promise we rejoice And cry, "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, And may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near And seek where you are found.**

**For you, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.**

**Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light,
We may behold you as you are With full and endless sight.**

(Hymns used with permission obtained from One License with license #A-715074)

The Owosso Lutheran Hour is provided by Carol Hanchett in thankfulness to God for her many blessings.

The Altar Flowers are placed in loving memory of Edna Elvin by Karen Kilpatrick and family.

This week at Salem

Sunday	8 & 10:30am	Worship Services
	9:30am	Bible Class AT SCHOOL
	1:30pm	Public School Confirmation Class
Monday	6:30pm	Bible Class via ZOOM
Tuesday	10:30am	Bible Class AT CHURCH
Wednesday	6:00pm	Handbells
	7:00pm	Bible Information Class
Thursday	7:00pm	Communion Service

	September 20	To Date
Offerings received	\$ 9,002.56	\$ 406,289.64
FEF/Tuition/ Reg	\$ 1,227.00	\$ 24,973.09
Other/ Interest	\$ 0	\$ 961.50
Total:	\$ 10,229.56	\$ 432,224.23
Budgetary needs	\$12,588.37	\$478,261.54
Difference	-\$ 2,356.27	-\$46,637.24



Owed to internal line of credit: \$0

OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER GROWTH AT SALEM

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Mondays at 6:30PM, starting October 5

Dig in even deeper! Join your Salem family in reading and discussing the book Civil Government: God's Other Kingdom by Professor Daniel Deutschlander. The relationship between church and state in America can be contentious, often regarded by Christians as a confusing mess that is best ignored. Yet both earthly government and the heavenly church body are God's blessings to us—both were established to carry out his will here on earth. The book uses Scripture to guide and motivate our attitudes and actions as we wrestle with our roles as citizens of Christ's church and here on earth. First looking at government during biblical times and then tracing church-state relations since then, this book concludes by addressing the current state of affairs. You'll be left with a better understanding of citizenship in your community here and in God's family.