



Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2026

9 a.m. Divine Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class

Rev. Jonah J. A. Schultz, Pastor

Deaconess Linda Strubbe | Principal Joy Reitsma | Music Director Bruce Engebrecht

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Second Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 1:3-4 – “He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” We have an inheritance waiting for us. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use earthly treasures for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

The Sacrament of the Altar

In the Divine Service, we eat and drink the body and blood of Jesus, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and hell, and life everlasting. This meal is much more than a symbol or expression of faith. It's the substantial Son of God giving Himself—His own body and blood—to His people. With deep thankfulness for Jesus Christ's gifts to us here at Salem, we desire to celebrate the Holy Communion according to our heavenly Father's Will. Because this includes oneness in the faith we confess (doctrine), guests who desire to commune and confess Christ's Truth with us are asked to speak with Pastor before the service.

Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Service Notes and Propers of the Day

Order of Service	LSB 151, Divine Service, Setting One
Hymn of Invocation	465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds
Credal Hymn	941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God
Hymn of the Day	470 O Sons and Daughters of the King
Offering	487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain
Distribution	467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness
Hymns	527 O Savior, Precious Savior 818 In Thee Is Gladness
Hymn to Depart	473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

Introit

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3



Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*

make known his deeds among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*

tell of all his | wondrous works!

Glory in his | holy name;*

let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD | and his strength;*

seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered.

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*

the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6



c Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands,*
he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- Today's Altar Flowers were given by Larry & Retha Vincent in Celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 3rd.
- Today's Altar Flowers were given by John & Sandy Winkelman in Celebration of their 48th Wedding Anniversary.
- Today's Radio Broadcast was Sponsored by John & Sandy Winkelman in Celebration of their 48th Wedding Anniversary.
- Thank you to all the following who volunteered to deliver Doorbell Dinners during the week of March 30-April 3: Jane and Hugh Henderson, Elaine Jarman, Mary Anne Lawson, Sharon and Arnie DeLong, Ruth Werries, Lucille Hannel, Linda Strubbe, Joy Reitsma, and Salem Middle School students (Dalaney Harper, Abigail Pentecost, Layton Smith, Carter Smith). We will need volunteers for our next assigned week April 27-May 1. Please contact Rita Tendick at 217-473-5017 if you are available to help.

Services

- Salem School Chapel at 9:20 a.m. Join us to sing, pray, and hear Christ's Word with our students.
- Join your Salem family at Wednesday Evening prayer services at 5:30pm

- Swaddling Clothes: We will be hosting our April shopping day on April 14th from 12:30pm-2:30pm We are still seeking someone who speaks French who would be willing to assist us with translation at our shopping days. Approximately one-third of our clients are French speaking, and it is difficult for us to communicate with them. We would like to survey their physical and spiritual needs. If you know of anyone who speaks French and is willing to assist, please contact me. I have contacted Illinois College to see if they have any students who are studying French who may be able to assist and am waiting on a response. Please continue to keep the Swaddling Clothes Ministry and the families who use this service in your prayers.

Bible Study

- Wednesday morning Bible Study with Pastor Schultz at 10am. Join us in building upon the solid rock of Christ together.
- Friendship Bible Study: is scheduled for Monday April 13th at 6pm
- Lay Men's Confessions Study: Join us for a joint study of the Book of Concord led by Rev. Kettner of St. John's, Beardstown and Rev. Schultz. We meet monthly at the Mathis house in Arenzville for study and beer at 6:30pm. Our next meeting is Apr. 17th. Join brothers from area congregations as we learn what it means to stand firm in the faith and live Christ's truth in our vocations each day.

- Leo's Pack the House Night: April 16th Pack the house at Leo's Dine in or carry out and help support Salem School! Make sure to mention Salem when ordering so we get credit. Your participation makes a difference, thank you for supporting our school community!

- Salem Lutheran School Fine Arts Night: Come and see our individual and classroom talent showcase, along with our display of students' themed artwork on Thursday, April 23rd, at 6:00 PM. Join us for an evening filled with creativity, music, and artistic expression as we celebrate the diverse talents of our students.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy the performances and view the unique art pieces created.

- Salem Students Sing in Church: Come join us for service on Sunday, April 26th, where our school students will sing in church. We look forward to welcoming everyone to this special occasion and sharing the joy of music together.

Meetings

- Committee Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday April 14th at 6:30pm
- PTL Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday April 21st at 5:30pm
- Elders Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday April 28th at 6:30pm
- LWML Meeting: There will be an LWML meeting on Monday, May 18th at 3:00pm here at Salem

- Salem Lutheran School Coin Wars: Salem Lutheran School Coin Wars is kicking off April 27 and runs through May 1! We invite everyone to join the fun and support our school by donating coins. Please drop off your coin donations in the main hallway. Thank you for your generosity and support!
- RENEWAL TIME: It is time to renew/subscribe to the Lutheran Witness. The June/July issue will be combined so there will only be 11 magazines mailed. The yearly price for 2026 is \$23.50 per year. If you would like to renew/subscribe, please let the office know. We will need payment and your mailing address by May 1st. Thank you!
- EASTER BREAKFAST: Thank you so much to everyone who came, enjoyed breakfast, visited, and celebrated Easter! What a wonderful morning we had. We served 125-130 people! Thank you to everyone who donated sweets. They were delicious! Thank you to Emily and Darin Gehrke, Tim and Connie Lawson, Levi, John, Jackie, Brandon and Ally Steinacher for setting up, serving and cleaning up. Thanks again!
- LWML CID Mission Grant #6: Our Savior Lutheran in Uganda - \$3,956.00. The Lutheran Church of Uganda is building Our Savior Lutheran School next to the Lutheran seminary in Magamaga so local children can attend a school not operated by Muslims. Three classrooms have been built so far. These Funds would give support for student tuition, room, board, and building costs. *How can I help? Pray that God provides the opportunity for these children to learn about God and his love for them. Support this grant by donating to your church's LWML group mite fund.*

Donations for Orphan Grain Train

Types of Donations: Orphan Grain Train accepts a variety of donations including:

- Clothing: New or gently used clothing for men, women, children, and infants. Coats, mittens, gloves, boots, shoes, socks, etc. Please no camo, stains, rips, or broken zippers. ANY SIZE!
- Medical Supplies: Items such as braces, bandages, walkers, wheelchairs, etc.
- Food: Non-perishable food items to help those in need.
- Other Supplies: This includes bedding, diapers, hygiene kits, school supplies, and Christian literature.

PLEASE DROP ITMES AT CHURCH BY APRIL 23RD!

We Are Fearless With Jesus!

Vacation Bible School will be taking place on July 8-10 from 8-11 am each day and we need your help. If you are able to help in any of the following roles, please talk to Joely Dolen or Mary Schultz

- Group leader (supervising children and taking them to each station)
- Game leader (materials and game instructions provided)
- Craft leader (materials and craft instructions provided)
- Signing children in and out
- Taking picture

Week of April 5th



Apr 2 nd - Maundy Thursday	
Attendance	68
Operating	\$ 1,030.00
Leap	\$ 20.00
Restricted	\$ 200.00
Apr 3 rd - Good Friday	
Attendance	70
Operating	\$ 866.00
Apr 4 th - Easter Vigil	
Attendance	32
Apr 5 th - Easter	
Attendance	222
Communion	171
Operating	\$ 8,750.50
Leap	\$ 1,145.00
Restricted	\$ 7,968.00
Auction Results	
Total Funds	\$ 11,491.70

Prayer List

Members and friends in need of prayer: John Werries, Rodney Havens, David Vortman, Stephanie Bezler, Roberta Mckee, Carole Holt, Dwayne Middendorf, Bob Morris, Ron Hudec, Donna Moody.

Please contact the church office to be added/removed from the Prayer List.

Salem is a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



2026 April - May



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
April 12 Divine Service -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	April 13 Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm	April 14 Swaddling Clothes 12:30-2:30 Committee Meeting - 6:30pm	April 15 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am	April 16 Leo's Pack the House Night	April 17 Lay Men's Confessions Study - 6:30pm	April 18
April 19 Divine Service -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	April 20	April 21 PTL Meeting - 5:30pm	April 22 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am	April 23 Fine Arts Night	April 24	April 25
April 26 Divine Service -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am Salem Students Sing in Church	April 27 Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm Coin Wars Begin	April 28 Elders Meeting - 6:30pm	April 29 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am	April 30	May 1 Coin Wars End	May 2
May 3 Divine Service -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	May 4	May 5	May 6 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am	May 7	May 8	May 9
May 3 Divine Service -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	May 4	May 5	May 6 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am	May 7	May 8	May 9