

SUNDAY, September 13th

Attendance 113
Communion 98

Operating \$ 16,780.60
Restricted \$ 1,744.42
Leap \$ 1,905.00



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 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

salemjax.net | salemjaxschool.net | 217-243-3419

Proper 20a – The Time of the Church

Matthew 20:9 – “And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.” Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God’s being is His generosity.

A Note for guests on the Lord’s Supper

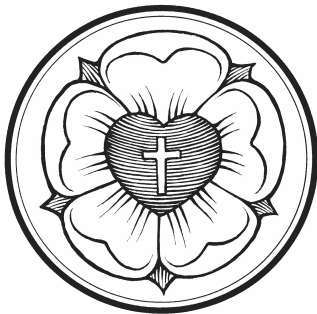
In the Divine Service, we eat and drink the body and blood of Jesus, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and hell, and life everlasting. This meal is much more than a symbol or expression of faith. It’s the substantial Son of God giving Himself— His own body and blood—to 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.**

On the Hymn of the Day: “Salvation unto Us has Come” (LSB 555)

The hymn appointed for this day in the Church Year, “Salvation unto Us has Come,” was written in 1523 by Paul Speratus in a prison cell. He had been imprisoned for holding to the Evangelical Lutheran doctrine of justification by faith in Christ Jesus. This hymn sprang forth from Speratus’s deep conviction: Jesus Christ alone justifies the sinner and saves him from sin, death, and the devil.

Martin Luther loved this hymn and published it in 1523 as part of the first Lutheran hymnal. It contains in brief the entire doctrine of Law and Gospel, proclaiming the truth of the Scriptures and confessing the glory of Christ crucified for us. Over the centuries, this hymn has remained a Reformation classic. Lutherans of every generation have sung this hymn that so joyfully confesses the truth. Pay attention to the words we sing and learn what we Lutherans believe. Today, we again take up the battle cry of our fathers in the faith:

*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 our one redeemer.*



MICHAELMAS AT ST. JOHN'S IN BEARDSTOWN: You are invited to join the Jacksonville Circuit for a Festival Divine Service on the day of St. Michael and All Angels. Our own Bruce Engebrecht will be playing the organ at special request. Date: September 29th (Tuesday) Location: St. John’s in Beardstown, IL Meal: 5:30 p.m. Divine Service: 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to gather for food, fellowship, and the gifts of Christ in Word and Sacrament as we celebrate this feast together.

MEN'S GOLF DAY - Sunday, October 4th , Time - Afternoon (Exact Time TBD) , Time - Afternoon (Exact Time TBD), Location - Jacksonville (Course TBD), Location - Jacksonville (Course TBD), Playing 9 Hole 4-Man Scramble A registration sheet is on the bulletin board. Any questions please contact Wade Mathis 217-690-2693. More information to come, please mark your calendars

2026 ILLINOIS VALLEY LUTHERANS FOR LIFE ANNUAL NUT SALE: The Lutheran for Life Nut Sale started September 13th runs through October 11th. The order forms are in the Narthax. Please consider purchasing some nuts. Thank you

TRIVIA NIGHT: Are you a gameshow player or a walking dictionary of “useless” facts? If so, you would be great on a team at Salem Lutheran Trivia Night. Registration forms are in the narthex. Game night is Friday, September 25th 6:30-8:30. Think about it!

PIE FUNDRAISER: Time to order those pies for the upcoming holidays. Salem Lutheran School students are selling them. Order forms are in the Narthax. Thank you

SPECIAL THANKS OFFERING: The special thanks offering dates have been set. It will begin on Reformation Sunday and run through the end of the year. If anyone would like to add to the funds that have been designated for the match, please contact the office. Our hope with this gift to God is to encourage members to provide an offering in addition to their regular Sunday donations. Thank you for your consideration.

PRAYER LIST: Members and friends in need of prayer: Roberta Mckee, Carole Holt, Bob Morris, Ron Hudec, Jack Watkins, Linda Ginder, Mary Kessinger. Linda Aring. Arliss Wenzel

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

NEWS AND NOTES SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

Today’s ***RADIO BROADCAST*** is given to the glory of the Lord by memorials given to the Radio Broadcast in memory of Rob Maschhoff. May the Lord bless this family during this trying time.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: With Pastor Schultz at 10 am. Join us in building upon the solid rock of Christ together.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Starting Sunday in Bible Study we will be studying in Large Catechism provided by a wonderful donor. Please plan on attending and Thank you

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE & CONFIRMATION: During September, Wednesday evening service will start at 5:30 and it will be an evening prayer service and confirmation instructions. Mark your calendars and plan on attending. Thank you

LWML MEETING: The LWML meeting will be Monday, September 21st at 3:00 pm here at Salem. Please mark your calendars and attend. Thank you

MITE BOX SUNDAY: is today! The Ladies Guild Mite Box is in the narthex for donations to the LWML for mission projects. Please contribute. Thank you

ELDERS MEETING: The monthly meeting of the Elders will be held on September 22nd at 6:30 pm. Please mark your calendars

LEAP FUND: The Finance committee reports that our Leap Fund (payment for our mortgage) needs support. Prayerfully consider. Thank you

ALTAR FLOWER ACCOUNT: The Finance committee has decided to create an Altar Flower Restricted Account. This account can be donated to and will be used for the Sunday’s that we do not have anyone signed up for flowers. Thank you

SWADDLING CLOTHES would like to thank everyone who assisted with our shopping day in September. From Salem Lutheran Church: Leta and Sarah Malcott, Michelle Moeller, Cheri and Ben Haney, and Steve Schaefer. From Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: Sharon Dufelmeier, Allison Dufelmeier, Ruth Craig, and Joey Bentley. And from Faith Lutheran Church: Liddy Stark. The volunteers did a wonderful job of serving our clients. We assisted 39 families with 93 children being assisted this month.

Order of Service: Divine Service, Setting Three, LSB 184

953 *We All Believe in One True God*

Salem Kids Sing

Introit



I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

What shall I render | to the LORD*
for all his bene- | fits to me?

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

O LORD, I am your | servant;*
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.

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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.



**C Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.**

Epistle

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .
¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.
²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the

vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Hymn of the Day: 555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

Offering Hymn: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness

**Distribution Hymns: 789 Praise and Thanksgiving
826 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying
853 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord**

Hymn to Depart: 838 The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place

Acknowledgments

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