



May 28-29, 2022
Ascension of Our Lord

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
359 North Leonard Street, West Salem, Wisconsin
608-786-0030 office@oursaviorswestsalem.org
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan M. Schmidt
Pastor Jean R. Schmidt



WELCOME TO WORSHIP! God gathers us through Word and Sacrament to celebrate God's presence and to receive God's gift of grace. God has made us his people through our baptism and keeps us close to him through the preaching of the word and God's presence in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We give thanks today for the gift of faith God has planted in us, and we depart to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We extend a special **welcome** to those who are our guests. May God bless this time of worship for you as we are blessed by your presence. If you have no church home we invite you to join with us and consider Our Savior's as your church home. If you are not baptized and would like to talk about baptism as part of your faith journey, please speak with one of the pastors.

FELLOWSHIP PADS: We ask everyone to sign and pass the fellowship pad in the pew and return it to the rack when done.

OFFERING: No offering is collected during our worship this day; however, we do welcome your support of our ministries and thank you for your gifts. Together we make a difference in the lives of others.

Offering plates are available as you leave the sanctuary. For online giving go to the church website: oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving. Or text 608-471-7267.

Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC "Il Silenzio" - Eric Ender, trumpet

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism... now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!" #393



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers
sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into
your one will. Make us love what you command and
desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes
of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy
is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

Amen.

READING Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶One day, as we were going to the place of prayer,
we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and
brought her owners a great deal of money by
fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she
would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most
High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation."
¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very
much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order
you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her."
And it came out that very hour. ¹⁹But when her
owners saw that their hope of making money was
gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them
into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When
they had brought them before the magistrates, they
said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are
Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not
lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²²The
crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates
had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them
to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them

a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL** John 17:20-26

The Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus prayed: ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

***HYMN**

"Thine the Amen"

#826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

***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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

***PRAYERS**

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

*(Sunday worship - after a brief silence ...The **congregation** is invited to read aloud individually the prayer petitions as the spirit moves them. If more than one person reads the petition, all the better!)*

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please share a sign of peace with those around you.)

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed our right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

***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.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

HOLY COMMUNION All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table. Younger children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Both wine and grape juice are available – grape juice glasses are circled in purple. Gluten free wafers are also available.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***HYMN** "Son of God, Eternal Savior" #655



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

***DISMISSAL** (*Done from the back of the church*)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Il Silenzio"

About six miles from Maastricht, in the Netherlands, lie buried 8,301 soldiers who died in "Operation Market Garden" in the battles to liberate Holland in the fall and winter of 1944-5. Every one of the men buried in the cemetery has been adopted by a Dutch family who mind the grave, decorate it, and keep alive the memory of the soldier they have adopted. It is even the custom to keep a portrait of "their" soldier in a place of honor in their home.

Annually, on "Liberation Day," memorial services are held for "the men who died to liberate Holland." The day concludes with a concert. The final piece is always "Il Silenzio," a memorial piece commissioned by the Dutch and first played in 1965 on the 20th anniversary of Holland's liberation. It has been the concluding piece of the memorial concert ever since.

COME AND WORSHIP: - Join us for worship on Saturdays at 6 PM and Sundays at 8 & 10 AM.

USHERS NEEDED: Go to SignUpGenius on the church website to volunteer.

Check out the June newsletter (www.oursaviorswestsalem.org) to find out more ...

Masks are optional when you are in the building. Thank you!



JUNE DAIRY DAYS IS HERE!

... **FOOD STAND** - LOTS of opportunities at Village Park. Grillers, servers, ticket workers, window workers, and shift leaders are needed.

... **FUN RUN** - Saturday, June 4 – volunteers are needed to help with registration and set-up from 6:30 - 9:00 a.m.



SYNOD-ASSEMBLY OFFERING COLLECTION

During the Synod Assembly Worship at Riverside Park on Sunday, June 12, they will be collecting NEW (in the package) socks and underwear to be shared at Clothes Closets in the Coulee Region.

You are invited to bring these items to church BY JUNE 10 so our assembly delegates can bring them to the worship. There is a box in the gathering area for your donations.

Speaking of worship on June 12th ...

The whole synod is invited to attend the **Worship in the Park** at 10 AM at Riverside Park. Following worship there will be a picnic (food trucks) and time for fellowship with those from around the whole LaCrosse Area Synod. There will also be a time of doing **service projects** around the area. Check out the synod website:

lacrosseareasynd.org/2022-synod-assembly for details (*at the bottom of the page*).

[Parking will be limited. The circle drive around the bandshell area will be open to allow easy drop-off locations for those car-pooling or busing. A limited number of spots will be available around the park and near-by streets. Public ramps are free on weekends.]

FEED OUR CHILDREN SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM -

will be back up and running for summer 2022.

Our current needs are:

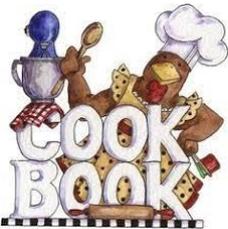
Peanut butter, jams and jellies, ranch dressing, fruit cups or pudding cups, animal crackers, chex mix, veggie straws (bulk or family size is great). And Zip-lock bags (**snack size only** at this time).



If you are interested in helping to prepare food, serve or deliver meals, or have other questions please contact Angie Hemker (608)780-9172 (text is preferred). Please pray for another successful serving season.

LET'S GET COOKIN...

In case you haven't heard ... as part of Pastor Jean's sabbatical, a new cookbook project is on the horizon, but she can't do it alone.



That's where YOU come in ... providing the necessary recipes for a new cookbook. While Pastor Jean is on sabbatical, the congregation is invited to submit your favorite recipe(s), and when Pastor Jean returns, she (along with a few helpers) will compile the recipes and create a new cookbook.

As you share your recipes, you are also invited to **share a short note/comment** about why the recipe is special to you. What's a recipe without a story!

Recipe forms are available in the office or on the front page of the church website. Drop your submissions off in the office, send them by email, or drop them in the mailbox by the East Avenue entrance **by July 15.**

GOSPEL MESSAGE
May 29, 2022
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

It can be difficult to have a benevolent view of humanity. News and social media feed us a steady diet of the wrongdoings of the world. Whether it be mass violence, corporate malfeasance, individual acts of hatred or hurt, or the horrible things we believe the other side is doing, we have no shortage of evidence of the brokenness of human beings.

We might even find biblical support for this low view of people as a whole. We can look back to the creation story in Genesis and God calling all that is created “good,” only to move to the eating of the fruit and the failure of those first two people in their obedience. We can then travel through the whole scriptural narrative and find that it is filled with all the same terrible things we see in our present day.

As Lutherans, we say of ourselves that we are both saint and sinner, but the volume of negative information we encounter about human experience can make it seem that sinfulness and brokenness are our only reality. Sometimes we need a reminder of our goodness and the power of even a little bit of God’s grace to work transformation in and among us.

Today’s gospel passage is one of those blessed reminders. As Jesus prays for his disciples, he notes that others will believe because of their word. He prays for their unity and belief, and that they may know the glory they have been given and the love God has for them. These are tremendous gifts of grace.

Our Easter proclamation demonstrates the power of their word. We are the heirs of their witness, unity, belief, and glory. Though there may be plenty of evidence that says otherwise, we are the glorious beloved through whom God is working to bring goodness and mercy into people’s lives today.

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