

# *Salem Lutheran Church*

115 N. Washington Ave., Albert Lea

## *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

*May 12, 2024*

*The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!*

## *Gathering*

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Recognition of Our High School Graduates**

Congregation response: **We will.**

**Presentation of Scholarships**

**Presentation of the Quilts**

Sew 'N Tell

**\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep  
and water became the essence of life.**

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea

into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

**By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.**

We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**\*HYMN**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

#392

**\*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.**

**\*Kyrie**

pp. 147-148

**\*Canticle of Praise**

This Is the Feast/Worthy is Christ

pp. 149-150

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## *Word*

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

*In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.*

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 1**

*The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching | day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves  
that | do not wither;  
everything they | do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so | with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed. R**

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13**

*God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.*

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation (ELW #174- Celtic Alleluia, sung before and after Pastor sings a verse)**

**\*GOSPEL READING: John 17:6-19**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.*

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord,

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Mark Boorsma**

**\*HYMN**

I Come with Joy

ELW #482

**\* 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 OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction especially Dorie, Cynthia, Larry, Woody, Dean, Tom, Marianne, Mary, Kermit, Roger, Roger, Harold, and all others on our hearts and minds this day. Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. We pray for the family and friends of Shirley Eustis.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## *Thanksgiving*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING**

*We very much appreciate your continued giving and generosity at this time.*

*Offering can be placed in the offering plate at the door.*

**\*OFFERTORY**

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

vs. 1 #362

**\* THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end

bring all the world to your feast;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior  
and Lord, to whom, with you and  
the Holy Spirit, be honor and  
glory forever. **Amen.**

**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.**

*Sending*

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.  
**Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

Thine the Amen

#826

**\*DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**Assisting in Worship**

Lector: Patti Cotton

Coffee: Hosted by the Friday Morning Bible Study Group

Ushers: Frank & Pat Gjersvik

**The flowers** near the altar are given in honor of and in memory of all Salem mothers.

**Thank you** to Jan Reshetar for the beautiful music this morning.

**This morning** we will honor our high school graduates Derrek Laite and Emily Heilman at a 9:00 a.m. reception hosted by the Friday Morning Bible Study and at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Please greet them.

**Salem member**, Shirley Eustis passed away on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Her funeral will be May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the American Legion.

**This Week at Salem**

Tuesday, May 14: 8:30 a.m. Sew 'N Tell

Thursday, May 16: 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Friday, May 17: 6:30 a.m. Friday Morning Bible Study

Sunday, May 19: 9:00 a.m. Coffee

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**

If you would like to share geraniums with Salem on Pentecost Sunday the cost is \$6 each. Please fill out the form below and include payment to Salem Altar Guild. **Today is the last day to order.**

#\_\_\_\_\_ of geraniums                      Name:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ will pick up                      \_\_\_ will not pick up