

# *Salem Lutheran Church*

115 N. Washington Ave., Albert Lea

## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*May 15, 2022*

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

## *Gathering*

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Prelude

Announcements

Synod Assembly Update

Beth Spande

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism,  
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,  
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, God, for your river of life,  
flowing freely from your throne:  
through the earth,  
through the city,  
through every living thing.  
You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;  
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.  
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,  
and our sin is drowned forever.  
You open the gate of righteousness  
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.  
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.  
You call us forth and send us out.  
In lush and barren places, you are with us.  
You have become our salvation.  
Now breathe upon this water  
and awaken your church once more.  
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.  
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.  
To you, our Beginning and our End,  
our Shepherd and Lamb,  
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**HYMN**

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

#367

**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 Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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 11:1-18**

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for

nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’<sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’<sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.<sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.<sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.<sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.<sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?”<sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 148**

*The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;  
praise God | in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;  
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,  
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they | were created,

<sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD | from the earth,  
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, | snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains | and all hills,  
fruit trees | and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts | and all cattle,  
creeping things and | flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers | of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young | men and maidens,  
old and | young together. R**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name | of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah! R**

**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6**

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING: John 13:31-35**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The gospel of the Lord,

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**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**

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.*

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us (*local natural areas may be named*). Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress especially Woody, Larry, Susan, Shirley, Larry, Marianne, Annette and all others on our hearts and minds this day. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ.

God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

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 all.  
**And also with you.**

## *Meal*

*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**

**Create In Me a Clean Heart**

**#186**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION IN PEWS**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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.**

## *Sending*

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

**Blessing**

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

**HYMN**

**Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing**

**#389**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Welcome**

**Everyone is welcome.** As a community of the people of God, the members of Salem Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

**Your offering** can be placed in the offering plate at the door. Extra offering envelopes are available in case you left yours at home

**Please pray throughout the week for the following:** Woody Hestness, Larry Enderson, Susan Storlie, Shirley Eustis, Larry Sunde, Marianne DePoppe, Annette Petersen.

**Noisy Offering** for May will be going to help support the Little Free Pantry.

A flower chart is now available near the elevator entrance to sign up to give flowers.

**Special thank you** to Bev Lombardi for playing our organ this morning.

Assisting in Worship:

Worship Assistant: Pam Jacobsen

Usher:

Coffee: Beth Spande

This Week at Salem

Tuesday, May 17: 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

-Friday, May 20: 6:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study

-Next Sunday, May 22: 9:00 a.m. –Worship Service

Contact information for: Pastor Daphne Hamborg

Phone: 507-473-5337 Email: [hamborg4144@gmail.com](mailto:hamborg4144@gmail.com)

Red Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday – June 5<sup>th</sup>

Plants are \$5.25. Please include payment to Salem Altar Guild

\_\_\_ # of plants

\_\_\_ will pick up

\_\_\_ will not pick up

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_