



SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Living Out God's Love

An Open and Affirming Congregation

September 11, 2022

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Introit: *Who At My Door is Standing*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (Responsively):

Look around. What wonders we behold!

We see others, gathered here to worship and praise God.

Each person here is a unique, beloved creation of God.

Each person here is given special gifts and talents by God.

Come, let us worship God who has blessed us so mightily.

Let us praise God with our whole hearts, souls, minds, and spirits!

*Hymn: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

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*Prayer of Confession (Responsively):

We believe, O Lord, that you willingly gave of yourself to put the pieces of our lives together, calling upon us to love and to serve ...

We believe, but we do not always love and serve.

We believe, O Lord, that you have given us power of your Spirit, to seek the impossible and accomplish the amazing in your name

We believe, but have been too timid or lazy to try.

We believe, that Jesus rose to proclaim a life that never ends, a life that places fear and the power of death behind us, a life which is full of God's presence for us now ...

We believe, but we often live as if we only half-believe.

Teach us again, O God, that the first part of believing is proclaiming belief, and the completing part of believing is showing belief. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):

Peter believed, until in fear he denied even knowing Jesus; yet, he became the founder of the Church in Jerusalem.

The disciples believed, as long as all went well. They went on to establish the Church of Christ against huge odds.

We thank you, our God, that we are not called only once, but continually!

Reading from the Epistles: I Timothy 1: 12-17 p. 1082

BRC Anthem: *I Saw the Light*

Reading from the Gospels: Luke 15: 1-10 p. 954

Communion Meditation "We All Live Downstream" Dr. Robinson

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(... concludes with the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The Institution

Sharing the Bread and Wine: *The elements will be served to you in the pews. The bread is gluten-free, nut-free and casein-free. The inner rows of cups contain grape juice, while the outer row contains wine.*

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering
 Offertory
 *Doxology: tune: 780
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God for all that love has done;
 Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**
 Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn *Take My Life, God, Let It Be* 448

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

An asterisk (*) where those who are able should stand as an act of worship.
 Hearing-assistance devices are available in the entrance near the canopy.

STAFF and SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Interim Minister Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson trobinson@salemchurchverona.org	Office Administrator Cara Bahr cbahr@salemchurchverona.org
Director of Music Dawn Lingard dawn.Lingard@landsend.com	Scripture Reader Cindy Remus
Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry Sarah Pundt spundt@salemchurchverona.org	Communion Servers Guy Williams, Karen Williams, Randy Marks, George Adams

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Today	6:30PM - Youth Kickoff Meeting
Monday, September 12	Eve - Boy Scouts
Tuesday, September 13	5:30-6:30PM - Cub Scouts
	6PM - Finance
	7PM - Council
Wednesday, September 14	6PM - BRC
	7PM - Chancel Choir
Thursday, September 15	1:30PM - Women's Guild Special Meeting
	7PM - Koinonia (Women's Fellowship)
Sunday, September 18	9AM - Celebration Potluck Breakfast
	10:15AM - Worship
	6:30PM - Youth Gathering

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S GUILD SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Salem Women's Guild is planned for Thursday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. To continue our mission, of which we believe our congregation is a strong supporter, a restructure of the Guild is being considered due to a decrease in active members. A letter with questionnaire has been prepared, which will be sent in the near future to Salem UCC's membership. We wish to discuss this letter along with further thoughts on how funeral luncheons should be handled at Salem.

We encourage any who are interested to please attend this important meeting, which will be held in the fellowship hall.

MEALS FOR MADISON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Every Friday for many years St. Marks Lutheran Church in Madison has provided a free noon meal for the community. In the past Salem UCC participated as a volunteer organization to help staff this meal once per month. The job involves preparing, serving and cleaning up for their Friday noon meal. We need 4 to 5 volunteers who can help at St. Marks from approximately 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the chosen Friday. We are currently exploring whether or not we can commit to supplying volunteers one Friday a month. We would need a group of 10 or 15 people who might be interested in periodically going to St. Marks to help out. Here is a link with more information <http://www.stmarksmadison.org/friday-meal.aspx>

If you are interested in being a part of this volunteer opportunity please contact John Cashman at jchange@tds.net or 608-720-0719. We are exploring our ability to commit to providing volunteers the first Friday of every month.

LIVE STREAM HELP

Kevin Booth is looking for some volunteers interesting in helping with live-streaming our Sunday services. If you are interested, let Kevin or the church office know.

CELEBRATION POTLUCK BREAKFAST

What we missed most during the pandemic was fellowship with each other. This breakfast is our official Welcome Back! event to that sense of community. And since we know everything is different in our post-pandemic world, we welcome you forward to the possibilities that lie ahead in our new normal.

Everyone is invited to join us for a celebration potluck breakfast in fellowship hall on September 18 @ 9am. Please bring a dish to pass. Kitchen volunteers are needed. Please contact Sarah Pundt to help.

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