



SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Living Out God's Love

An Open and Affirming Congregation

September 4, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (Responsively):

We find it easy to say, "Yes, we will follow Christ."

But sometimes discipleship makes uncomfortable demands on us.

Yet, in all of this, Christ calls us continually to follow.

Jesus Christ is present with us at all times.

Let us place our trust always in God's guidance.

Let us open our hearts to God's will and God's ways.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn: *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* 495

*Prayer of Confession (Unison):

O God, our creator and sovereign, you have made us to live in freedom and joy before you, in the oneness of love shared with all creation. We praise you for the goodness in the world and within us. We seek your help in fulfilling your intentions for us. However, sometimes we give our loyalty to things other than you. Sometimes we fall into despair or self-pity. Sometimes we separate ourselves from others by our self-centeredness. Fill us with new life, O God, with new joy and new hope, so that we may help to make the world more nearly what you want it to be, through the ministry that we do for Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silent, Personal Prayers of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):

God says to us: "You are my chosen ones. Know that I have forgiven you. I call you by name; you are mine. I have entered into covenant with you and will stand by you in all times and places."

We dare to live fully the life to which God has called us. Amen.

First Reading : Reading from the Epistles Philemon, selected verses

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (Unison):

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.

Reading from the Gospels: Luke 14: 25-33 p. 954

Sermon: "Forgiving and Expecting Mistakes" Dr. Robinson

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: *Children of God* 533

Benediction

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

STAFF and SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Interim Minister

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson
trobenson@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Music

Dawn Lingard
dawn.Lingard@landsend.com

Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry

Sarah Pundt
spundt@salemchurchverona.org

Office Administrator

Cara Bahr
cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

Scripture Reader

Cindy Remus

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, September 4

9AM - Worship

Wednesday, September 7

6PM - BRC

7PM - Chancel Choir

Sunday, September 11

9AM - Worship

6:30PM - Youth Kickoff Meeting

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