Salem Lutheran Church and School

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

May 9, 2021

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD



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Rev. Martin Dressler, Pastor

828-206-4556

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Rev. Alger J. Tormoehlen, Honorary Pastor Emeritus

Church Office: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Monday-Thursday 314-741-6781

5180 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033 Fax 314-741-1797 School Office: 7:45 AM - 3:45 PM -Jeff Burkee, Int. Principal 314-741-8220 5190 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033 Fax 314-741-7242

Website: www.salembimo.org

Church Email: salemchurch@salembjmo.org

Divine Services: Sunday 10:00 AM; Monday 7:00 PM

WELCOME to the Lord's House today! May God help us to worship Him in spirit and in truth! Before you leave, guests are requested to sign the guest book, which is located in the narthex. Both guests and members are asked to fill out an attendance card, located in the pews, returning it as you leave. We invite you to return and worship with us again. If you do not have a regular church home, then we invite you to join our family. May this celebration of the mercy of God enrich your spiritual life and be uplifting for each one of you.

A COMFORT ROOM is available during the Sunday services for young children and their parents. There are many toys and books available. If you need help, directions, or have any questions, please ask an usher. Parents, please do not leave your children unattended.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available in the narthex. The bags contain a coloring book, drawing paper, reading books, crayons, and a pencil. Parents are welcome to grab a bag for their children to use during the service. Please remember to replace the bag following worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available on the table in the narthex. These feature a coloring sheet and activities for children based on the Scripture readings of the day. Please help yourself.

INDIVIDUAL HEARING ASSISTANCE SETS are available for those with impaired hearing. Please ask an usher for assistance.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available in the narthex.

Sharing the caring CHRIST, ...here, there, and everywhere

HOLY COMMUNION

In accordance with the historic practice of the Christian Church, our congregation practices close communion, meaning that normally our members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations commune here. Please speak to the pastor about exceptions to this general practice. Please also note that this practice in no way intends to comment on the state of anyone else's faith: we simply understand our communing together is also a public profession of unity in doctrine, which not everyone shares. Those who do not commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to indicate that you are not communing) or remain in the pew during communion and pray.

LIFE THOUGHT

"My body, my choice," says a sinful world. "You did not choose me, but I chose you" (John 15:16), answers a loving God. Motherhood comes about by His gift, not because of our will. Choice forces us to look out only for number one, but grace invites us to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Praise the Lord for mother's love!

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (LSB 493, stzs 1-4)



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INVOCATION AND OPENING RESPONSORY

L: In the name of the Father and of the \pm Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Not only is He risen,

C: He is also ascended to the right hand of God, the seat of authority.

L: God has placed all things under His feet,

C: Things in heaven and things on earth.

L: Our tongues declare it.

C: Our mouths sing it.

L: But often, our *lives* do not confess it. So let us go before the Lord Jesus, who is the head of the church, seeking His pardon.

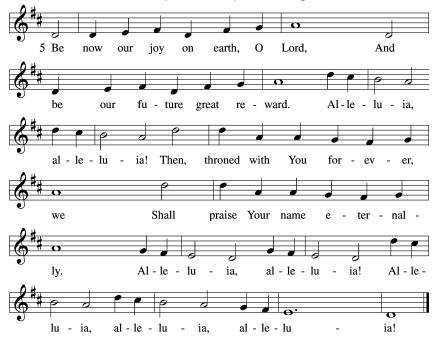
C: Lord Jesus Christ, You are Lord of heaven and earth. Nothing happens in this world or in our lives without Your permitting it. Yet I have doubted. I have doubted Your power and Your goodness and have tried to rule my life in Your stead. In fear, I have withheld words and deeds that were called for, and so I have failed to serve my neighbor. Have mercy on me, Lord Jesus. Forgive my sin and give me faith to trust Your rule in my life. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ rules over all things. He has conquered sin and death by dying and rising again. And He conquered them for *you*. As a called and ordained ambassador of Jesus Christ, in His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



HYMN OF RESPONSE: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (LSB 493, stz 5)



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INTROIT

L: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

C: The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

L: The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

C: The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST







SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given

commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 47

- L: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
- C: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.
- L: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
- C: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- L: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- C: Sing praises to God, sing praises!
 Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
- L: For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!
- C: God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
- L: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.
- C: For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter. C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was

carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Iesus Christ.

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man:

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified.

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \pm of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: Up through Endless Ranks of Angels (LSB 491)



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SERMON: "No Strings Attached" Eph. 1:22-23 Pastor Dressler

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

(Please sit)

OFFERING (prayer requests)

OFFERING VERSE - "God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne." Psalm 47:8

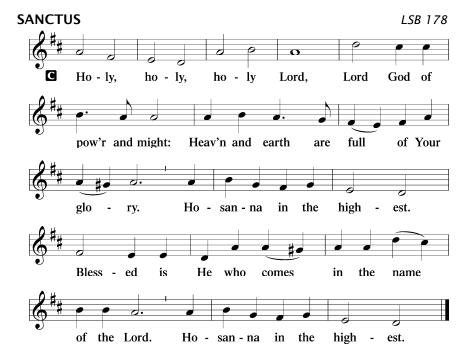
(Please stand)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin. Follow the direction of the usher to approach the altar. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

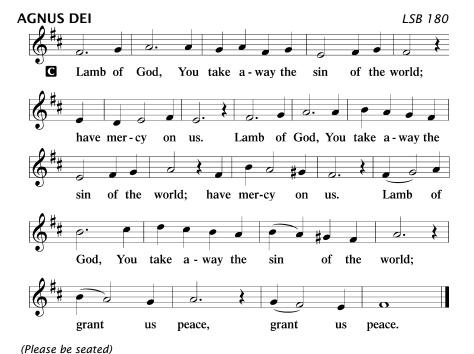
C: Our Father who art in heaven,

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.

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: Amen.



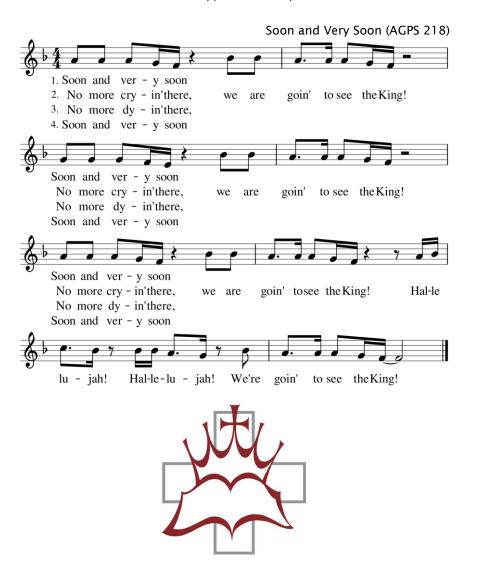


DISTRIBUTION MUSIC





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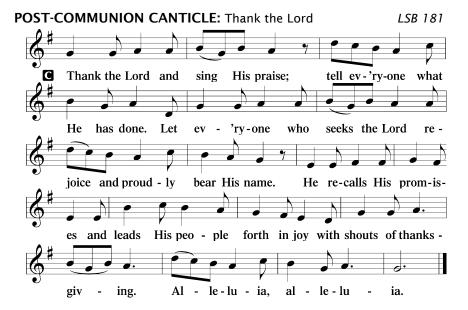






- 5 Then let us now draw near, Washed in that precious flood And enter the Most Holy Place By Jesus' blood. From hearts that are sincere, Let tongues our hope profess, And trust anew God's faithful grace That we confess.
- △ 6 All praise to Christ we bring, Our Lord who intercedes, Our great High Priest enthroned above Who knows our needs; And to the Father sing Our songs of thankful praise, Who with the Spirit reigns in love For endless days.

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C: Amen.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - "I preach that he [Christ] sits on the right hand of God and rules over all creatures, sin, death, life, world, devils, and angels; if you believe this, you already have him in your heart. Therefore your heart is in heaven, not in an apparition or dream, but truly. For where he is, there you are also. So he dwells and sits in your heart, yet he does not fall from the right hand of God. Christians experience and feel this clearly." Martin Luther

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book
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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS For the week of May 9 through May 16

TODAY: Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM

DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

Elders 11:15AM

MONDAY: Sewing Circle (Quilters) 8:30AM

DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

TUESDAY: Women's Bible Study 4:15PM

Board of Christian Education 7:00PM

Kingdom Workers 7:15PM

THURSDAY: Sewing Circle (Quilters) 8:30AM

Lutherans for Life 7:00PM

FRIDAY: Gospel of John Bible Study 10:30AM

NEXT SUNDAY: Bible Study and Sunday School 8:45AM

DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD For the week of May 2, 2021 Adult Bible Class 19 Friday morning Bible Class 8

Worship Service Attendance
April 25 - [78]; April 26 - [10] =88

Online views April 25 - [54]

Tithes and Offerings
April 25: \$11,155.00
Weekly Offerings Budget: \$8,100.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in honor of Salem's oldest mother, Emma Helmkamp, and Salem's newest mother, Shadrah Huels.
- 2. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY from our Lutherans for Life Chapter at Salem. We appreciate each and every one of you. You have given us the gift of life. After worship we are gifting you a live plant for your flower bed. Everyone is invited to attend our next meeting.
- 3. BIBLE STUDY -Temptation . . . sometimes it's obvious, sometimes it's so subtle that you don't even realize it's happening. Regardless, EVERY Christian is tempted, and usually even more than the non-Christian. Join us for a study of the spiritual battle we all face as we read through C. S. Lewis' classic The Screwtape Letters. As we bring this book together with Scripture, you will have a greater understanding of what temptation is and how to war against it. Pastor Dressler will provide a copy for \$8 if you do not have one. Just let him know, or call the office, if you would like one. Alternatively, PDF versions are available online.

<u>To access by phone</u>: 415-762-9988 or 646-568-7788. Follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked (798 4070 1280#). When asked to enter participant code hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (5180#).

To access online: Go to Zoom.com. Click "join a meeting" at the top of the page, and enter 798 4070 1280 in meeting ID box. The passcode is 5180. If you've not used Zoom on your computer before, it will ask if you want to download and install it. You do, and it's okay to allow it to make changes to your computer. NOTE: You can do this part ahead of time, so you're all ready to go before Sunday morning. Questions? Call the office! 314-741-6781.

4. STEP UP 4 LIFE is kicking off today. This will be the first time Lutherans for Life is doing a fund raising campaign. The dates are May 8th through July 5th. Our Salem Chapter will have a team and we are inviting everyone to participate on our team. You can choose to donate an amount of money per mile you run, jog or walk. You can also choose to add "miles" by mowing the lawn, rocking in a rocking chair, weight lifting, dancing, slide dancing, hip hop, swinging, reading, wheel chair, singing, drumming, etc. You get the idea! You can be creative!

Or you may wish to donate a lump sum. Either way, we know Salem Lutheran Church is a <u>Life</u> Church. We know we will **Step Up 4 Life**. We will let you how our team is doing.

Please see our Life members to ask questions or donate. Mary Stellhorn, Jane Thur, Judy Neiderwimmer, Ginger Spallek, Cindy Schulz.

<u>5. E-GIVING IS POSSIBLE</u> for making your gifts to Salem! You can download the Abundant app on your smart device and search for Salem Lutheran Church, you can text SALEMBJ to 73256 to receive a link to make your donation, or you can go to:

https://abundant.co/salemlutheranchurch

If you have any questions, please call Lisa Briggs (314) 330-2674.

- 6. THIS WEEK ON KFUO AM850, finish Jude and begin Jeremiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), study 1 Kings 11-16 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and learn how our Confessions interact with our daily life as Lutherans on Concord Matters (5/15 at 10:00 a.m.). Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts!
- 7. DIAPER COLLECTION-Lutherans for Life is again collecting baby diapers from today until Father's Day. We will be donating them to ThriVe this year. ThriVe is a Christ centered organization that empowers women and men to make life-affirming decisions in St. Louis, Bridgeton and St. Peter's. Thanks for your participation. Salem Lutheran is such a willing congregation and so generous with the gifts our Lord has given.
- **8. SALEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL** needs substitute teachers! If you think this might be a good fit for you or someone you know, please get in touch with Susan Scherer in the school office. She can be reached at 314-741-8220 or through email at sscherer@salembjmo.org.

9. VBS 2021 WILDERNESS ESCAPE - We are so looking forward to doing an in-person VBS this year. This is an exciting program that makes learning about Jesus and His love for us extra fun. VOLUNTEERS ARE ESSENTIAL—if you are reading this, we have a job you can do! We need people to do games, crafts, snacks, Bible story time, group leaders to lead groups of participants from one station to another, decorating, setting up and taking down, and much more. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you may call Mrs. Susan Scherer at 314-355-2716 to volunteer. Leave a message if unavailable. Looking forward to seeing you all and having a great VBS this June!

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER: Week of May 9, 2021

- OUR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES: Aniyah Taylord; Jirah Terry; Ronald Thomas
- OUR MEMBERS: Reggie & Dianne Miller and Family; Sharon Miller and Jerrell; Andrew Moen
- OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Alice Schroeder; Alicia Waller; Mary Warner
- OUR ILL / HOSPITALIZED: Don Seay, Norman Loebs, Jan and Rodger Altevogt, Gena (Stellhorn) Neece, Linda Garrison (daughter of Teddy Smith), Jon Smith (son of Teddy Smith), Paul McWilliams, Bill Lichtenberg, Todd Fuller, Cliff Fuller, Alicia Waller, Marilyn Patterson, Leo Russavage, Anthony Mueller (grandson of Larry Riedisser), Bernie Pikal (son-in-law of the Gronemeiers), Karen Becker, and Steve Ziegler.
- OUR SISTER CONGREGATIONS: Immanuel Lutheran Church in Perryville, MO; Faith Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti, Michigan; and Immanuel Lutheran Church in Janesville, Minnesota.
- BIRTHDAYS: Lucretia Jones (5/10), Kristen Jones (5/10), Elizabeth Meer (5/10), Mary Fears (5/11), Jeremy Thomas (5/12), Conner Buenger (5/12), Samuel Buford (5/12), Sandy Niehaus (5/13), Jeff Burkee (5/13), Mark Stegmann (5/13), Laron Coleman (5/14), Hailee Morris (5/14)
- EMPATHY, PATIENCE, MERCY, and an END to racism and violence in our nation
- The community of Bethel Lutheran School in Morton, IL, whose second grade teacher, Katie, was involved in a fatal collision on May 4
- The family and friends of REVEREND KALVIN HILDRETH (nephew of Evern Mallory) who passed away on May 3

DEVOTION: Portals of Prayer

LEARN BY HEART: 1 Peter 1:18-19

DAILY READINGS:

Sun: Numbers 3:1-16, 39-48; Luke 14:25—15:10

Mon: Numbers 8:5-26; Luke 15:11-32

Tues: Numbers 9:1-23; Luke 16:1-18

Wed: Numbers 10:11-36; Luke 16:19-31
 Thurs: Numbers 11:1-23: Luke 17:1-19

Fri: Numbers 11:24-29; 12:1-16; Luke 17:20-37

Sat: Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33; Luke 18:1-17