

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4873 Cleveland Road

Wooster, Ohio 44691



*Building Faith by Praying for God's Guidance, Hearing God's Word,
Sharing God's Grace, Serving God's Children*

MINISTERS: The People of Salem

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7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

In Our Prayers: Margarite Wise, Nancy Wise, Catrina Dotson, Sue & Tom Kenney, Mark Ewing, Lea Ewing, Diane Cook, Kyle Richards, Benjamin Richards, Betty Snyder, Grady Cronick, Lois Phillips, Debra Sears, Alyssa Parish, Willy Zamora, Kathy Bond, Barbara Fedor, Mike Fiser Jr., Regina Carson, Sheril Buchwalter, Chet Molzen, Tari Lowe, Patty Stuart, Bill Buchwalter, Mike Ringgenberg, Amanda Herbert, Monica Crawford, Sue Haumesser Miller, Family of Marvin Hartman, Family of Jean Shoup, Family of Jeanne Lifer, family of Sue Cook.

Welcome Visitors! Your presence is a blessing to us. Please pick up an information brochure, complete the visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

Parents with small children: We welcome you and your children to worship this morning. There are activity bags in the Narthex. The nursery is available (with speaker system) should you have need of it.

Holy Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month; we practice open table fellowship: All baptized Christians who share our belief that Jesus Christ is truly present with his body and blood along with the bread and wine, are invited to participate. Register using the card in the back of the pews.

P: Pastor A: Assisting minister C: **Congregation** L: Lector
In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Prelude

Bell

Call to Worship

Pastoral Greeting & Parish Time

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: **Amen.**

A: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*). Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

A: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

A: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

A: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

WE PRAISE GOD

Gathering Hymn *Oh, Love, How Deep* Red Hymnal #322

Greeting

A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Kyrie

Page 147

Canticle of Praise *Glory to God* Red Hymnal Page 148

Prayer of the Day

A: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Acts 1:6-14

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of

the earth.”⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God.

Psalmody Refrain

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
rock of our sal - va - tion.

Psalmody Tone

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

A: ¹ Let God arise, and let God's ene- | mies be scattered;
let those who | hate God flee.

C: ² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them
away;**
**as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked
perish at the pres- | ence of God.**

A: ³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

C: ⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one
who | rides the clouds;**
I AM is that name, rejoice | before God! R

A: ⁵ In your holy habita- | tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

C: ⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth
prisoners | into freedom;**
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.

A: ⁷ O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,

C: ⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the
presence of God, the | God of Sinai,**
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.

A: ⁹ You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

C: ¹⁰ **Your people found their | home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made
provision | for the poor. R**

A: ³² Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;
sing praises | to the Lord.

C: ³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.**

A: ³⁴ Ascribe pow- | er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the
skies.

C: ³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of
Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed
be God! R**

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him,

because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia
Please stand.

Red Hymnal Page 151

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

John 17:1-11

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “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. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Tim Barrage

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day *Like the Murmur of the Doves Song* Red Hymnal #403

Apostles' Creed

P: Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith using the Apostles' Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,**

the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

**C #752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)**

A: Prayers continue... As we lift up our prayers,

**C #752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)**

A: Prayers continue... As we lift up our prayers,

**C #752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)**

A: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

WE OFFER GOD OUR GIFTS

Offering of Gifts

Offertory

Amanda Herbert & Sandy Smith

Please stand.

Offering prayer

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C: **Amen**

Thanksgiving for the Word**Canticle of Thanksgiving**

Red Hymnal page 219

P: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P: Remember us in your kingdom, O Lord, and teach us to pray.

C: **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**

WE ARE BLESSED AND SENT FORTH TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

Please stand.

Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Thine the Amen

Red Hymnal #826

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Sandy Smith

Liturgical elements and prayers are drawn from:

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THIS WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 17

7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live Stream)

10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

5:00 p.m. YouTube Livestream Replay

Monday, May 18

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Free Community Meal

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

Friday, May 22

7:00 p.m. Cover to Cover Bible Study (via ZOOM)

NEXT WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday May 24

Day of Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live Stream)

10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

5:00 p.m. YouTube Livestream Replay

Monday, May 25

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Free Community Meal

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

Friday, May 29

7:00 p.m. Cover to Cover Bible Study (via ZOOM)



Pastoral Concerns – Tim Barrage is available to the members of Salem in times of Pastoral concerns or emergencies. He can be reached at 330-465-5763.

Nursing Home Worship:

June 14th 2:30 p.m. Brookdale Senior Living, Wooster. Services are held on the second Sunday of the month.

May 24 2:00 p.m. Avenue at Wooster Care and Rehabilitation Center. Services are held on the fourth Sunday of the month.

If you would be willing to help with these services, please contact Barbara Buchwalter @ 330-317-7906.

Women of Faith has a Facebook group called “Women of Salem.” If anyone is interested in meeting for brunch at Buehler’s Towne Market at 10:00 am on the first Wednesday of the month, please let us know. <http://www.facebook.com/WomenOfSalem>

ELCA World Hunger - All loose change in the offering plate will go toward this special social ministry project.

Worship Lay Assistants Needed: Consider being a part of this ministry. If you have never performed any of these duties before, we will be happy to show you the ropes. If you have a beautiful voice or are musically inclined, please let us know.

NFL Monday Night Free Community Meal: 6:00 p.m. Come for a hot meal, stay for a bible study. This meal is open to any all who hunger.

200th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee Formed:

Planning has begun, history being reviewed, invite lists being put together, activities being planned, dignitaries being contacted, programming and activities being created. We need your involvement and participation in this massive endeavor. Your ideas, your expertise, your funding, your presence. 2027 will be here before we realize and this is the year, 200 years ago that Salem Lutheran Church first held services as a congregation. Join us as we celebrate this amazing accomplishment!

The Chosen – Monday nights*: Monday evenings 7:00 p.m.. We continue to show a new episode of “The Chosen” series. Join us as we watch the series together and discuss the episodes in detail.

*Invite friends or neighbors to one of our special events with the provided post card invites. Fill out their name, add a personal note, and drop in the mail. We can mail it if you drop them in the offering plate.

