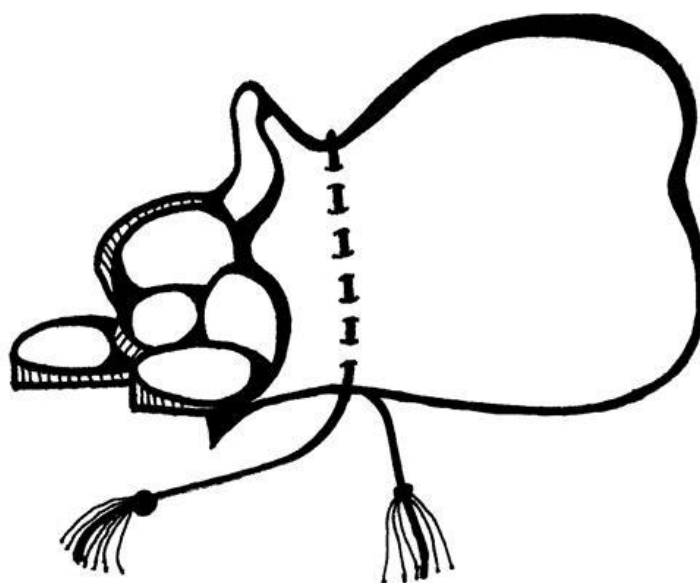


SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

330-345-6727

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21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

In Our Prayers: Gene Lifer, Bob Thomasetti, Steven Williamson, Jerry Botkin Jr., Helen Raudebaugh, Fred Gilbert, Margarite Wise, Nancy Wise, Catrina Dotson, Mark Ewing, Lea Ewing, Diane Cook, Betty Snyder, Grady Cronick, Lois Phillips, Debra Sears, Alyssa Parish, Willy Zamora, Kathy Bond, Mike Fiser Jr., Regina Carson, David Carson, Sheril Buchwalter, Chet Molzen, Patty Stuart, Bill Buchwalter, Mike Ringgenberg, Amanda Herbert, Monica Crawford, Sue Haumesser Miller, Family of Val Barner, Family of Tyler Carr, Family of Tari Lowe, Family of Scott Ries, Family of Christine & McKinley McWilliams, Family of Bob Wasson, Family of Carolyn Knipper, Family of Bernie Buchholz, Family of Marvin Hartman, Family of Jean Shoup, Family of Jeanne Lifer, family of Sue Cook.

Altar Flowers are provided by members of the congregation. See the last page of this bulletin for the full listing. Many thanks to all who have donated.

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 today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To

gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Prelude

Bell

Call to Worship

Pastoral Greeting & Parish Time

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: **Amen**

A: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

A: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

We Praise God

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 98****Hymn of Praise***Glory to God***Page 99****Prayer of the Day**

A: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**First Reading****Isaiah 45:1-7**

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from

the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

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

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] (*Spoken Responsively*)

A: ¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

C: ² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

A: ³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

C: ⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**

A: ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

C: ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

A: ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

C: ⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

A: ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

C: [¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: “The | LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be
moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity.”**

A: ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful
and all that | is therein.

C: ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your
com- | ing, O LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.**

A: ¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.]

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in
our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father
your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in
our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved
by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the
Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of
persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution
you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you
became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not
only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God
has become known, so that we have no need to speak about

it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

Red Hymnal Page 102

Please stand.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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

Sermon

Tim Barrage

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Red Hymnal #841

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 Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we
pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

A: Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer**

A: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these
spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

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

Please stand.

Offertory Response *Create in Me a Clean Heart* **Red Hymnal #185**

Offertory Prayer

P: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Red Hymnal page 219

A: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

A 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
they 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

Please be seated.

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

Please stand.

Blessing

- A: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
C: **Amen.**
A: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all
circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.
C: **Amen.**
A: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *God of Grace and God of Glory* **Red Hymnal #705**

- A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Sandy Smith

Liturgical elements and prayers are drawn from:

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THIS WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 18

21st Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Zoom/Livestream)

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

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

5:00 p.m. YouTube replay of livestream worship

Monday, October 19

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

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

Friday, October 23

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

Saturday, October 24

4 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Jeepers Creepers Trunk or Treat

NEXT WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 25

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

12:00 p.m. Council Meeting

2:00 p.m. Avenue Worship

5:00 p.m. YouTube replay of livestream worship

Monday, October 26

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

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

Friday, October 30

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:

November 08 2:30 p.m. Brookdale Senior Living, Wooster. Services are held on the second Sunday of the month.

October 25th, 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: As we return to services in the sanctuary, we will need help in continuing our online as well as our in-house service. 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! Next meeting November 1.

Annual Congregational Meeting is set for November 22, 2026

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.

