

Salem United Methodist Church

October 25, 2026 Sacrament of Holy Baptism

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 79:13, CEB)

"We are, after all, your people and the sheep of your very own pasture. We will give you thanks forever; we will proclaim your praises from one generation to the next." Together we offer our worship and praise to our gracious God!

OPENING PRAYER (in unison): **Almighty God, we praise and thank you for who you are. You are a good God, and we know that we can depend on you. You love us and care for us each day. You give us strength and hope. Guide us to follow the way of Jesus our Savior. Help us to grow in our faith and do what is pleasing to you. May we serve you with joy and love. Bless us and keep us in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*OPENING MUSIC "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" #133

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM pp. 39-43
Presentation of Jordan Henry Dusek, child of Sara and Matt Dusek, for baptism.

SONG OF WELCOME "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" #611

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in 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 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. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 3:1-2, 5-6, 13-17 (NRSV)

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

MESSAGE

"Jordan's River"

*DOXOLOGY

#95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison): **Gracious God, you call each one of us to serve you and follow your Son, Jesus Christ. You weave us into a community that shines with your love. We thank you for the gift of belonging to you. Receive our gifts as signs of our gratitude and our willingness to be witnesses to your grace. We dedicate our gifts, ourselves, and our ministry together for your work in the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

*CLOSING MUSIC

"Friend of God" (see screen)

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm on your face. The rain fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

*POSTLUDE

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD

Live stream notice: We are blessed to be able to live stream and record our 10:45 a.m. worship service. Anyone in the sanctuary during that time may appear on camera as part of the service and consents to filming. Our camera is directed at the front of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stacey.

Welcome to Salem United Methodist Church! Thank you for joining us today in worship.

Our Worship Leaders Today:

John Sivey, Liturgist
Katy Stevens, Music Director
Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson, Pastor (pastor@saalemunited.org)

Mark Carter, Tech Team Producer

Bryan Niles, Tech Team Director

Junior Church begins after the Children's Message (Debbie Mattheu, leader)
Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.

This Week (see our website for details: saalemunited.org)

Monday, 10/26 7:30 p.m. – Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)

Tuesday, 10/27 9:30 a.m. – Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)

Wednesday, 10/28 10:00 a.m. – Morning Bible Study (Conference Room)

Wednesday, 10/28 6:30 p.m. – Vespers (outdoors; weather permitting)

Next Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Sunday. We invite you to bring a candle (unscented; free standing or with holder) to place on the altar to honor a loved one. There will be a reception following the 10:45 a.m. service

Upcoming (see our website for details: saalemunited.org)

Monday, 11/2 7:00 p.m. – Pastor's Advent Bible Study begins (Zoom;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>)

Wednesday, 11/4 7:00 p.m. – Unified Leadership Board meeting (Salem Room)

Pastor's Bible Study: All are welcome to join the next Pastor's Bible Study beginning November 2nd. We will meet on Zoom on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Our study book is On the Way to Bethlehem: An Advent Study by Rob Fuquay. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Stacey.

Harvest Sunday: For this year's Harvest Sunday on November 22nd, we are collecting donations to support families at Magnolia Elementary School in Joppa. They have a specific need for the following: Canned goods, tuna and cracker kits, pasta and pasta sauce, boxed meals, cereals, peanut butter and jelly, shelf stable milk and mac and cheese cups. A flyer with the full list of donation requests can be found on the bulletin boards at the Hall and Awning entrances, in the narthex and chapel or online at saalemunited.org. Donations can be left at the top of the awning stairwell for the Harvest Sunday service on November 22.

Salem United Methodist Church

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SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UPPER FALLS, MD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026