



SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 374 -9544

Website: www.salemlutheranchurchselinsgrove.com

REV. KRISTINA SCHAEFFER, Pastor

stinaschaeffer@gmail.com

Organist: Kim Bolig

Secretary: Linda Maurer lmaurer56@outlook.com

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, February 28, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.** God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

The First Reading is from the 17th chapter of Genesis.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant

with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 42 (Read responsively)

¹As the deer longs for the water-brooks, so longs my soul for you, O God.

²I thirst for God, for the living God; when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

³My tears have been my food day and night, while all day long they say to me, "Where now is your God?"

⁴I pour out my soul when I think on these things; how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God, with shouts of thanksgiving, among those keeping festival.

⁵Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me?

Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.

⁶My soul is heavy within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan, and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.

⁷One deep calls to another in the roar of your cascades; all your rapids and floods have gone over me.

⁸The Lord grants lovingkindness in the daytime; in the night season the Lord's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹I will say to the God of my strength, "Why have you rejected me, and why do I wander in such gloom while the enemy oppresses me?"

¹⁰While my bones are being broken, my enemies mock me to my face; all day long they mock me and say to me, "Where now is your God?"

¹¹Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me?

Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.

SECOND READING: Romans 4: 13-25

The Second Reading is from the 4th chapter of Romans.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake

alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

GOSPEL: John 4: 4-26

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

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

HYMN: *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

Jerusalem, my happy home,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

O happy harbor of the saints,
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
No grief, no care, no toil.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
Continually are green;
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs
As nowhere else are seen.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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

Response to: "Hear us, O God" **Your mercy is great.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate the presence of God in bread and wine. All are welcome to receive this gift.

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

+++++

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Worship! Please remember **masks are required and we will be observing social distancing.** **Worship seating is available in the sanctuary and the basement,** with 2 larger family spaces for our families with young children in the upstairs Sunday School room. As you arrive, you will receive a bag with a bulletin, Communion elements and anything else that may be needed for the Service. Ushers will seat you to assure we observe social distancing.

Mid-Week Lenten Videos - Please tune-in to Salem’s *YouTube* channel to join Pastor Stina for a new Lenten video going live each Wednesday morning. Each week we will dive into a new spiritual or prayer practice. Videos can also be accessed from Salem’s website – **www.salemlutheranchurchselinsgrove.com.** If you would like printed instructions, please contact Pastor Stina.



Salem is getting creative!! This year, we will be doing a different kind of Egg Hunt! Due to current COVID restrictions and the instability of weather during the Spring months, we have decided to bring the Egg Hunt to you! **On March 27th Pastor Stina and I will be “EGGING” your house (if you’ll let us)!!** We plan to hide a few eggs and drop-off some Holy Week activities and a small craft. This is the link to sign-up for the Egg Hunt:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044CA4A92DABF94-letsalem>

When signing up, in the comment section, please include where you would like the eggs hidden (front yard, back yard, etc.). Also include how many children will be there. **The sign-up will close on March 20th** to allow us time to prepare. **Please sign-up as soon as you are able.** If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stina or myself and we will be happy to explain this event in more detail.

~ Jessica Moyer

Lent-To-Go Bags are still available. If you haven't received one, but would like one, please ask an usher. You can also pick-up a bag from the blue tub on the porch of the church (facing the main parking lot).

To All The Healthcare
Workers On the
Front Lines Of The
Coronavirus Pandemic:



THANK YOU!

lessonslearnedivf.com

Operation Gratitude is our “Lent Project” this year. In the last year, those in our healthcare systems have given tirelessly of themselves and we would like to give them a small token of our thanks. We will be collecting items to include in “**Thank You Baskets**” for the staff in local hospitals and care facilities. **Suggestions of items include: individually wrapped snacks of granola bars, candy bars, Cliff bars, individual-sized bags of dried fruit and nuts, etc. and K-cups (coffee, tea, hot chocolate).** Snack items can be brought to worship on Sunday mornings or dropped off during the week. Please contact Pastor Stina to arrange drop-off (570-374-9544). If you would like to make a financial donation so that we can fill in the gaps, that would be wonderful as well. **Place it in the offering plate as you enter the sanctuary or mail to: Salem Lutheran Church; 899 Salem Road; Selinsgrove, PA 17870. Please mark your donation “Thank You Baskets”.** Thank You for helping us thank the healthcare workers in our area!

Prayer Chain: Prayer Chain requests should be given to Susan Athey email: sjdsathey77@gmail.com through March 14th.

Readers are needed! Please contact Pastor Stina if you would like to volunteer to read and she will provide you with the readings. Currently, there is no sign-up sheet in the vestibule due to COVID.

During this difficult time, Salem’s financial obligations remain the same. Your continued financial support, as you are able, is greatly appreciated. Offerings can be mailed to the church (Salem Lutheran Church; 899 Salem Road; Selinsgrove, PA 17870) or made electronically through our website’s “Online Giving” tab. **Thank you!**

If you have chosen to listen to the Service from the parking lot via our FM transmitter, **please turn to FM channel 87.9**. You may need to increase the volume of your radio quite a bit. This is normal for the radio transmitter. **Don’t forget to turn down your radio’s volume following the Service!**