

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**REV. KRISTINA SCHAEFFER, Pastor**

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## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Sunday, August 29, 2021**

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**  
Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

**Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

The First Reading is from the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of Deuteronomy.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your

God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? <sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 15** (Please read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

**SECOND READING: James 1: 17-27**

The Second Reading is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of James.

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. <sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. <sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

**GOSPEL: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

The Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other

traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ <sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

## THE CHILDRENS' SERMON

### THE SERMON

#### **HYMN: *For the Beauty of the Earth***

For the beauty of the earth,  
For the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies:

*Refrain:* Christ, our Lord, to you we raise  
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r  
Sun and moon and stars of light:     *Refrain*

For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and mind's delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight:     *Refrain*

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above;  
For all gentle thoughts and mild:     *Refrain*

## **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: "Lord, in your mercy" . . . . . **Hear our prayer.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

Go in peace. Share the story. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to Outdoor Worship! Worship begins at **10:30 am** each Sunday. If you are more comfortable staying in your car, you are welcome to "drive-in" to participate in worship. **Masks are optional for outdoor services;** however, we ask that you observe social distancing. You will receive a 'Worship Bag' containing a bulletin, Communion elements & everything needed for Worship. **Offering Reminder:** White "Offering Buckets" can be found on the small stands at each end of the picnic pavilion. Please remember to place your offerings there. Thank you!

In case of rain, Worship will be held in the Sanctuary. Masks are optional **for those who are fully vaccinated** and for those who are unvaccinated, masks are **highly recommended**. We will continue to observe social distancing.



***Wings & Fries Night!*** Why did the chicken cross Salem Road ?? To get to *Wings & Fries Night*, of course! Join us on **Saturday, September 11 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm** for a *Wings & Fries* Fundraiser in the grove! Tickets are \$15 per person. There are a limited number of tickets/orders available, so get yours today! Please see **Joe Bogetti (bfroggie01@aol.com)** to purchase tickets or with any questions. We hope to see you there!

Reading today's lessons are Nora & Emma Moyer.

**Blessing of the Animals** – Bring your furry, feathered and friendly friends to be blessed on **Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 2:00 pm** in the picnic grove parking lot. A blessing for pets, owners and a treat will be offered.

Please give all Prayer Chain requests to Elaine & Charlie Benner (570-374-8826 or [ceben58@ptd.net](mailto:ceben58@ptd.net)).

*The Kitchen Cupboard*, has closed its doors. Thank you to everyone who faithfully supported the Quarter-&-a-Can program over the years. Please watch the bulletins for future announcements regarding other programs where we can put our energies & support to best help our community.

Ryan Moyer has completed his Salem Custodian duties and prepares to head-off to college/training school. **Thank you, Ryan!** Donna Moyer has begun her duties as the new Salem Custodian. **Thank you, Donna!** We appreciate your dedication and hard work!