

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## 2021 SALEM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 19, 2021

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God for whom we wait, **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in**

**material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ✠ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might,  
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times once gave the law  
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free  
Your own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell your people save  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come  
And cheer our spirits by your advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouse of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 11: 1-9**

The First Reading is from the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

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

## **\* 2021 SALEM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT \***

### **Cast:**

Readers: Nora Moyer, Ellie Schaeffer, Emma Moyer

Joseph: Griffin Klingler

Mary: Leighton Aurand

Chicken: Luca Dempsey

Cow: Sawyer Dempsey

Angel: Leighton Klingler

Shepherd: Everett Aurand

Wise Man: Reed Carl

Stars: Gavin and Haylee Roush

### **Part 1: Mary and Joseph**

#### ***Away in a Manger***

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.

## **Part 2: The Animals**

### ***What Child Is This?***

What child is this, who laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

## **Part 3: The Angels**

### ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come, Off-spring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

## **Part 4: The Shepherds**

### ***Go Tell It On The Mountain***

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled, When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.  
Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

## **Part 5: Wise Men and Stars**

### ***We Three Kings of Orient Are***

We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown him again  
King forever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign.

Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

## **Part 6: Conclusion**

### **HYMN: *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers***

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;  
Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, o heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

## **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**

**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 Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN: *Joy To The World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
Let every heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## SENDING

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

## POSTLUDE

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the current COVID situation in our area, **everyone is asked to wear a mask and observe social distancing.** Additional seating is available in the basement where the Service can be viewed via video live stream.

**Special Thanks** to our young folks and families for leading us this morning in telling the Christmas story! We are so proud of you!!!

**Thank You, Everyone!** As you can see, there was a car-full of gifts and food for our "Star Tree" youth and their families! Thank you to everyone who participated in this special project! Your generosity assured a brighter Christmas for some less fortunate youth in our area.



**Christmas Cards 2021** - Salem's tradition of exchanging Christmas cards with our Church Family is back! You are invited to bring your cards to the basement where there is a bag labeled for each family unit. Deliver your cards and take your bag home, **but please don't take your bag until after the Christmas Eve or Sunday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> Service.** If you are unable to go down the stairs, place your cards in the basket on top of the sound system and they will be delivered for you!

**Prayer Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm.



**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:00 pm** on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Masks and social distancing will be observed. Additional space will be available in the basement.

**“Lessons & Carols” & Festive Christmas Attire Sunday!** Join us on Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for a Service of “Lessons and Carols”. Everyone is invited to wear **“festive” Christmas attire! Don your sweaters, sweatshirts, hats, necklaces, reindeer antlers or any other Christmas themed clothing**, as we remember the Story and sing our favorite carols!



Remember, **Adult Sunday School** is held **every Sunday** in the church basement. We gather from **9:30 – 10:00 am.** Join us as we open the Scriptures and learn with and from one another!



Pick-up those last-minute Christmas gifts! **Weis Markets Gift Cards** make great gifts! The cards are always available by contacting Debbie & Ricky Bower (570-743-4040) or Linda Carl (570-556-8451) and **all proceeds benefit Salem Church!** Cards are available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations, they never expire and **can be used at all Weis Markets stores** for groceries, gas and prescriptions. See Debbie, Ricky or Linda today!

**College Care Packages:** Salem has 6 young adults attending college & 1 in the military this year. We want to remind them that their Salem Family is thinking about them & praying for them. Due to the increased high cost of shipping packages, it is most cost-efficient to send them gift cards (*McDonald's, Wendy's, Dunkin', etc.*) with notes of encouragement. We would like to do this **throughout the year.** Please drop a monetary donation in the *Support our College Students* containers on the table at the back of the sanctuary & on top of the sound system. Our college students are: Danielle Alba, Jessica Alba, Maegan Bogetti, Nathan Moyer, Ryan Moyer and Jordyn Nichols & our military personnel is Jake Hane. **PLEASE support our College & Military Students!**