

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## REFORMATION DAY

**Sunday, October 31, 2021**

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.** Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

The First Reading is from the 31<sup>st</sup> chapter of Jeremiah.

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the

LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 46** (Please read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup>The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>**"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

<sup>11</sup>The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**SECOND READING: Romans 3: 19-28**

The Second Reading is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Romans.

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

**GOSPEL: John 8: 31-36**

The Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **THE CHILDRENS' SERMON**

### **THE SERMON**

#### **HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress***

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A sword and shield victorious;  
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
And wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
He arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
Whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son adored.  
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land  
All threat'ning to devour us,  
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
They cannot overpower us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgement must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide,  
No thanks to foes, who fear it;  
For God himself fights by our side  
With weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
Though life be wrenched away,

They cannot win the day.  
The Kingdom's ours forever!

## **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**

People of God, you are Christ’s body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The Holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**HYMN: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing***

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone,  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children with my blessing, you are my own.

**SENDING**

Go in peace, the Living Word dwells in you. **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**. The Service is also available in the basement via video stream.

Pastor Stina will be away October 31 – November 6 at a Continuing Education event. Pastor Jim Vitale from Beaver Lutheran Church will be covering all pastoral emergencies while she is away. Please contact the secretary for his phone number if you need pastoral care.



**Daylight Savings Time ends** on Saturday night. Don’t forget to turn your clocks back before you go to bed!

Next Sunday we will be observing **All Saints’ Day**. Since COVID prevented us from gathering as we would have wished, we will be remembering and honoring the memory of those who entered eternal life during the last 2-years.

Reading today’s lessons is Neil Klinger.

Join us as **Adult Sunday School** begins again! Beginning **next Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will gather from **9:30 – 10:00 am** every Sunday in the basement of the church. Join us as we open the Scriptures and learn with and from one another!

**College Care Packages:** Salem has 6 young adults attending college this year. We want to let them know their Salem Family is thinking about them and praying for them. Due to the increasing high cost of shipping packages, it is most cost-efficient to send them gift cards inside notes of encouragement. **Please drop a monetary donation** in the *Support our College Students* containers on the sound system and table at the back of the sanctuary **as soon as possible**. Our college students are: Danielle Alba, Jessica Alba, Maegan Bogetti, Nathan Moyer, Ryan Moyer and Jordyn Nichols. **PLEASE support our College Students!**



Salem's WELCA Ladies' Group is again sponsoring the *Christmas-At-Sea* program. Bags, with detailed instructions, are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Each bag should contain:

- 3 pairs of socks – thermal or gym socks (no ankle socks),
  - 1 sweatshirt – hooded or crew neck (size M, L or XL only),
  - 1 T-shirt (size M, L, or XL only),
  - 1 knit winter hat,
  - 1 can of nuts, a large chocolate bar **or** a healthy snack bar
- A Christmas Card from YOU!

You pick the colors, styles & brands, but please no substitutions from the list and please do not include clothing with weapons or inappropriate pictures. For the safety of all seafarers, please do not add fringes or pom-poms. The *Christmas-at-Sea* bags should be identical for each member of the crew. Please assemble each bag with the same size clothing and mark the back of the bag “M, L, or XL” with a black Sharpie/Magic Marker. **If you did not bring your bag(s) to the church by TODAY, please give them to Eileen Stauffer by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Salem Council Meeting** will be held on **Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the church basement and via *Zoom*.

**Prayer Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.



Christmas is fast approaching and **Weis Markets Gift Cards** make great gifts! The cards are always available by contacting Debbie & Ricky Bower or Linda Carl 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!

SACC is providing **Thanksgiving Food Baskets** for families in need in our area. If you know a family who will benefit from receiving a food basket for Thanksgiving, please contact **Judy Kuhn (jkuhn@ptd.net)** with the following information: name, address, phone number, number in family and names & ages of children. **The deadline is November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

During November, we will be collecting personal care items for Snyder County Children & Youth's Holiday distribution program. **They will need: soap, baby shampoo, toothbrushes (child-sized), toothpaste and Chapstick.** Please bring your donations to the church by November 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for supporting this important program!



**The “Star Tree” will be coming!** The Ladies’ WELCA Group will be putting up their “Star Tree” this year in support of 2 local families in need. The childrens’ ages, sizes and “wishes” will be listed on each star. Choose a star, purchase a gift and help make this Christmas a little brighter for a less-fortunate child.

### **Upcoming Spring Service Project!**

We will be in need of **5-gallon buckets with lids.** If you have access to empty buckets through work or a hobby, please save them for us! Watch future bulletins and newsletters for more information on this Service Project that will be coming in the Spring!

