



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

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 28, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCLAMATION

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna to the Son of David.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Mark 11: 1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

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

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

PSALM: Psalm 31: 9-16 (Please read responsively)

⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, “You are my God.**

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me.”**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2: 5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

GOSPEL: The Passion according to St. Mark – Mark 14 - 15: 41 (please read from your Bibles)

HYMN: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the king of Israel And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, Our King and Blessed One.
All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

The company of angels Are praising you on high;
Creation and all mortals In chorus make reply.
All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

The multitude of pilgrims With palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems Before you we present.
All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

To you, before your Passion, They sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, Our melody we raise.
All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

Their praises you accepted; Accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King.
All glory, laud, and honor To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

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 OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

SENDING

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

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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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.

IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A Congregational Meeting will be held **TODAY** following the Worship Service. We will be voting on the proposed 2021 Budget and also voting for Council members. Copies of the proposed budget are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please pick-up a copy. Ballots are included in your Worship Bag. **Following the meeting, when leaving, please put your ballot in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.** Thank you.

Reading today’s lessons is Judy Kuhn. Reading today’s Gospel are Barry Heim, Brenda Stranko and Sue Moyer.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP – in the Sanctuary

(Drive-In Worship from the church parking lot is available for all Services - FM 87.9)

Thursday, April 1 – **Maundy Thursday Worship – 7:00 pm** (there will be no hand washing)

Friday, April 2 – **Good Friday Worship – 7:00 pm**

Sunday, April 4 – **EASTER** – Sunrise Service with Holy Communion – 6:45 am

Worship with Holy Communion – 10:30 am

Unfortunately, due to COVID, there will not be an Easter Breakfast this year.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated snack items, K-cups and monetary donations for our Lent project, **Operation: Gratitude**. The hard-working staff at our local hospitals and health care facilities will greatly appreciate your generosity!

Newsletter Deadline: **TODAY is the deadline** for all items to be included in the April newsletter. Please give your articles/reports to Linda Maurer (lmaurer56@outlook.com). Thank you

Prayer Chain: Prayer Chain requests can again be given to Susan Athey: email: **sjdsathey77@gmail.com** through April 1st.

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!**

<p>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!</p>
