

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, June 13, 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, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17: 22-24

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

²²Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of

every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

PSALM: Psalm 92: 1-4, 12-15 (Please read responsively)

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²**to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how upright the Lord is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10 [11-13] 14-17

The Second Reading is from the 5th chapter of 2 Corinthians.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.]

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

GOSPEL: Mark 4: 26-34

The Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself,

first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

THE CHILDRENS' SERMON

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: “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.

SENDING

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to Outdoor Worship! Worship will continue to be at **10:30 am** & like last summer, everyone is encouraged to bring your own lawn chairs to sit in. We will continue to observe social distancing; however, **masks are optional for outdoor services.** You are also welcome to "drive-in" if you are more comfortable staying in your car. You will receive a 'Worship Bag' that will contain bulletins, Communion elements & anything else that may be needed for the Service. In case of rain, Worship will be moved into the Sanctuary. Masks & social distancing are required when worshipping indoors.

Reading today's lessons is Emma Moyer.

CUSTODIAN NEEDED! Salem Church is in need of a Custodian beginning in August. **Bids are being accepted immediately.** Submitted bids should be on an annual basis. If you are interested, know someone who is interested, or have any questions, **please contact Joe Bogetti (bfroggie01@aol.com).** Bids may be given directly to Joe or they may be mailed to: Salem Lutheran Church, 899 Salem Road, Selinsgrove, PA 17870.

Council Meeting will be held on **next Monday, June 14th at 7:00 pm** in the church basement. Please wear a mask & social distancing will be observed. *Zoom* will also be available & a link will be provided prior to the meeting.

We will kick-off our *Salem Summer Project* **next Sunday, June 20th** during 10:30 am Worship. What fun activities will we be embarking on this summer?? Be here next Sunday to find out!!!

Readers are needed! Please contact Pastor Stina if you would like to volunteer to read.

Again this year, Salem is participating in the **Adopt-A-Counselor Program** at Camp Mt. Luther! Hannah Haussmann is our Counselor! Here is what she shared with Mt. Luther as an introduction: *Hi guys! I'm from Williamsport, PA and I am attending Washington and Jefferson College. This summer, I am super excited to get to experience God's creation 24/7 with some pretty cool campers. If I could be any animal, I would be a tadpole because it would be really cool to get to experience swimming in the water like a fish and then eventually transform into a hopping frog!* Help us support Hannah this summer! Pray for her daily, send her a note of encouragement, or get on the list to send a care package! We would like her to receive something every week! Please contact Pastor Stina to get on the list!

Prayer Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the church basement. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please wear your mask & social distancing will be observed. **The next Prayer Meeting will be Wednesday, June 23rd at 7:00 pm.** Prayer Chain requests may be given to Elaine & Charlie Benner (ceben58@ptd.net).

“Christ In Our Home” - Copies of the next quarter of “Christ In Our Home” are located on the picnic table each Sunday morning, or let an usher know and they will get one for you. It is available in regular print or large print.

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!**

New Memorial Steps & Railings – Please take time to see the new outdoor steps and railings by the southside parking lot. They are just beautiful and are dedicated in memory of Steve Aucker and have been presented by his Family. Special thanks to the Aucker Family for this generous gift. It is very much appreciated by Salem Church and its congregation.

