

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 13, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.
Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

HYMN: *Oh, Worship the King*

Oh, worship the King, all glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18: 1-11

The First Reading is from the 18th chapter of Jeremiah.

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words. ³So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. ⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

PSALM: Psalm 1 (Please Read Responsively)

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²**but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴**The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶**for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

The Second Reading is from Philemon.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love — and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother — especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. ²²One thing more — prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you. ²³Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. ²⁵The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 14: 25-33

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

THE CHILDRENS' SERMON

THE SERMON: "Treasure In Clay Jars"

HYMN: *Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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: "Merciful God," **receive 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

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ☩ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN: *Now Thank We All Our God*

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

SENDING

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held **TODAY** following Worship. It is important for all members to be in attendance.

Council Meeting will be held on Monday, March 14th at 7:00 pm.

Reading today's lessons is Gabriel Schaeffer.

Easter Food Baskets for families in need are available through SACC. If you know someone who will benefit from having a food basket this Easter, please contact Judy Kuhn (jkuhn@ptd.net) or Ricky Bower (dturtlesracing3@verizon.net) with the following information: Name, phone number, number of adults, number of children (& their ages). **The deadline to submit names is March 30th.**

Lent Bible Study – Join us on **Wednesdays at 1:00 pm** during the season of Lent, as we dive into Scripture. *Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study of Unsteady Times*. Together we will explore 6 stories of Jesus as he walks toward Jerusalem in an uncertain world, not so different from our own. Question? Please contact Pastor Stina.

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

Prayer Chain – Susan Athey is handling all Prayer Chain calls & reports **through today, March 13th**. Please contact Susan (sjdsathey77@gmail.com) with all Prayer Chain requests. Thank you.

Readers are needed. If you would like to volunteer to read the Sunday lessons, please contact Pastor Stina. Readings and sign-up sheets have not been posted on the bulletin board due to COVID; however, Pastor Stina can provide you with the assigned readings. Thank you to all who have been volunteering.

Youth Egg Hunt – Keep watching your bulletins for updated information on plans for the Youth Egg Hunt this year.

LOOKING AHEAD – HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 10 – Palm Sunday Worship – 10:30 am
Thursday, April 14 – Maundy Thursday Worship – 7:00 pm
Friday, April 15 – Good Friday Worship – 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 17 – Easter Sunday -
 Sunrise Service w/Communion – 6:45 am
 Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am
 Worship w/Communion – 10:30 am

OUR LENT PROJECT HAS BEGUN !

We are joining other congregations in our Synod and in the Susquehanna Interfaith Network for disaster response by creating “Flood Buckets”. These buckets are filled with practical items to help with clean-up. They are given to families who have experienced major flooding. Each bucket costs approximately \$50 to fill. We will be buying the contents in bulk to save money and because the items in the buckets are very specific as to type and size.

Salem’s Council has issued a challenge to the Congregation:

Raise enough money to fill at least 25 buckets!

Donation buckets can be found at the back of the sanctuary.

BUCKETS & LIDS: We are still collecting clean 5-gallon buckets with lids. If you have buckets through work or a hobby, please let a Council member or Pastor Stina know.

