

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 1, 2022

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 9: 1-6 [7-20]

The First Reading is from the 9th chapter of Acts.

¹Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

[⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

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

PSALM: Psalm 30 (Please read responsively)

¹I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

²**O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

³You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴**Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶**While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.**

⁷You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸**I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

¹⁰**Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper."**

¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 5: 11-14

The Second Reading is from the 5th chapter of Revelation.

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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

GOSPEL: John 21: 1-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 21st chapter.

¹After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they

knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE SERMON

HYMN: *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear –
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged – take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness – take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge – take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he’ll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

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,
who 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: "God, in your mercy,". . . **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

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, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer his call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing his children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Masks are OPTIONAL at all Salem functions. If you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please feel free to do so. **Social distancing continues to be observed** and we continue to receive Communion in our seats. Additional seating remains available in the basement where Services are viewed via video live stream and Services continues to be available on Salem's website.

CHURCH CUSTODIAN NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

Salem Church is in need of a Church Custodian. Salem Council is accepting bids for this position immediately. Bids are to be a yearly salary bid. This job entails approximately 8 – 10-hours per week. **Copies of the job description/agreement are on the table at the back of the sanctuary and on top of the sound system.** If you are interested in this position (or perhaps you have a family member or friend who could be a “Co-Custodian” with you), please submit your bids by mailing them to: Salem Lutheran Church; Atten: Council President; 899 Salem Road; Selinsgrove, PA 17870, or emailing them to Council Co-Presidents Barry Heim (bheim@stahlsheaffer.com) and/or Neil Klinger (neilklinger6@gmail.com). **Please submit your bids by May 6th.** Please consider helping your church by filling this position, or if you know someone who would be a good fit, please pass the word. Thank you.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated money & our 30 wonderful volunteers who helped pack **51** “flood buckets” following worship last week! **Special Thanks** to our “Shopping Team”, Sue Moyer & Sam Stauffer, who did a great job finding bargains so we could get the “best bang for our buck”! You have truly blessed those in need who experience flooding. **Thank You, Everyone!**



If you **have NOT** received a copy of the **April Church Newsletter**, **PLEASE check your email**. If you do not have email or have requested a printed copy, **PLEASE check your church mailbox!** Thank you.

Council Meeting will be held on Monday, **May 9th at 7:00 pm** in-person and via *Zoom*.



Spring Clean-Up! Men & Women Are Needed! Spring Clean-Up Day will be held on **Saturday, May 21st** beginning at **8:00 am**. It's time to spruce-up the **inside and outside of the church and clean-up the grove** to prepare for summer activities. Bring your outdoor equipment - wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, weed-whackers, bush/hedge trimmers, etc. and also indoor cleaning equipment – dust rags/'Swiffers', buckets, sponges, brooms, etc. **The rain date will be Saturday, May 28th at 8:00 am**. Thank you to all who contribute their time and efforts in keeping our church and grove looking beautiful inside and out!



The Honor Guards of American Legion Victory Post #25 and VFW Post #6631, both of Selinsgrove, **will be coming to Salem Cemetery on Monday, May 30th at approximately 10:50 am**, for a brief ceremony to pay respects and honor all the Veterans buried in our cemetery. **Please plan to attend** to help us remember those who served and protected our country.

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

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