

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 3, 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. **Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your Gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 6: 1-9

The First Reading is from the 6th chapter of Deuteronomy.

¹Now this is the commandment — the statutes and the ordinances — that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, ²so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you. ⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

PSALM: Psalm 150 (Please read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple; praise God in the mighty firmament.

²**Praise God for mighty acts; praise God for exceeding greatness.**

³Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lyre and harp.

⁴**Praise God with tambourine and dance; praise God with strings and pipe.**

⁵Praise God with resounding cymbals; praise God with loud clanging cymbals.

⁶**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Hallelujah!**

GOSPEL: Luke 2: 39-49

The Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the

boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE CHILDRENS' SERMON

THE SERMON by Bishop Collins

HYMN: *What Child Is This?*

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Gabriel James Schaeffer, son of Kristina and Gary Schaeffer

Sponsor: Sam Stauffer

PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *Gabriel James Schaeffer*, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of *his* baptism.

Those making affirmation are presented by a sponsor or another representative of the congregation:

Sponsor: I present *Gabriel James Schaeffer*, who *desires* to make public affirmation of *his* baptism.

The presiding minister may continue with prayer.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for *Gabriel*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called *him* to yourself, enlightened *him* with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished him in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidate and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word
and deed, to serve all people, following the example of
Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support our brother and pray for him in his life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Gabriel James Schaeffer, the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us rejoice with our brother in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMAND

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

Welcome to Outdoor Worship! Worship begins at **10:30 am** each Sunday. If you are more comfortable staying in your car, you are welcome to "drive-in" to participate in worship. **Masks are optional for outdoor services;** however, we ask that you observe social distancing. You will receive a ‘Worship Bag’ containing a bulletin, Communion elements & everything needed for Worship. **Offering Reminder:** White “Offering Buckets” can be found on the small stands at each end of the picnic pavilion. Please remember to place your offerings there. Thank you!

In case of rain, Worship will be held in the Sanctuary. Due to the current COVID situation in our area, **everyone is asked to wear a mask and observe social distancing when indoors.** The Service will also be available in the basement via video stream.

We plan to continue to worship outside in the grove as long as the weather allows us to. When we do move worship inside due to the weather, **we will be masking and social distancing** due to the current COVID situation in our area. The Service will be available in the basement via video stream. Thank you for your continued patience and flexibility.

Everyone is invited to join us after worship for cake as we celebrate Gabe's Confirmation. If you have not yet highlighted your favorite Bible verse and signed his Bible, please do that during the reception.

Reading today's lessons is Ellie Schaeffer.

October Newsletters were emailed to those with email addresses and those without email had hard copies mailed to them. If you do not receive your newsletter by later this week, please contact the Secretary. Thank you!

SPECIAL THANKS to Jane Korbar for her hard work and talent in putting together an updated Salem Directory, complete with pictures! She has been handing-out hard copies of the Directory or sending it via email. If you haven't received a copy but would like one, please contact Jane ((jkorbar@verizon.net) and she can email you a copy or bring a printed copy to you at the next church service. Thank you for your hard work and time, Jane!

Thank You to everyone who donated gallon-sized zip-top plastic bags for *Meals for Seals* during our September collection. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The **Ladies WELCA Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, October 6th at 7:00 pm** in the church basement. All women of the church are invited. We would like to see some new faces along with our regular attendees! Mask-wearing follows our indoor church protocol.

Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, October 11th at 7:00 pm** in person and via *Zoom*.

Prayer Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm**.

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!

