

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Sunday, September 19, 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. **O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11: 18-20

The First Reading is from the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of Jeremiah.

<sup>18</sup>It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. <sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be

remembered!” <sup>20</sup>But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 54** (Please read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

**SECOND READING: James 3: 13 - 4: 3, 7-8a**

The Second Reading is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> chapters of James.

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

<sup>4:1</sup> Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

**GOSPEL: Mark 9: 30-37**

The Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. <sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he

said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

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

## **THE CHILDRENS' SERMON**

### **THE SERMON**

#### **HYMN: *Children of the Heavenly Father***

Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in his bosom gather;  
Nestling bird or star in heaven  
Such a refuge ne'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish,  
In his holy courts they flourish  
From all evil things he spares them,  
In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord his children sever;  
Unto them his grace be showeth,  
And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh,  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

## **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**

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.**

**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.

The Church Council met for our monthly meeting this week. 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.

Reading today's lessons is Barry Heim.

During the month of September, we will be supporting *Meals for Seals*. At the moment, their biggest need is **gallon-sized Zip-Top plastic bags**. Let's see how many we can collect to support this important local ministry! They are not collecting packaged meal bags or other donations at this time.



**Prayer Meeting** will be held this **Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 7:00 pm.

Newsletter articles/items are due **NEXT SUNDAY, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. Please give all items to Linda Maurer (lmaurer56@outlook.com). Thank you!

Bring your furry, feathered and friendly friends to be blessed **NEXT SUNDAY, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 2:00 pm** in the picnic grove parking lot. A blessing for pets, owners and a treat will be offered.



On **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**, we will be celebrating the **Confirmation of Gabriel Schaeffer**. As has become our tradition at Salem, you are invited to highlight your favorite Bible verse and put your name next to it, in the Bible that we will be presenting to Gabriel. Help him to see his Church Family represented as he reads Scripture for years to come.

The **Ladies WELCA Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 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.