

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 25, 2022

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the Good News! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

HYMN: *Be Thou My Vision*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
Thou my best thought by day and by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
Raise thou me heav'ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

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

^{1a}Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,

⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; ⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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

PSALM: Psalm 146 (Please read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

²**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸**The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

⁹The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6: 6-19

The Second Reading is from 1 Timothy.

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be

haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 16: 19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE SERMON

HYMN: *In The Garden*

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear;
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gave to me,
Within my heart is ringing. *Refrain*

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: "Merciful God," . . . **receive 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

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *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.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him saw his glory
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Indoor Worship Begins NEXT SUNDAY, October 2nd. You will notice a few changes from when we were indoors last spring. The social distancing ropes have been removed. Much of the liturgy of the service that we have been missing for the last few years will return. **Communion:** There will be 2 options. Option 1- the “old way” of coming forward to receive bread and wine/juice and then return to your seat. Option 2 – for those who prefer to stay in their seat, small, individual bags with bread & wine/juice will be available to pick-up at the back of the sanctuary as you arrive for worship. **The basement will remain available**, with the service being live-streamed, for those who feel more comfortable being separate from the sanctuary. The service will also continue to be posted on our website.

Thank You to everyone who attended *A Trip Down Memory Lane* on Thursday and helped take the first steps toward Salem’s 250th anniversary! **Special Thanks** to Pastor Stina for organizing the event and providing lunch and also to those who brought Salem memorabilia to share.

Thank You to everyone who helped prepare and serve meals at last night’s *Wings, Fries & Music In The Grove*. **Special Thanks** to Neil Klinger and the Band and also to everyone who came to enjoy music from our “homegrown talent”!

Reading today’s lessons is Charlie Benner.

TODAY is the deadline for items for the October newsletter. Please give anything you’d like to have included in the newsletter to Linda Maurer (lmaurer56@outlook.com). Thank you!

Newsletter Distribution: With Worship moving inside next week, **if you do not have or use email/internet**, you will find your newsletters in your church mailbox. Newsletters will continue to be emailed to those with email/internet. Shut-ins and those out-of-the-area will continue to receive their newsletters via postal mail. If you are new to Salem and have been attending regularly, you will find the mailboxes in the upstairs “family space”. They are arranged alphabetically. If you need help finding them, please ask any usher, the secretary or Pastor Stina. Thank you!

Adult Sunday School begins **NEXT SUNDAY**, **October 2nd at 9:30 am** in the church basement. Mark your calendars and come join your Salem brothers and sisters for Sunday School!

Save The Date - Tuesday, October 18th! Salem will participate in the Selinsgrove Halloween Parade this year! We are going with a Fall theme – think hay wagon and pumpkins! We will wear our Salem shirts and march (or you may ride on the wagon) while sharing candy with the children! **Please plan to join us on Tuesday, October 18th** (rain date is October 19th). The Parade begins at 7:00 pm. Please watch future bulletins for ways you can help prepare the “hay wagon” and where to meet for the parade.



Parade Candy - Would you like to help provide candy to distribute during the Parade? If so, please put your monetary donation in an envelope marked – “Parade Candy” – and put it in the offering plate. **Thank you** to all who donate!

Readers are needed! Please sign-up to read the Lessons. When we move indoors next Sunday, the sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Readings are also posted as they are received or you may check with Pastor Stina.



Please remember we are collecting donations for our gift cards program. Cards of encouragement and gift cards are sent to our college students and military personnel to let them know their Salem Family is thinking about them and praying for them. Donation cans are on the back table and on top of the sound system. Please consider donating to this important program. If you have any questions about the program, please ask Linda Carl (dwarfgrumpy@yahoo.com or 570-556-8451). **Thank You** to everyone who contributes.



Old Magazines Needed! Do you have old magazines laying around that are ready to be recycled? The Synod WELCA Retreat in the Fall is in need of magazines to cut-up. If you have any to contribute, Pastor Stina will pick them up!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 28 – Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 2 – **Adult Sunday School begins – 9:30 am**
Worship moves indoors – 10:30 am
“Newsletter Sunday” (tentatively)

Sunday, October 9 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am
Worship – 10:30 am

Monday, October 10 – Council Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 12 – Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 16 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am
Worship – 10:30 am

Tuesday, October 18 – Selinsgrove Halloween Parade – 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 23 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am
Worship – 10:30 am

Wednesday, October 26 – Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 30 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am
Worship (Reformation Day) – 10:30 am