

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 374 -9544

Website: www.salemlutheranchurchselinsgrove.com

REV. KRISTINA SCHAEFFER, Pastor

stinaschaeffer@gmail.com

Organist: Kim Bolig

Secretary: Linda Maurer lmaurer56@outlook.com

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 26, 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. **Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The First Reading is from the 11th chapter of Numbers.

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?’ ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.” ¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

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

PSALM: Psalm 19: 7-14 (Please read responsively)

⁷The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one’s own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: James 5: 13-20

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

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My

brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

GOSPEL: Mark 9: 38-50

The Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

THE CHILDRENS' SERMON

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*

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling,
But He bids me go; Thro' the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling. *Refrain*

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.**

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

+++++

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 September meeting. 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 Charlie Benner.



Bring your furry, feathered and friendly friends to be blessed **TODAY** from **12:00 – 2:00 pm** in the picnic grove parking lot. A blessing for pets, owners and a treat will be offered.

Newsletter articles/items are due TODAY. Please give all items to Linda Maurer (lmaurer56@outlook.com). Thank you!

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.



On **October 3rd**, 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 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**.