

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

899 Salem Road; Selinsgrove, PA 17870

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TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 19, 2023

Transfiguration Of Our Lord
Sunday, February 19, 2023
Holy Communion

*If you are new to our church, we hope you feel welcome. The service is printed in the bulletin. **Speaking parts for the gathered congregation are indicated with the bold print.** The songs are found in the green hymnal (LBW - Lutheran Book of Worship) or the blue hymnal (WOV - With One Voice) located in the pews.*

***All are welcome at the Lord's Table**, when we celebrate and receive the true presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine.*

***"Pray-Ground" & "Choose Your Own Worship Adventure" bags:** At Salem, as Jesus did, we welcome children of all ages as important members of the body of Christ, and we welcome the sounds and activity that accompany them! There are a number of options designed for children to experience and participate in worship according to their needs. We trust families to work out the best option(s) for them and their child(ren) on any given day. One of these options is the **Pray-Ground**, located in the room behind the sanctuary. **For our older children**, "Choose Your Own Worship Adventure" bags are available at the rear of the sanctuary, by the double-doors. Each child can choose a bag and fill it with the activities of their choice from the drawers. Please feel free to speak with an usher or Pastor Stina if you have questions about our worship opportunities for children at Salem.*

Please see the back pages of the bulletin for announcements. As we share prayer, praise, and thanksgiving together, may it be a blessing to all.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* LBW # 526

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

+ *Please be seated*

CHOIR ANTHEM: *The Farther I Walk*

FIRST READING: Exodus 24: 12-18

The First Reading is from the 24th chapter of Exodus.

¹²The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

PSALM: Psalm 2 (Please read responsively)

¹Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord’s anointed?**

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

⁴**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord holds them in derision.**

⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

⁶“**As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.**”

⁷Let me announce the decree of the Lord, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

¹⁰**And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

¹²**lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.**

Happy are all who take refuge in God!

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1: 16-21

The Second Reading is from the 1st chapter of 2 Peter.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 1-9

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

+ *Please be seated. Children are invited to come forward for time with the Pastor.*

CHILDRENS' SERMON

THE SERMON

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: Shine, Jesus, Shine WOV # 651

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 OF THE PEOPLE

Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

HOLY. HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it

to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new

covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the

remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

+ *Please be seated.*

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

COMMUNION

All baptized children of God are welcome at the Lord's Table, when we celebrate and receive the true presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and fruit of the vine.

Communion will be received in a continuous line. Come forward, forming a line down the center aisle. Stop at the end of the aisle, receive your bread, empty cup, and wine.

Grape juice is available in the pre-poured cups in the middle of the tray.

There is no need to hurry through Communion. Please take as much time as you wish for prayer and reflection.

If you are more comfortable remaining in your seat for Communion, individual bags containing Communion elements are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. For those with mobility issues, the Pastor can bring Communion to you at your seat.

As the bread and wine/grape juice are given, the following is said:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond **Amen**. As you receive the bread and wine/grape juice, saying "Amen" means "Yes, truly, it is so: this is the body and blood of Jesus, given for me."*

After you have received Communion, please place your empty cup in the bowl, then return to your seat.

After all have received Communion, the Pastor will ask the congregation to stand, then give a blessing, ending with the following words:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* **WOV # 649**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may contact Pastor Stina at any time by phone or text: **(845) 636-9487** or email: **stinaschaeffer@gmail.com**.

Communion: If you prefer to remain in your seat, or have mobility issues, the Pastor will be happy to bring Communion to you at your seat.

Offerings: For your convenience, offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary to receive your offerings as you enter.

ATTENTION LADIES! There will be a brief WELCA meeting **immediately after church** to discuss a dishwasher for the church. Please meet in the upstairs family room behind the sanctuary.

PICNIC GROVE UPDATES: The Salem Grove is one of the most beloved parts of our church community. From summer worship and breakfasts to family picnics, the grove holds special memories and events. It is also used twice a week in the warmer months to host our 2 AA groups. All of this adds up to a wonderful ministry, but also a lot of wear-and-tear. This summer, we are planning a renovation and expansion of the grove to allow for many more years of use. **A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 5, 2023** to present the proposed project and budget. We will vote on that proposal during a **meeting on Sunday, March 12, 2023**. Both meetings will happen immediately after worship. Join us as we prepare for future fun, outdoor worship and many more memories!



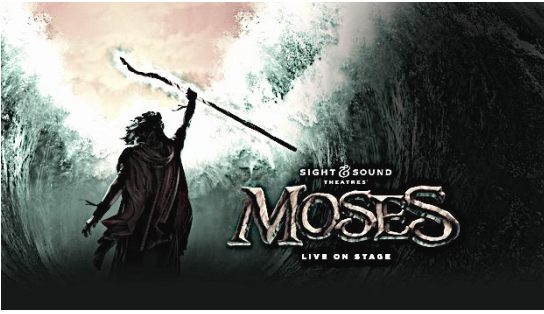
SANDWICH SALE! This fundraiser begins **TODAY!** We are selling Ham & cheese, Turkey & cheese and Lebanon Baloney & cheese sandwiches. The cost per sandwich is \$5. If you wish to purchase sandwiches, but **not sell** to others, place your orders **on the order forms on the clipboard** at the back of the church. If you would like to take orders at your place of employment or with family, friends & neighbors, there are order forms available at the back of the church. **The LAST DAY to order is NEXT SUNDAY, February 26th**! Sandwiches will be available for pick-up after church on Sunday, March 12th. If you have any questions, please speak with Jess Moyer or Kelli Tyler. Please participate and help support our grove improvements!

Thank You to everyone who attended the delicious “Sweetheart Dinner” last Sunday. **Special Thanks** to our “Chefs”, **Ricky Bower and Joe Bogetti**, to everyone who brought additional desserts to share and to those who stayed to help clean-up. Everyone had a great time!

Thank You to everyone who prepared food and helped pack and deliver it to the Milton fire victims on Tuesday.

Reading today’s lessons is Sue Moyer.

Choir Practice will be held tonight at 6:00 pm.



SIGHT & SOUND! Together with Milton Lutheran Church, we are planning a trip to *Sight & Sound Theatres* for their Spring production of “**Moses**”. On **Wednesday, April 19th**, we will depart from Salem Lutheran Church at 8:30 am and return is estimated to be 6:00 pm. The show is at 11:00 am. The cost is \$135, which includes your “Moses” ticket, bus, gratuity for the

driver and lunch at ‘Shady Maple’. We have 25 spots available for Salem. Please see Brenda Stranko to sign-up. Checks can be made payable to Milton Lutheran Church.

The **Ash Wednesday Service** will be held in the sanctuary on **Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00 pm.**

This year, Pastor Stina is offering “**Ashes-To-Go**”. If you would like to receive ashes but cannot attend the evening Ash Wednesday Service, she will bring them to you (within a reasonable distance!). Please contact her via phone or text (845-636-9487) or email (stinaschaeffer@gmail.com) or call the church (570-374-9544) to set-up a time to receive ashes.



“**Lunch and Learn**”! Mark Your Calendars! **Wednesdays during Lent at 12:30 pm** in the church basement, we will gather to enjoy a lunch of soup and bread, followed by Bible Study. The studies are not continuous, so if you cannot come every Wednesday, you will not miss out. Come when, and as often, as you can! **The first “Lunch and Learn” is March 1st at 12:30 pm.**



Don't forget to continue to support our College Students and those in the Military. Cards of encouragement and gift cards are sent to them to let them know their Salem Family is praying for and thinking about them. Donation cans are always available on the back table and on top of the sound system. If you have questions, please ask Linda Carl (dwarfgrumpy@yahoo.com or 570-556-8451). **Thank You** to all who continue to contribute.



The Reader's sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please stop by and sign-up to read the Sunday lessons. Readers are always needed and much appreciated. The Lessons are posted for your convenience as they are received.

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is hanging in the vestibule. Choose a Sunday, sign-up to provide altar flowers. If they are for a special occasion or in memory of someone, please contact the Secretary so it can be noted in the bulletin.



Camp Mount Luther is participating in The First Community Foundation Partnership of PA's **"Raise the Region"** on **March 8-9, 2023**. It is a 30-hour fundraising event starting at **6:00 pm & ending the next day at 11:59 pm** Money donated by the Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships will help stretch donations made to organizations that day. Additional monetary prizes & incentives will be awarded, too. Proceeds raised for Mount Luther these days go to the Camp's Annual Fund unless a donor gets in touch with the camp office to designate it for another camp cause. **To be part of "Raise the Region", visit www.raisetheregion.org during the event & make an online donation to Camp Mt. Luther.** Running totals will be shown throughout the day on the "Raise the Region" website. Camp Mount Luther has participated in "Raise the Region" for 10-years & has garnered about \$179,000 in donations during this event. The camp hopes you will help us to have another successful year!



"Salem Church is going to enter a parade float in the Selinsgrove Halloween Parade again this year! I am looking for a group of individuals who will help with the "brawn and brains"! I'd like to have an initial meeting at the end of March to brainstorm some ideas. The date of the meeting will be announced closer to the time. I'm not sure how we can ever top our "Jonah" float, but I know with all the talent we have in the congregation, we can do it, or have a ton of fun trying! Watch future bulletins for more information on the meeting."

~ Jessica Moyer

UPCOMING EVENTS (all events weather permitting)

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship – 7:00 pm

Sunday, February 26 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 1st Sunday of Lent – 10:30 am

**** LAST DAY to order Sandwiches!**

Choir Practice – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 1 – Lent “Lunch & Learn” – 12:30 pm

Sunday, March 5 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

**** Congregational Meeting – following Worship**

**** Family Ministry Sunday – following Worship**

Choir Practice – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 8 – Lent “Lunch & Learn” – 12:30 pm

Sunday, March 12 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

**** Congregational Meeting – following Worship**

Choir Practice – 6:00 pm

Monday, March 13 – Council Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 15 – Lent “Lunch and Learn” – 12:30 pm

Sunday, March 19 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

Choir Practice – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 22 – Lent “Lunch and Learn” – 12:30 pm

Sunday, March 26 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

Choir Practice – 6:00 pm