

Salem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Betty Lou's Mobile Phone ~ 443.465.6668

DECEMBER 20, 2020 ~ 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH *Light One Candle for Messiah* ELW #240 verse 1 & 4

Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.

Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press

Tune Name: Tif in veldele

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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Jesse Tree

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse...

Lily ~ Luke 1:26-38

Tools ~ Matthew 1:18-25

Water ~ Matthew 3:1-11

Angels ~ Luke 2:8-14

Staff & Sandals ~ Luke 2:15-18

A Star ~ Matthew 2:1-6

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

PSALMODY: Luke 1:46b-55

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.
⁵⁰You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.
⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵²casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.
⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,
⁵⁵the promise made to our forbears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1st chapter. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P: The Gospel of the Lord given to you. **ALL: Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264 verses 1 & 2

Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!

God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship

Music: Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Tune Name: Bereden väg för Herran

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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 Holy
Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
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.**

**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 INTERCESSION

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. All: **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSING

Jesus, we believe you are present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We love You above all things and we desire to receive You into our souls. Since we cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace You as You are already there, and because of You we are united with You in death and in life. Never permit us to be separated from You. **Amen.**

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

SENDING

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW 256 Verses 1 & 2

"Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim
that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever.

For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance,
since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;
hills, bow down in humble favor.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635-1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Music: Trente quatre psaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

Tune Name: Freu dich sehr

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

++++++ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER LIST++++++

A Special Thank you to Salem's choir for providing the voices for today's hymns. Special thank you to Lynn Cox for lecturing today.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we're in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God's gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

OBD Casseroles for the month of December totaled 24! Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity.

Offering Envelopes are ready for pick up and located in the Narthex.

Christmas Poinsettias are available by emailing or calling pastor to sign up for either a red or white plants. We have 20 red and 7 white. Each plant is \$7.00. We have 19 red poinsettias and 7 white ones remaining. Please consider purchasing a plant in remembrance, in memory of, in thanksgiving for and/or to the Glory of God.

Christmas Eve Services ~ Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas Eve. The 30-minute Drive-in services with Holy Communion will be outdoors. You are invited to listen from the comfort of your vehicle on the FM radio station 107.1 or gathering around Nativity to sing and celebrate the Christ Child on this Holy Day. Dress warm and wear masks. Two services will be held and more information is coming.

First Service ~ 1:00pm (arrive by 12:45pm)

Candlelight Service ~ 5:00pm (arrive by 4:45pm)

Thank you for RSVP with pastor: email bldeuchler@hotmail.com or txt/call 443-465-6668 (Contact Tracing)

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Family and friends of Sandy Barthel, Family and friends of David (friend of the Temples), Family and Friends of Jerry Shank, Faith LeBrun, Susan Bernowski, Family and friends of Laura Barthlome, Darlene Saffran & her daughter's family, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Mike, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Barb Vogel, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Anne Mills, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Phil Kulinski, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Steve Sussan, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Austin Phoebus, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Lennard Beecher, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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