

# Salem Lutheran Church

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## MARCH 14, 2021 ~ FOURTH WEEK IN LENT

*The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,** gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.** Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

#### GATHERING SONG

*Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW 715 verses 1 & 5

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

#### *Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.  
  
Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, B. 1957

Music: Bernadette Farrell

Tune Name: Christ, Be Our Light

Reported to OneLicense Song #80229

#### 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

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## WORD

**FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9**

**THE PSALMODY: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

**THE SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**GOSPEL: John 3:14-21**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said:] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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

## MESSAGE

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

ELW 611 verses 1 & 2

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,

and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live."

I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

Music: English folk tune.

Tune Name: Kingsfold

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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.**

#### **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**

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

ELW 759 verses 1 & 4

My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away,  
oh, let me from this day  
be wholly thine!

When ends life's transient dream,  
when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll;  
blest Savior, then, in love  
fear and distrust remove;  
oh, bear me safe above,  
a ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Tune Name: Olivet

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **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 Carol Temple for reading 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.

**Our Daily Bread** ~ 20 casseroles were prepared and delivered for the month of February. Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity. ***ODB has an abundance of meals and has requested we wait until April to contribute the casseroles.***

**Easter Lilies** ~ Easter is April 4<sup>th</sup> and the lilies are ordered. Please contact/email Mike Whitacre to sign-up & how you would like the plants designated. In honor of, In memory of, To the glory of God. Each plant is \$8.

**Salem's Lenten Project** ~ Throughout the Lenten season, Salem is working through ELCA World Hunger collecting funds to purchase goats at a cost of \$50 each. *Whatever you are able to donate* will go towards the purchase of a portion of a goat. Please watch the Online Worship Announcements from Mark Hoefler!

**\*\*The St. Patrick's Day (March 17<sup>th</sup>) Take Home Soup & Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> Take Home Fish Fry Dinner are canceled for this year due to limited participation. Thank you Lynn for your planning and outreach.\*\***

**PLEASE NOTE: Salem will regather for in person worship for Holy Week.**

**Palm / Passion Sunday ~ services at 9:00 and 11:15 am**

**Easter Resurrection Sunday ~ services at 9:00 and 11:15am**

**Maundy Thursday Service ~ 7:00pm**

**Please RSVP with pastor for Contact Tracing purposes and seating. CDC protocols will be followed.**

**Additional details will be emailed early next week.**

**ONLINE DONATIONS ARE OPTIONAL** ~ If interested, **CLICK ON THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF SALEM'S WEBSITE TO DONATE!** <http://www.salemjarrettsville.org/> Contact Ned Cockey for more information. ***Please know you may continue to send your donations as is comfortable for you.***

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Pastor Michael Ronning, Family and friends of Pastor Louisa Groce, Mildred Taylor, Family and Friends of Barb Vogel, Carol Porter, Cindy Miller, Charlie Phoebus, Douglas Porter, Austin Phoebus (military), Deana Vanhart, Faith LeBrun, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Mike, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, 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, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, 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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