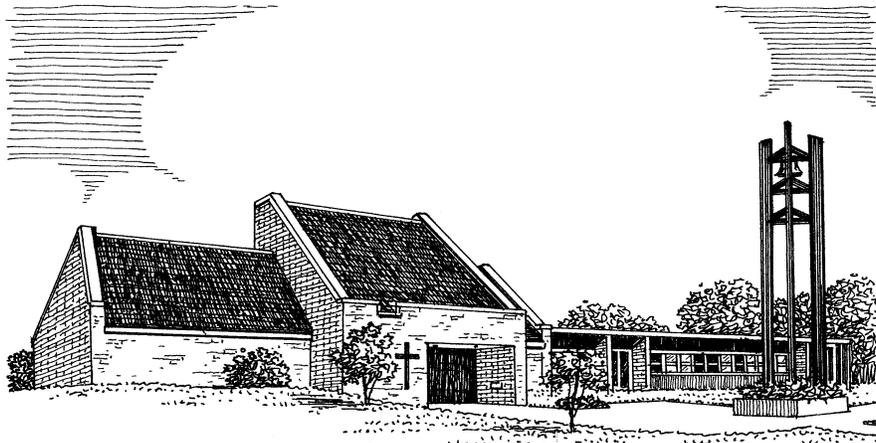


Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Salem Lutheran Church

Hermantown, Minn.

Sundays at Salem Online Worship – 9:00 am

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February 21, 2021

“Our Mission is to pass on the faith by involving all members of our community in Christ’s ministry.”

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
4715 Hermantown Rd., Hermantown, MN 55811

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
~ FEBRUARY 21, 2021 ~ 9:00 am

WELCOME

SERVICE OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

During Lent we remember the events that led Jesus to the crucifixion. He came into the world to bring hope and light, but there were those who sought to extinguish that light. Jesus offered healing and wisdom, yet his gifts were often rejected by those filled with hatred and fear.

We read in the fourth chapter of Luke: Jesus went to his hometown, Nazareth, and on the Sabbath, he went as usual to the synagogue. He stood up to read the Scriptures and was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and read, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people."

Jesus rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. All the people in the synagogue had their eyes fixed upon him, as he said to them, "This passage of scripture has come true today, as you heard it being read."

When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were filled with anger. They rose up, dragged Jesus out of town and took him to the top of the hill on which their town was built. They meant to throw him over the cliff but he walked through the middle of the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus had said, "A prophet is never welcomed in his hometown." A little of the light which had come into the world was snuffed out by the people who watched Jesus grow up. (*Extinguish one of the candles.*)

L: Loving God,

C: we confess that we often turn away from you and turn toward behaviors that yield brokenness in our lives. Forgive us, God. Teach us compassion and self-sacrifice. May our words and deeds be manna to those who hunger for justice and mercy. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

L: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus, I declare that your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP “Come to the Water”

1. You said you'd come and share all my sorrows.
You said you'd be there for all my tomorrows.
I came close to sending you away.
But just like you promised, you came in to stay. I just had to pray.

***Chorus: And Jesus said, Come to the water, stand by my side.
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.
I felt every teardrop when in darkness you cried.
And I long to remind you that for those tears I died.***

2. Your goodness is so great, I can't understand;
But, dear Lord, I know now that all this was planned.
I know you are here now and always will be;
Your love burst my chains and in you I'm free.
But, Jesus, why me? **(Chorus)**
3. Jesus, I give you my heart and my soul;
I know that without you, I'll never be whole.
Savior, you opened all the right doors,
And I thank you and praise you from earth's humble shores.
Take me, I'm yours. **(Chorus)**

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

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Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE

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Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ for- ever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
On the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Hear our prayer; restore, for-give us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Holy God, heavenly Father,

C : in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Word of God, word of life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

⁶Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

⁸Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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We are turning, Lord to hear you; you are merciful and kind –
Slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

SERMON SONG "Down By the River To Pray"

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh sisters let's go down.
Let's go down, come on down,
Oh sisters let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh brothers let's go down.
Let's go down, come on down,

Oh brothers let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh fathers let's go down.
Let's go down, come on down,
Oh fathers let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh mothers let's go down.
Let's go down, come on down,
Oh mothers let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh sinners let's go down.
Let's go down, come on down,
Oh sinners let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.***

Hymn #752

L: Lord, in your mercy,
C: *hear our prayer.*

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.***

L: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING REMINDER AND PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: *We lift them to the Lord.*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

COMMUNION PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

"Lamb of God"

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Vs. 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

Vs. 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave; have mercy now, we pray.

Vs. 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
External peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONG: *"He Will Hold Me Fast"*

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: "Rise and Shine - Children of the Lord"

**Chorus: So, rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Children of the Lord**

The Lord said to Noah:
There's gonna be a floody, floody
The Lord said to Noah:
There's gonna be a floody, floody
Get those children out of the muddy, muddy
Children of the Lord **Chorus**

The Lord told Noah
To build him an arky, arky
The Lord told Noah
To build him an arky, arky

Build it out of gopher barky, barky
Children of the Lord **Chorus**

Chorus: *So, rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory
Children of the Lord*

The animals they came in,
They came in by twosies, twosies
The animals they came in,
They came in by twosies, twosies
Elephants and kangaroosies, roosies
Children of the Lord **Chorus**

It rained and it poured
For forty daysie, daysies
It rained and it poured
For forty daysies, daysies
Almost drove those animals crazy, crazies,
Children of the Lord **Chorus**

The sun came out and
It dried up the landy landy
The sun came out and
It dried up the landy landy
Everything was fine and dandy, dandy
Children of the Lord **Chorus**

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

