

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
~ MARCH 19, 2023 ~ ~ 10:00 AM

Gathering

WELCOME

COMMISSIONING OF DISASTER RELIEF TEAM

* CALL TO WORSHIP *“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”*

Hymn #334

Verse 1: Tree of life and awesome mystery,
In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
Still you rise with every morn.

Verse 2: We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word,
Every person, lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.

Verse 3: Christ you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be,
One with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river you the sea,
we the river you the sea

Lent 4: Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright.
as your gospel shining bright.

* CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

* 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 "The River"**

Verse 1 To the river, I am going
Bringing sins I cannot bear;
Come and cleanse me, come forgive me;
Lord I need to meet You there.

Verse 2 In these waters, healing mercy
Flows with freedom from despair;
I am going to that river;
Lord I need to meet You there.

**Chorus: Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender ev'ry care;
Take my hand now, lead me closer;
Lord I need to meet You there.**

Repeat Verse 1 & 2

Repeat Chorus

Verse 3 Come and join us in the river;
Come find life beyond compare;
He is calling, He is waiting;
Jesus longs to meet you there;
He is calling, He is waiting;
Jesus longs to meet you there.

**Chorus: Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care;
Take my hand now, lead me closer;
Lord I need to meet You there.
Take my hand now, lead me closer;
Lord I need to meet You there.**

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Bend your ear to our prayers,

C: Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & NOISY OFFERING

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither

has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people

do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 189

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

* GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

* John 9:1-41

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?"

He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my

eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, Christ.***

SERMON

SERMON SONG "Be Thou My Vision"

Hymn #793

- Vs. 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- Vs. 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'n ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- Vs. 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,

great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Vs. 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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.

* **JOYS, SORROWS & CONCERNS**

* **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

L: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all of creation.

*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: Merciful God,

C: receive 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 lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love
and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus
Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

* **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING COLLECTION

* **OFFERTORY "Take My Life, That I May Be" Vs. 1, 4, 6 Hymn #685**

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my
moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

Take my Love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take
myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

* **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love
endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit
from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for
the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE MEAL

* **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.*

* **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.

“Behold the Lamb”

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us - and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS

Special Music “Remember Me”

“Grace Flows Down”

Amazing Grace How sweet the sound
Amazing love Now flowing down
From hands and feet
That were nailed to the tree
As Grace flows down and covers me (2x)

Chorus

It covers me

It covers me

It covers me

And covers me

Amazing Grace How sweet the sound
Amazing love Now flowing down
From hands and feet
That were nailed to the tree
As Grace flows down and covers me

Chorus

It covers me

It covers me

It covers me

And covers me

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: *Amen.*

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **BENEDICTION**

* **SENDING SONG “The Church Song”**

Chorus *We are the church*

The body of our Lord

We are all God's children

And we have been restored! (repeat)

The church is not a building

Where people go to pray

It's not made out of sticks and stones
It's not made out of clay

Chorus *We are the church
The body of our Lord
We are all God's children
And we have been restored!*

You can go to worship
But you can not go to church
You can't find a building that's alive
No matter how you search **(Chorus)**

The church is not a business
A committee or a board
It's not a corporation
For the business of the Lord **(Chorus)**

The church it is the people
Living out their lives
Called, Enlightened, Sanctified
For the work of Jesus Christ **(Chorus (x2))**

* **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Serve in love!
C: Thanks be to God.

** Please stand if you are able.*

Music and words reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-726216 and
CCLI #1242177

Coffee Servers ~ ~Disaster Relief Team

The Disaster Relief Team is raising funds for their annual trip. This year, they will be going to Kentucky to rebuild homes following the December, 2021 tornadoes.

This Week a Salem

TODAY, SUNDAY, March 19, 2023

Sunday School & Adult Education	9:00 am
Worship w/First Communion, Noisy Offering, Commissioning .	10:00 am
Mission Team Breakfast	11:00 am
Confirmation	11:00 am
Prison Ministry	12:00 pm
Cub Scouts.....	4-5 pm

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023

Day Care	6:00 am
----------------	---------

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023

Day Care	6:00 am
Cub Scouts.....	6-7 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

Day Care	6:00 am
Quilters.....	9:30 am
"The Chosen" Lenten Series.....	6:30 pm

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

Day Care.....	6:00 am
---------------	---------

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023

Day Care	6:00 am
----------------	---------

NEXT SUNDAY, March 26, 2023

Sunday School & Adult Education	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship.....	11:00 am
Cub Scouts.....	4-5 pm

"Easter Memorial Garden"

On Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023, Salem will have an Easter Memorial Garden of flowers given in memory of or in honor of loved ones. This year, the Worship Planning Team will do the shopping for you so donations toward the purchase of Easter Memorial Garden flowers is welcome.

The opportunity is also available to donate money to a designated special fund, such as Mission Trips, Food Shelf, Pastor's Social Ministry Fund, Helping Hands Ministry, 100th Anniversary Celebration, Property, etc.

Today is the last day to put in your order.

EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

Amount \$ _____

SPECIAL FUND DONATION

Amount \$ _____ Name of Fund _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given By _____

Phone _____

Donation Enclosed \$ _____

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sundays at Salem

~ Sunday School ~~ 9:00 am

~ Worship ~~ 10:00 am ~

Rev. John Ansell

4715 Hermantown Rd., Hermantown, MN 55811

218-727-1357

Email – salemhermantown@gmail.com

Web – www.slecduluth.org

Facebook – Salem Lutheran Church

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