

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
~ JANUARY 5, 2025 ~ 10:00 am

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME

* **CALL TO WORSHIP “As with Gladness Men of Old”** Hymn #302

Vs. 1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming
bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.

Vs. 2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth
adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

Vs. 3 As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly
King.

Vs. 4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at
last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory
hide.

Vs. 5 In the heav'nly county bright need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not
down;
there forever may we sing alleluias to our king.

* **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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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 forgive 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** Page 203

Vs. 1 Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Vs. 2 Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Vs. 3 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** Page 204

Vs. 1 Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill 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.

Vs. 2 Glory be to Christ forever, 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, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Vs. 3 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: Almighty God,

C : you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, 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 SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." ¹¹For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for

sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:12-20

Please read responsively

¹²Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵**God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.** ¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸The Lord sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the word to Jacob, statues and judgements to Israel.**

²⁰The Lord has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgements. Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the

fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "A Christmas Alleluia" 2x**
Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, the
Savior of the world, He has come! Alleluia, alleluia!
To the highest name of all: Alleluia!

* **GOSPEL: John 1:1-18**
P: The holy gospel according to John.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

* **GOSPEL: John 1:1-18**
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was

his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

SERMON SONG "Of the Father's Love Begotten" ELW #295

Vs. 1 Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

Vs. 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore.

Vs. 3 This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word; now he shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord evermore and evermore.

Vs. 4 Let the heights of heav'n' adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing; pow'rs, dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring evermore and evermore.

Vs. 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be: honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory evermore and evermore! Amen.

* APOSTLES' CREED

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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 THE PEOPLE

L: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

* THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING COLLECTION

P: We will accept our offering at this time.

* OFFERING *“What Child Is This” vs. 3* Hymn #296

Vs. 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

* OFFERING PRAYER

C: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, or redeemer and Lord. Amen.

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.

“Lamb of God”

Page 208

Vs. 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of the 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; Eternal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Hymn #269

Vs. 1 Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

Vs. 2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Vs. 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above; and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Vs. 4 Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high; there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Hymn #276

Vs. 1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings
bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Vs. 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning
new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the
morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for
you!

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to
your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the
body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the
world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING OF COMMUNION

P: Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him,
bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with
those who are sick/homebound/or imprisoned. May these gifts be
signs of our love and prayers that through the sharing of the body
and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **BENEDICTION**

* **SENDING SONG “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”**

Hymn #545

Vs. 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and
peace;
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.

Vs. 2 Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Vs. 3 Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim
way,
let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

* **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

** Please stand if you are able*

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WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome those of you visiting with us today.
Communion is open to all who believe. ***If you need gluten-free bread
or prefer grape juice, please let the servers know.*** As you receive
the bread for Communion, please hold your hands out. *Notify the usher
if you want to be served in the pew.*

Salem's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2025 following worship!

This Week a Salem

TODAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

Youth Education	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 am
Prison Ministry	12:00 pm
Cub Scouts	4:00 pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
Ruth Circle	1:00 pm
Thrive! Support Group	6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
Quilters.....	9:30 am
Trillium Works! The Collective	3:00-4:30 pm
Ladies Night Out!	6:00 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

Day Care.....	6:00 am
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
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NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

Youth Education	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 am
Cub Scouts	4:00 pm

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sundays at Salem

~ Youth Education ~ 9:00 am ~
 ~ Worship ~ 10:00 am ~
 ~ Coffee Fellowship ~

Rev. John Ansell

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