

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
~ MARCH 9, 2025 ~ 10:00 am

GATHERING

WELCOME

* **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 1: From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone.

* **SERVICE OF DIMINISHING LIGHTS**

P: 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.

P: 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."

P: 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."

P: 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.

P: 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.)

P: 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.

P: 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.

* **GREETING**

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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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L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O Lord God,

C: you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this

world toward the life you alone can give, 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

WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the

bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

¹You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

²**you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."**

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b}"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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Return to the Lord, your God, for his is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

* **GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13**

P: The holy gospel according to Luke

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

* **Luke 4:1-13**

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. The Gospel of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”*

Hymn #310

Vs. 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Vs. 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream, prophet, priest, and king supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest in your God-head manifest;
manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Vs. 3 Manifest in making whole weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Vs. 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;
grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany,
and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

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

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

P: We will accept our offering at this time.

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

Vs. 1 Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless
praise.

Vs. 4 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Vs. 6 Take my Love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

* OFFERING PRAYER

C: *Blessed are you, O God maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, or Savior 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"

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Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

Hymn #620

Vs. 1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away all fear.

Vs. 2 It makes the wounded spirit whole and calms the heart's unrest; 'tis manna to the hungry soul and to the weary, rest.

Vs. 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place; my never-failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace.

Vs. 4 By thee my prayers acceptance gain although with sin defiled. The devil charges me in vain, and I am owned a child.

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"

Hymn #592

Vs. 1 Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Vs. 2 Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Vs. 3 Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Vs. 4 Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down; now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **BENEDICTION**

* **SENDING SONG "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

Hymn #547

Vs. 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,

the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls
reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

Vs. 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face-
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

* **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

** Please stand if you are able*

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.*

March "Mac" Madness

March is MN Foodshare Month-This year Salem is focusing our food drive on Mac & Cheese! This year's goal is 100 boxes of Mac & Cheese! Monetary donations are also very welcome.

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."

Thank you to the Ruth Circle for hosting coffee fellowship this morning.

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025

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

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
Church Council	6:00 pm
Thrive! Support Group	6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

Day Care.....	6:00 am
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FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

Day Care	6:00 am
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SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025

Recitals.....	8:00 am
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NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

Youth Education	9:00 am
Worship w/Mission Team Commissioning	10:00 am
Mission Team Breakfast.....	11:00 am
Prison Ministry	12:00 pm
Cub Scouts	4:00 pm

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Lent 1

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

#334 Tree of Life (Vs. 1-3 & Lent 1)

Service of Diminishing Lights #1

Setting 4

None

Setting 4 (Lent)

#310 Songs of Thankfulness & Praise

#685 Take My Life (vs 1, 4, 6)

No

Without LL

Setting 4

#620 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

#592 Just As I Am

#547 Sent Forth By God's Blessing