

*Salem Lutheran
Church and School*

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO

January 10, 2021

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



Lutheran Church



Missouri Synod

Rev. Martin Dressler, Pastor

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Rev. Alger J. Tormoehlen, Honorary Pastor Emeritus

Church Office: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Monday-Thursday 314-741-6781
5180 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033 Fax 314-741-1797
School Office: 7:45 AM - 3:45 PM -Daniel Schwerin, Principal 314-741-8220
5190 Parker Road; Florissant, Missouri 63033 Fax 314-741-7242

Website: www.salembjmo.org

Church Email: salemchurch@salembjmo.org

Divine Services: Sunday 10:00 AM; Monday 7:00 PM

WELCOME to the Lord's House today! May God help us to worship Him in spirit and in truth! Before you leave, guests are requested to sign the guest book, which is located in the narthex. Both guests and members are asked to fill out an attendance card, located in the pews, returning it as you leave. We invite you to return and worship with us again. If you do not have a regular church home, then we invite you to join our family. May this celebration of the mercy of God enrich your spiritual life and be uplifting for each one of you.

A COMFORT ROOM is available during the Sunday services for young children and their parents. There are many toys and books available. If you need help, directions, or have any questions, please ask an usher. Parents, please do not leave your children unattended.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available in the narthex. The bags contain a coloring book, drawing paper, reading books, crayons, and a pencil. Parents are welcome to grab a bag for their children to use during the service. Please remember to replace the bag following worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available on the table in the narthex. These feature a coloring sheet and activities for children based on the Scripture readings of the day. Please help yourself.

INDIVIDUAL HEARING ASSISTANCE SETS are available for those with impaired hearing. Please ask an usher for assistance.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available in the narthex.

*Sharing the caring CHRIST,
...here, there, and everywhere*

HOLY COMMUNION

In accordance with the historic practice of the Christian Church, our congregation practices close communion, meaning that normally our members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations commune here. Please speak to the pastor about exceptions to this general practice. Please also note that this practice in no way intends to comment on the state of anyone else's faith: we simply understand our communing together is also a public profession of unity in doctrine, which not everyone shares. Those who do not commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to indicate that you are not communing) or remain in the pew during communion and pray.

LIFE THOUGHT

Even in a formless, dark, and empty early universe, God made Himself present and powerful (Genesis 1:2). Surprise pregnancies sometimes seem just so uncertain. Terminal diagnoses can feel that desperate. But this Lord buried Himself in our graveyard (Romans 6:4). This Savior sowed life in death's shadowy valleys. We need not let abortion or assisted suicide root us there as residents. The Heavenly Father always comes close and brings His own new creation to blossom.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Preacher: Fieldworker Eric Larson

Liturgist: Pastor Martin Dressler

Organist/Pianist: Elin Gomez

(Please silence your cell phones)

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Father Welcomes (LSB 605)

Refrain

Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil-dren To His fam - 'ly
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,
Life for - ev - er has been won.
1 Lit - tle chil-dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly
is of these. Life and love I have to give,
be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve
rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
Refrain
Mer - cy for your sin.
Shall be born a - gain.
Live in the peace of God.

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INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit,
C: Amen!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: On this day we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. By His Baptism He who came to baptize with the Spirit begins His road of redemption by humbling Himself to receive the baptism of repentance. Let us humble ourselves, return to the promise of our Baptism, confess our sins, and receive His forgiveness.

Silence for self-examination.

L: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

C: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

L: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: We confess that You truly are our Father and that You sent Your Son Jesus Christ the Son of God for our salvation. You sent Him to cleanse the filth of our sin. We are Your baptized children, but we do not always act as if that were true. At times, we are prone to despair and so neglect Your promises. And at other times, we act as if we were the ones in control. We foolishly put the weight of the world on our shoulders. But salvation is found nowhere else but in Jesus Christ. Turn us from sin, Lord, and toward the promise of life, forgiveness, and salvation in Your Son. We ask for mercy and renewal. Do not give us what we deserve. And for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, forgive us and wash away our sin so that we delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory Your name. Amen.

L: Because of God's mercy, Jesus Christ was given to die and rise for you. Through baptism, you are united with Him in His death and resurrection. God forgives you and cleanses all your sins. Those who believe in Jesus Christ are God's children and have received the Holy Spirit. Lord renew us and lead us in Your ways until You come again.

C: Amen.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

P: Having received forgiveness, we renew the vows we made when God made us His own. I ask all the baptized here present: Do you renounce the devil?

C: Yes, I renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works?

C: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

C: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

C: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

P: God has made you His child through baptism. Go forth, joyfully fulfilling His will, knowing that your future is secure in Christ.

C: Amen!

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

Refrain



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

Refrain



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to

sin and a-live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PSALM 29

P: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**C: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

P: The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

**C: The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

P: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**C: He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

P: The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.

**C: The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

P: The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,

C: and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

P: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**C: May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P: 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 mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



Kyrie Eleison

LORD, HAVE MERCY

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

HYMN OF ACCLAMATION: We Know That Christ Is Raised (LSB 603)

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.

Em - braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;
Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life.
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.

And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

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HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (LSB 594)



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized
4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized
5 There is noth - ing worth com-par - ing To this life-long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong-er:
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in
E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth
con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
font I've trav - eled, All your might has
dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance
waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -
did re - lease me In a dear for -
come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your
bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.
in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

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(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin. Follow the direction of the usher to approach the altar. Distribution of the elements will be by wafers placed into your hands and individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.

PREFACE

LSB 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

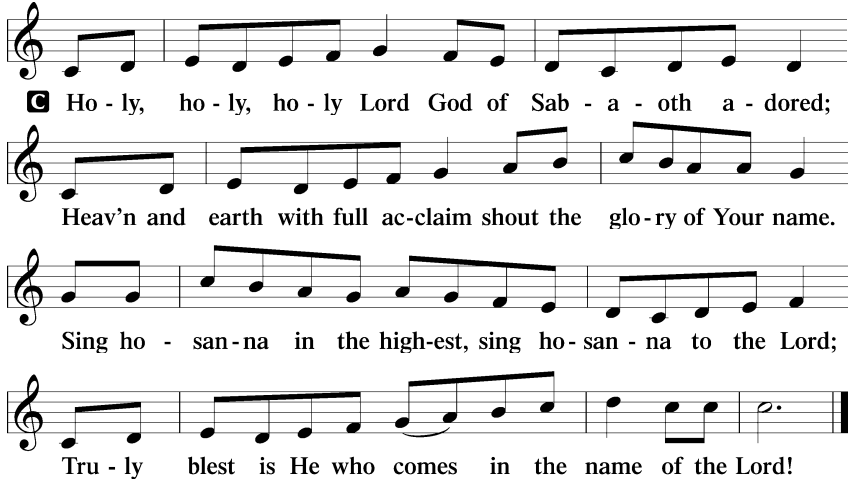
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**C: 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

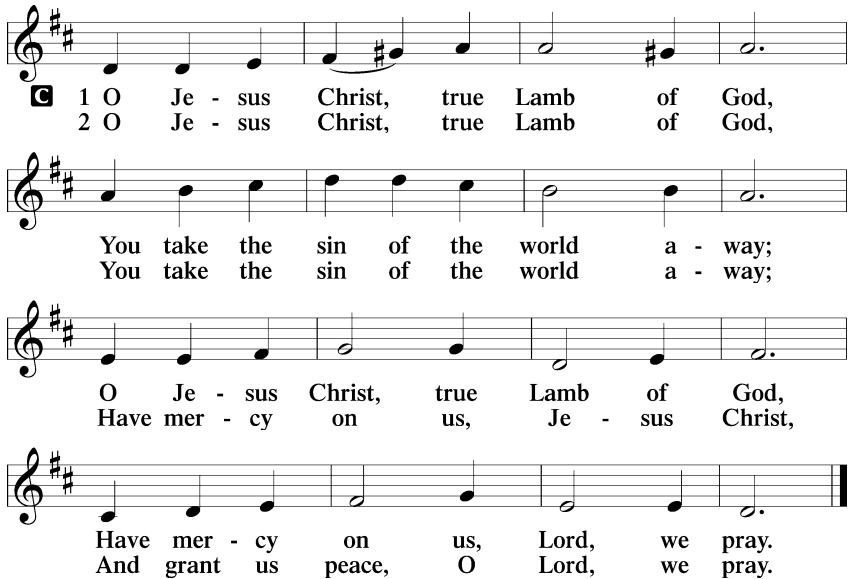
PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Please be seated)



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered (LSB 404)



1 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Had no blem - ish
 2 John con - fessed Him as the Sav - ior— "Look, the sin - less
 3 This the bap - tism that our Sav - ior Great - ly longed to
 4 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Full o - be - dience



of His own; In the wa - ters of the Jor - dan
 Lamb of God!" Yet he dared not loose the san - dals
 un - der - go; This the crim - son cleans - ing need - ed
 was Your path; You, by death, have con - se - crat - ed



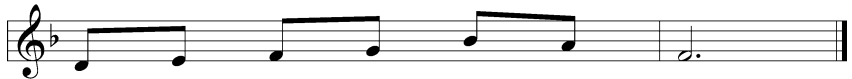
His true worth and work were shown: Heav - en o - pened
 Of the One God's love had shod. Oh, how fair the
 So the world God's love might know; This the mis - sion
 Wa - ter in this sav - ing bath: Dy - ing to the



and the Spir - it There de - scend - ed like a
 feet of Je - sus, Bring - ing news of peace to
 of Mes - si - ah As He stepped from Jor - dan's
 sin of Ad - am, Ris - ing to a life of



dove, As the Fa - ther's voice re - sound - ed,
 us, Christ, the her - ald of sal - va - tion,
 stream, He, the cho - sen and a - noint - ed
 grace; We are count - ed with the righ - teous,



"Hear My Son, the One I love."
 Preach - ing mer - cy - from the cross:
 Son of God, sent to re - deem.
 O - ver us the cross You trace.

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O Blessed Spring (LSB 595)



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

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(Please stand)



POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is -
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Thy Strong Word (LSB 578, stzs 1, 3-4, 6)



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth
 Δ 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -
 laud and hon - or be. To Thee, Light of



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.
 Light be - got - ten, Praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, Glo - ry,



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 glo - ry be to Thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 now and ev - er Praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

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Please turn in your attendance card as you leave.

OFFERING (*prayer requests*)

OFFERING VERSE – “Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.” Psalm 29:2

**[Ask yourself: How can I ascribe the glory due to God in my words
and in my actions? Singing hymns is a start, but it’s so much more!]**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – “Christian living means dying with Christ and rising again. That, as we saw, is part of the meaning of baptism, the starting point of the Christian pilgrimage.”– N.T. Wright [It’s also God’s *promise* that “what goes for Jesus goes for you”.]

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS
For the week of January 10 through January 17

TODAY: Bible Class and Sunday School 8:45 AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM
Elders 11:15AM

MONDAY: Sewing Circle (Quilters) 8:30AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 7:00PM

TUESDAY: Kingdom Workers 7:15PM
Board of Christian Education 7:30PM

THURSDAY: Sewing Circle (Quilters) 8:30AM

NEXT SUNDAY: Bible Class and Sunday School 8:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE with COMMUNION 10:00AM

A MEASURE OF LOVE FOR OUR LORD
For the week of January 3, 2020
Sunday School 5 students, 3 teachers/helpers
Adult Bible Class 18

Worship Service Attendance
December 31-30; January 3-60; January 4-11
Online views
December 31-35; January 3-53

Tithes and Offerings
December 31: \$5,432.99
January 3: \$7,168.00
Weekly Offerings Budget: \$8,100.00

Monthly Actual v Budget
December: \$51,201.99 v \$32,400.00 (surplus \$18,801.99)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BIBLE STUDY Will you know people you've loved in the New Creation? What will your relationship with your spouse be like when Christ comes back? We will discuss this emotionally charged question and others next week. Join us in person or online!

According to a recent study, *Americans spend around 5.4 hours a day* using phones. Millennials are on their phones *5.7 hours* per day, while Baby Boomers devote *5 hours* to their smart phones. **How about using 1/5 of that for Bible study!** Join us!

To access by phone: 415-762-9988 or 646-568-7788. Follow the prompts once you dial in to enter the Meeting ID when asked (798 4070 1280#). When asked to enter participant code hit the # key, and then it will ask for the password (5180#).

To access online: Go to Zoom.com. Click "join a meeting" at the top of the page, and enter 798 4070 1280 in meeting ID box. The passcode is 5180. If you've not used Zoom on your computer before, it will ask if you want to download and install it. You do, and it's okay to allow it to make changes to your computer. NOTE: You can do this part ahead of time, so you're all ready to go before Sunday morning. Questions? Call the office! 314-741-6781.

2. THIS WEEK ON KFUO AM850, study the Gospel of Mark on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), continue in 2 Corinthians on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and take a moment in creation, scripture, faith, and family on Midday Moments (weekdays at 12:00 p.m.). Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or your favorite podcasting app.

3. CHILI LUNCH ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 – Traditionally, a Chili Lunch is served in the church basement by Salem's Lutherans For Life Chapter after the worship service on Life Sunday. This tradition will continue this year, except it will be a carry-out meal with a free-will offering going to the Chapter's project again this year—Bethesda Lutheran Communities. So plan on coming down to the church basement and taking home a hot chili meal on a cold winter day.

4. BIRTHDAY PARTY BOX IN-GATHERING for Bethesda Lutheran Communities begins January 10 and will conclude February 14. As the Wise Men came to worship Jesus and presented Him with precious gifts, we will have the opportunity to present the intellectually and developmentally disabled residents of the Bethesda homes in the St. Louis area with items that can be used to make each of their birthdays a wonderful celebration. And they do love to celebrate their birthdays! A table will be available in the church entry for your donations of birthday cards, plates, napkins, balloons, streamers, banners, decorations, hats, and gifts such as devotion books, prayer books, CDs, and gift cards. NO CAKES, CAKE MIXES, FROSTINGS OR OTHER EDIBLE ITEMS.

5. OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2021 are available to be picked up in the Narthex. Questions? Please call Bill Lichtenberg at 314-741-0862.

6. POINSETTIAS on the church entry stairs are available for the taking whether you ordered on or not. So take some for yourself and to share with someone.

7. E-GIVING IS POSSIBLE for making your gifts to Salem! You can download the Abundant app on your smart device and search for Salem Lutheran Church, you can text SALEMBJ to 73256 to receive a link to make your donation, or you can go to:

<https://abundant.co/salemlutheranchurch>

If you have any questions, please call Lisa Briggs (314) 330-2674.

8. ALTAR FLOWER CHART FOR 2021 is now available in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers for a worship service, you may sign up to do so on the Flower Chart or by calling the church office. Please plan to take the flowers after the service as delivery by the Flower Committee cannot be done at the present time due to quarantine conditions.

9. ANSWERING THE CALL - The Salem School board has started the process of searching for a new principal for the 2021/2022 school year. We are asking the congregation to submit names of anyone who would be interested and rostered (eligible) with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in order to receive this call. Please email your information or questions to Cyndi Johnson at ckjohnson1@charter.net or call her at 314-707-1231.

10. LCMS CONVENTION REFERENDUM – The following referendum will be presented for a vote at Salem’s January Voters’ meeting:

Shall the Synod add a year to the current 2019–2022 triennium, allowing districts to hold their conventions in either 2021 or 2022, and moving the upcoming national Synod Convention from 2022 to 2023? [Thereafter, the triennium cycle will continue forward from 2023 in three-year increments, as before (i.e., with district conventions held in 2025, 2028, etc., and Synod Conventions held in 2026, 2029, etc..)]

The basic purpose for this referendum is to allow the various districts of the LCMS one extra year to hold their conventions due to the restrictions presented by COVID-19. Further information can be found at the following web sites: www.lcms.org/delay-vote-letter and www.lcms.org/delay-vote-faqs. Please contact Keith Scherer if you have any further questions.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER: Week of January 10, 2021

- OUR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES: Tyler Hawkins; Avery Heard; Kaiden Henderson
- OUR MEMBERS: Terry, Jr and Nicole Laurain, Mason; Lavetta Lawrence; Hannah and Curtis Laws
- OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: LaVerne Schnelle, Alice Schroeder, Johnnie Warner
- OUR ILL / HOSPITALIZED: Dee Meyerhoff, Randy Adler, Jane Thur, Paul McWilliams, Dottie McWilliams, Kate Allen (mother of Richard Brower), Bill Lichtenberg, Todd Fuller, Cliff Fuller, Jan Altevogt, Jennifer (niece of Cindy and Dale Schulz), Alicia Waller, Marilyn Patterson, Leo Russavage, Anthony Mueller (grandson of Larry and Loretta Riedisser), Bernie Pikal (son-in-law of the Gronemeiers), Karen Becker, Christina Brower, and Steve Ziegler.
- OUR SISTER CONGREGATIONS: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Mound City, MO; Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Crossville, Tennessee; and Hope Lutheran Church in Brewster, Washington.
- ANNIVERSARIES: Michael and Merna Rikard (1/11); Bob and Mary Schutte (1/11)
- BIRTHDAYS: Marcus Golliday, Jr (1/10), Karl Hey (1/11), Samaria Buford (1/11), Lori Thorn (1/12), Melvin Meyer (1/13), Michael Fears (1/13), Bryan Gronemeier (1/13), Wendy Warner (1/14), Steven Mueller (1/15), Christiane Smith (1/15), Donald Seay (1/16), Steven Drion (1/16), Nancy Delvecchio (1/16)
- GUIDANCE and PATIENCE for all as we navigate ever-changing procedures with COVID-19
- EMPATHY, PATIENCE, MERCY, and an END to racism and violence in our nation

DEVOTION: *Portals of Prayer*

LEARN BY HEART: Isaiah 40:31

DAILY READINGS:

- Sun: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 19-32; Romans 2:17-29
- Mon: Ezekiel 33:1-20; Romans 3:1-18
- Tues: Ezekiel 34:1-24; Romans 3:19-31
- Wed: Ezekiel 36:13-28; Romans 4:1-25
- Thurs: Ezekiel 36:33—37:14; Romans 5:1-21
- Fri: Ezekiel 37:15-28; Romans 6:1-23
- Sat: Ezekiel 38:1-23; Romans 7:1-20