

*Salem Lutheran
Church and School*

Established 1849 Black Jack, MO



*Saturday April 3, 2021
7:00PM*

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

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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.

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.

AS WE GATHER

It was a night of watching by the LORD, to bring them out of the land of Egypt; so this same night is a night of watching kept to the LORD by all the people of Israel throughout their generations. Exodus 12:42

Annually the Passover recalled how God had delivered His people from their slavery in Egypt, led them safely through the waters of the Red Sea, and, with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, brought them into the land of the Promise. During Passover the people recalled this mighty act of God and nourished their hope for the final exodus from slavery to sin to full like with God. That final exodus took place from Good Friday to Easter Sunday when Jesus Christ passed from death to life that we might follow where He has led the way. Therefore, 'if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.' Romans 10:9

This is the "Queen of Feasts" and the original church year revolved only around Easter. Every Sunday was later designated a 'little Easter' recalling with thanksgiving the miracle of our Lord's death and resurrection for us.

The practice of the early church was to set a vigil for the whole night before Easter. St. Augustine (c. 300AD) comments, "This is the mother of all holy vigils; during this night the whole world keeps vigil." The vigil is a time of hope for the coming of Christ on the last Day, as well as a commemoration of His saving death and resurrection. The Holy Communion seals that promise as our Lord "abides in us that we may abide in Him."

The Easter Vigil has three parts: the lighting of the new fire, the recollection of God's saving acts in the past, and the baptism and renewal of baptismal vows. During the night, the Church has historically baptized converts, children, and infants. Then as the sun rose in the East they would celebrate their first Easter as Christians. Although baptisms now take place throughout the year, the Vigil continues to be the most central focus of baptism in the church year.

THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Liturgist/Officiant: Rev. Robert T. Briggs
Organist/Pianist: Elin Gomez

(Please remember to silence your cell phones)

The Easter Vigil

NO PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

(This service begins as a continuation of Holy Thursday and Good Friday, the Vigil, with the other two, forming what is called in Latin the Triduum, which simply means “the Three Days.” With our Lord symbolically dead in the tomb as this service begins, we commence in silence and darkness, devoid of all joy.)

The service begins with the Pastor speaking from the rear of the Sanctuary.

THE WELCOME

P: Welcome to God’s House! The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

(Congregation may face the rear of the Sanctuary)

P: My friends in Christ, whom the Lord dearly loves, at this most holy time, when our Lord passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of our Lord, whose victory over death we share in Word and Sacrament to celebrate His resurrection to life.

Let us pray:

C: O God, You are like a refiner’s fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival, that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found prepared to share in the Feast of Light that 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. Amen.

Lighting of the paschal candle.

EXTENDING THE LIGHT

The ushers light their tapers from the Paschal Candle and move down the center aisle, those closest to the aisle lighting their tapers from the usher's tapers, and in turn passing the light down the pew. Only the unlit candles are to be tilted at the time of lighting.

**C: With-in our dark-est night, (tune: Southwell SM)
Grant us Your light we pray;
The fire You kin-dle in our hearts,
That ne-ver dies a-way.**

(Verse is repeated continually until all candles have been lit)

**P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C: the light no darkness can overcome.**

**P: O Light of the world,
C: kindle a light to lighten our darkness that our worship
may be made bright by the inward presence of Your holy
light, and that all places, knowing the glory of Your
majesty, may be enlightened by Your radiance and filled
with Your power, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(Candles may be extinguished at this point of the service.)

GOD SAVES HIS PEOPLE

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 14:10-31

¹⁰When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

¹⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

¹⁹Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

³¹Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HYMN “When Israel was in Egypt’s Land”

P: When Israel was in Egypt’s land,

C: 
let my peo-ple go.

P: Oppressed so hard they could not stand,

C: **Let My people go!**

P: The Lord told Moses what to do,

C: **Let My people go!**

P: To lead the children of Israel through,

C: **Let My people go.**

C: (refrain)


Go down, Mo-ses, way down in E-gypt’s land;


Tell old Phar-aoh to let my peo-ple go.

P: The pillar of cloud shall clear the way,

C: **Let My people go.**

P: A fire by night, a shade by day,

C: **Let My people go.**

P: As Israel stood by the waterside,

C: **Let My people go.**

P: At God’s command it did divide;

C: **Let My people go.**

C: **Go Down, Mo-ses, way down in E-gypt’s land**

Tell old Pha-raoh to let My peo-ple go.

P: When they had reached the other shore,

C: **Let My people go.**

P: They sang the song of triumph o'er.

C: **Let My people go.**

P: Oh, let us all from bondage flee,

C: **Let My people go.**

P: And let us all in Christ be free,

C: **Let My people go.**

C: **Go Down, Mo-ses, way down in E-qypt's land
Tell old Pha-raoh to let My peo-ple go.**

THE SECOND READING

Exodus 15:1,2

¹Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. ²The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

THE PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: **O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them safely through the Red Sea, thereby giving us a picture of our Baptism. Grant that we may ever be faithful to Your baptismal promise, live in its grace, and show to all people Your desire that all should be made children of Abraham; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THE THIRD READING

1 Peter 3:17-22

¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

P: On this most holy day, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Good News of His glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. We also recall our death and resurrection in the waters of Baptism.

St. Paul says: “Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Brothers and sisters in Christ, as Israel of old, we all at one time stood before the waters waiting for redemption.

And having been baptized, I now ask you to renew the promises made at your Baptism, to profess your faith in Jesus Christ, and to turn your back on the devil and all his works and all his ways. Therefore, I now ask you, do you renounce the devil, his works, his ways, his lies, his empty promises, and all the forces of evil?

C: **I do renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?

C: **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.**
- P: Do you promise to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of your Baptism, and, as a member of the Church, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?
 C: **Yes, with the help of God.**
- P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.
 C: **Amen.**

THE BAPTISMAL HYMN

“Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy”

LSB 590

Baptized into Your name most holy,
 O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
 Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
 Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
 Your Spirit now shall live within.

My loving Father, here You take me
 To be henceforth Your child and heir.
 My faithful Savior, here You make me
 The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
 O Holy Spirit, comfort me
 When threat'ning clouds around I see.

My faithful God, You fail me never;
 Your promise surely will endure.
 O cast me not away forever
 If words and deeds become impure.
 Have mercy when I come defiled;
 Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

All that I am and love most dearly—
 Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
 Let me confess my faith sincerely;
 Help me Your faithful child to be!
 Let nothing that I am or own
 Serve any will but Yours alone.

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: We rise to pray.

P: Joined as a family of faith on this most holy night, we pray for the Church and all who minister in the name of Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy.

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for this congregation that the blessings of Holy Baptism may be lived out by all of our members. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for ourselves, that we would live confidently in our baptismal renewal, being the people of faith and of faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for those with special challenges, those whose needs are close to our hearts. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, those recuperating from illness, and all those with other needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious Lord, we thank You for the faithful witness of those no longer with us here on earth who now rejoice in light eternal. May we be inspired by their witness and seek to serve You all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer. Amen.**

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE CALL TO CELEBRATION

P: People of the light, keepers of the Word, God's own baptized children, a feast of resurrection awaits us. We celebrate the risen Lord! The darkness passes. The time of sorrow has ended. Jesus lives! This is the feast of victory for our God! So, let us now join together in the first resurrected "Alleluia" of Easter.

C: **(shouting) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

1. **This joyful Eastertide
 Away with sin and sorrow!
 My love, the Crucified,
 Has sprung to life this morrow:**

**REFRAIN: Had Christ, who once was slain,
 Not burst His three-day prison,
 Our faith had been in vain:
 But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
 But now has Christ arisen!**

2. **Death's flood has lost its chill
 Since Jesus crossed the river;
 Lover of souls, from ill
 My passing soul deliver:**

**Had Christ, who once was slain,
 Not burst His three-day prison,
 Our faith had been in vain:
 But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
 But now has Christ arisen!**

3. **My flesh in hope shall rest
 And for a season slumber
 Till trump from east to west
 Shall wake the dead in number:**

**Had Christ, who once was slain,
 Not burst His three-day prison,
 Our faith had been in vain:
 But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
 But now has Christ arisen!**

Text and music: Public domain

THE CELEBRATION OF DECORATION

- P: Now the church is about to be decorated for Easter. The old rugged cross will be spotlighted, and the black draping changed to white. The pastor will dress in white vestments. The altar will be dressed and the chancel reappointed after having been stripped bare for Good Friday.

The chancel will be decked with lilies. The candles will be lit to reflect the light of Christ. He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

(God's people go to work at a setting befitting Resurrection celebration.)

SERVICE OF THE SUPPER

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(all rise)

P: As the first act of resurrected spiritual life, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and make confession.

C: Heavenly Father, in Your mercy, grant us Your forgiveness. We repent of our many sins and confess the darkness in our lives. Create in us clean hearts, gracious Lord, and put new and right spirits within us that we may know the fullness of Your love and reflect it gratefully.

P: Christ is arisen! He is the victor over sin, death, and Satan. Assured of His glorious resurrection triumph, we rejoice in the benefits He has won for us. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" (st.1)

LSB 633

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His piercèd side.
Alleluia!**

THE EASTER GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

P: The Gospel of St. Matthew, the 28th Chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." ⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

THE LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Please see communion information in the front of the bulletin.

THE PREFACE

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: In joy and great thanksgiving we come before our risen Lord to offer Him all praise and adoration. Jesus died a horrifying death to pay the penalty for our sin. Yet three days later He rose, not only in spirit, but in body to ensure us that we too will live, united in body and soul, with Him again at the resurrection of all flesh. And now with all those who proclaim His name, both in heaven and on earth, we glorify our risen Lord, singing:

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” (st.2)

LSB 633

**Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 INSTITUTION

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.

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

C: Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

He's Risen, He's Risen

LSB 480

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

LSB 475

THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Let us pray.

C: Risen Lord, we bless You for bringing us the light of life and for sharing of Yourself and Your gracious love at Your table. Strengthen us in Your service so that we may be Your Easter people throughout all of our lives. This we ask in Your powerful and majestic name. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The almighty and merciful Lord,
The Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit,
Fill you with His light and His life,
Now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” (sts. 7&8)

LSB 633

**Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!**

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

(Please be seated and wait to be ushered out.)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Triduum is ended. We return to our homes and prepare to celebrate the victory of our Lord’s resurrection at the Lamb’s High Feast tomorrow on Easter Sunday beginning at 6:30am for our special Sunrise Service. Our Easter Breakfast Feast will begin at 7:00am and conclude at 9:00am with Easter Service at 9:30am.

Soli Deo Gloria!

THE POSTLUDE

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