

**Salem Ev Lutheran Church  
CHRISTMAS 1**

**Pastor Bare & Pastor Wilde  
December 27, 2020**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN 77**

**In his temple now behold him; See the long-expected Lord.  
Ancient prophets had foretold him; God has now fulfilled his Word.  
Now to praise him, his redeemed Shall break forth with one accord.**

**In the arms of her who bore him, Virgin pure, behold him lie,  
While his aged saints adore him Ere in faith and hope they die.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! See th' incarnate God most high!**

**Jesus, by your presentation, You who did for us endure,  
Let us see your great salvation, Seal us with your promise sure,  
And present us in your glory To your Father, cleansed and pure.**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you. Amen.

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** Amen.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**FIRST LESSON****Isaiah 45:20-25**

Gather! Come! Draw near together, you survivors from the nations. They have no knowledge—those who are lifting up their idols of wood and praying to a god that cannot save. Make an announcement and come close. Let them consult together. Who made this known ahead of time? From time past who announced it? Was it not I, the Lord? There is no god except me, a righteous God and Savior. There is no one except me. Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth, because I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by myself. From my mouth a righteous word has gone out, and it will not return unfulfilled. Indeed, to me every knee will bow, and every tongue will swear allegiance. “Only in the Lord,” they will say of me, “Only in the Lord is there true righteousness and strength.” To him they will come and be ashamed— all those who are angry at him. In the Lord, all the descendants of Israel will be justified. They will be praised by him.

**HYMN 40, vv 1, 5**

**O Jesus Christ, Your manger is  
My paradise where my soul is reclining.  
For there, O Lord, We find the Word  
Made flesh for us -- your grace is brightly shining.**

**The world may hold Her wealth and gold;  
But you, my heart, keep Christ as your true treasure.  
To him hold fast Until at last  
A crown is yours and honor in full measure.**

**SECOND LESSON****Colossians 3:12-17**

Therefore, as God’s elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL****Luke 2:25-40**

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said, Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word, because my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Joseph and the child’s mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” Anna, a

prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. Standing nearby at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

**HYMN OF THE DAY 41, v 1,2,5,6**

**Let all together praise our God Before his highest throne  
Today he opens heav'n again And gives us his own Son,  
And gives us his own Son.**

**He leaves his heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall,  
Lies in a humble stall.**

**He serves that I a lord may be -- A great exchange indeed!  
Could Jesus' love do more for me To help me in my need?  
To help me in my need?**

**For us he opens wide the door Of paradise today.  
The angel guards the gate no more; To God our thanks we pay,  
To God our thanks we pay.**

**SERMON     DON'T MISS THE SECOND MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS     Isaiah 45:20-25**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

**RESPONSE HYMN 78**

**O Light of Gentile nations, O Savior from above,  
Drawn by your Spirit's leading, We come with joy and love  
Into your holy temple And wait with rev'rent mind  
As Simeon once had waited His God and Lord to find.**

**Dear Lord, your servants meet you In ev'ry holy place  
Where your true Word has promised That we should see your face.**

**Today you still allow us Who gather round you here  
In arms of faith to hold you As did that aged seer.**

**Lord, when life's troubles touch us, You seem to hide your face,  
And through our tears we often Can scarcely sense your grace.  
Then be our joy and brightness, Our cheer in pain and loss,  
Our sun in darkest terror, The glory round our cross.**

**Let us, O Lord, be faithful Like Simeon to the end  
So that his prayer exultant May from our hearts ascend:  
"O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, I pray,  
Since I have seen my Savior And here beheld his day."**

## **PRAYERS**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **HYMN 707**

Peace came to earth at last that chosen night  
When angels clove the sky with song and light  
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—  
Who could but gasp: Immanuel! Who could but sing: Immanuel!

And who could be the same for having held  
The infant in their arms and later felt  
The wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled—  
Who could but sigh: Immanuel! Who could but shout: Immanuel!

You show the Father none has ever seen,  
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,  
In bread and wine you visit us again—  
Who could but see: Immanuel! Who could but thrill: Immanuel!

How else could I have known you, O my God!  
 How else could I have loved you, O my God!  
 How else could I embrace you, O my God!  
 Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise: Immanuel!

**WELS Connection**

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**The Owosso Lutheran Hour is provided** in thankfulness to God for the blessings He has given Salem this past year.

**This week at Salem**

**Sunday 8 & 10:30am Worship Services**  
**Thursday 6:00pm New Year's Eve Communion Service**  
**Sunday 8 & 10:30am Communion Services**  
**9:30am Bible Class**  
**1:30pm Public School Confirmation Class**

**Thank you:** Thank you to all who sent cards, gifts, thoughts and prayers to Pastor Wilde and me after the loss of my mother. It means the world to us during this difficult time! We rejoice knowing she gets to celebrate the holidays in heaven this year! Pastor Wilde and I would also like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We are so blessed to have all of you in our lives and look forward to all that 2021 has in store for Salem this year! ~ Meghan

	<b>Dec 13</b>	<b>To Date</b>
Offerings received	\$9,900.10	\$533,643.64
FEF/Tuition/ Reg	\$ 605.63	\$ 29,837.87
Other/ Interest	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 1,016.20</u>
Total:	\$10,505.73	\$564,497.71
Budgetary needs	\$12,588.37	\$629,291.50**
Difference	-\$2,082.64	-\$64,793.79



\*\* Budgetary needs are based on our 2020 budget; our expenses in 2020 have been considerably under-budget due to Covid closures and our Synod health insurance and pension holiday of one month and one quarter, respectively. Our God is good!

Owed to internal line of credit: \$0