

**Salem Ev Lutheran Church
Epiphany 5**

**Pastor Bare & Pastor Wilde
February 4 & 7, 2021**

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 451

**Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

**P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts.
Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.**

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed
you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is
good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry
for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a
sinner.**

**P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning
sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive
you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P: Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our
ears to hear. Help us believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are
pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Job 7:1-7

Isn't man's time on earth like being compelled to serve in the army? Aren't his days like those of a hired man? Like a slave, he longs for shade, or like a day laborer, he waits for his pay. In the same way, I have been allotted months of futility, and nights of agony have been assigned to me. When I lie down, I think, "How long before I get up?" But the night drags on, and I am filled with restlessness until dawn. My flesh is clothed with maggots and caked with dirt. My skin scabs over and then oozes again. My days pass by more swiftly than the shuttle of a weaver's loom. They come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is just a breath. My eyes will never again see good fortune.

HYMN 82, vv 1 & 5

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,
Manifested by the star To the Magi from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem, In your birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to you addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see you, Lord, Mirrored in your holy Word.
May our lives and all we do Imitate and honor you
That we all like you may be At your great epiphany
And may praise you, ever blest, God in man made manifest.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:28-30

We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose, because those God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called. Those he called, he also justified. And those he justified, he also glorified.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

They left the synagogue and went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was lying in bed, sick with a fever. Without delay they told Jesus about her. He went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, when the sun had set, the people kept bringing to him all who were sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door. He healed many people who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons. But he did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew who he was. Jesus got up early in the morning, while it was still dark, and went out. He withdrew to a solitary place and was praying there. Simon and his companions searched for him, and, when they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is looking for you!" He told them, "Let's go somewhere else, to the neighboring villages, so that I can preach there too. In fact, that is why I have come." Then he went throughout the whole region of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

HYMN OF THE DAY 93

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed, Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,
To take away transgression, And rule in equity.**

**He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong,
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Are precious in his sight.**

**Kings shall bow down before him And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him; His praise all people sing.
To him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend,
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.**

**O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever -- That name to us is Love.**

SERMON

Romans 8:28-30

Believe God's Unbelievable Promise!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN 429

**What God ordains is always good; His will is just and holy.
As he directs my life for me, I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed In ev'ry need
Knows well how he will shield me; To him, then, I will yield me.**

**What God ordains is always good; He never will deceive me.
He leads me in his righteous way And never will he leave me.
I take content What he has sent;
His hand that sends me sadness Will turn my tears to gladness.**

**What God ordains is always good; He is my friend and Father.
He will not let me suffer harm Though many storms may gather.
Now I may know Both joy and woe;
Some day I shall see clearly That he has loved me dearly.**

**What God ordains is always good; This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm, For with his arm
He will embrace and shield me; So to my God I yield me.**

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.

THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

**♪ Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.**

Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**♪ O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.
Amen.**

Distribution

The communicant members of Salem are invited to receive the Lord’s Supper. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus’ body and blood are present in the sacrament, and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with a pastor prior to the service before communing. We don’t want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we’ve had an opportunity to explain them. The pastors would be happy to explore our convictions with you, on the basis of God’s Word, so that you might commune with us in the future! Communicants who desire grape juice instead of wine may indicate so by raising an index finger as they approach the pastor. If you require a gluten free wafer, please speak to a pastor prior to worship.

Prayer

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: 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 760

**When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain

**It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

**My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

Refrain

**It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

**And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain

**It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

(Hymns used with permission obtained from One License with license #A-715074)

Offerings are collected at the door on your way out. If you're a visitor today, we're glad to have you as our guest. Please don't feel any obligation to participate in this part of our worship. In fact, we hope you'll consider this service our gift to you! The offering is an opportunity for those of us who are regular attenders to invest tangibly in what God is doing here. If you do wish to give an offering, we thank you for praising God with your generosity.

The Owosso Lutheran Hour is provided in loving memory of Robert Swan by his family. His birthday was February 4th.

Ash Wednesday is February 17th. We will have Wednesday Lenten services at noon (mask required) and at 7pm. The services will also be on our YouTube channel at 7pm. We will also continue the Thursday, mask required, services during Lent. You can sign up for all these services with the link on our website www.salemowosso.org.

This week at Salem

Sunday	8 & 10:30am	Communion Services
	9:30am	Bible Class
	1:30pm	Public School Confirmation Class
Monday	7:00pm	Elders
Tuesday	10:30am	Bible Class
Wednesday	6:00pm	Handbells
	7:00pm	Bible Information Class
Thursday	7:00pm	MASK REQUIRED Worship Service
Friday	all day	No School

	January 24	To Date
Offerings received	\$ 8,298.35	\$ 39,594.04
FEF/Tuition/ Reg	\$ 454.27	\$ 2,687.59
Other/ Interest	\$ 8.64	\$ 8.64
Total:	\$8,761.26	\$ 42,290.27
Budgetary needs	\$12,588.37	\$49,990.16
Difference	-\$3,736.28	-\$7,359.53



Owed to internal line of credit: \$0

Please let us know if you do not want a 2022 box of envelopes ordered for your use. Perhaps you are giving only on-line or perhaps you prefer not to use an envelope because you don't itemize and don't need or want a year-end statement of your total offerings. So please contact the church office by February 28th if you do not want a 2022 envelope box!

The Flint And Saginaw Pregnancy Care Centers Need Your Help!

The Flint Center especially needs volunteers for this important and rewarding ministry. If you would like to volunteer, but are nervous to do it alone, Meghan Wilde we be going through volunteer training soon, and would love company! Speak to her if you would like to join her. See the bulletin insert "Speaking Up" for more information on what volunteering entails and for information about some of the other many ways you can help. The Flint Center is also in special need of boys and girls winter pajamas in sizes 18mo, 2T, 3T and 4T. If your children have outgrown those sizes there are families who would be thankful for gently used pajamas. If you like to shop, check the clearance racks now for winter pj's as there may be some good deals to be had. Donations can be brought to the church office.



SPEAKING UP

Volume 8 - Issue 1 - January/February 2021



...for the Pregnancy Care Centers of Flint and Saginaw; and encouraging area WELS and ELS members & congregations to continue to support this ministry with their prayers, participation, and financial gifts. Our Centers are affiliated with Christian Life Resources, (CLR), a parasynodical organization of WELS.

FLINT CENTER

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(810) 762-1262
flintpcc.org

SAGINAW CENTER

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STRONGER TOGETHER

You're probably familiar with Solomon's "cord of three strands" from Ecclesiastes chapter four. It's a passage we most commonly hear at weddings: "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." (Ec 4:12) As Christians, we can't help but think of Christ when we hear this at a wedding (Bride + Groom + Christ = Three Strands!), and while that's a wonderful, biblical, and even true thought, it's not exactly what Solomon had in mind. The wise king was making a much more simple point. Look at the surrounding verses and it's clear. He describes the emptiness of working for yourself alone. He talks about helping each other up, keeping each other warm, and pitying those who are alone. Simply put, we are stronger together.

That's why our Pregnancy Care Centers exist. We are stronger together, no matter who that "we" is. God has blessed us in so many ways, but especially with the knowledge and peace of knowing salvation is found in him. With that peace and comfort we are able and eager to be the second or third (or even fourth or fifth!) strands for people in our communities who may feel incredibly alone. We are stronger together when we give diapers and formula to a mom who isn't sure how she's going to pay rent. We are stronger together when we share our Savior's love with someone who has no one in their life to point them to Jesus.

Add in the amazing fact that our God and Savior, Jesus, comes to be together with us as well, and you have one incredibly strong rope! God bless all our volunteers and you as we all work to be part of each other's ropes!

EVERYONE CAN HELP!

There are so many ways to actively support the ministry of our Pregnancy Care Centers. It is not an exaggeration to say that anyone can help! Although you can help as often as you like, none of these positions require more than once a month service. We'll provide training so that you feel comfortable and ready for whatever work you choose, although you'll be surprised how ready your faith has already made you! Consider challenging yourself to serve in any of the following ways this year!

1. Be a **HELPLINE VOLUNTEER** - When our centers are closed, our clients' needs do not go away! During your shift, calls will be forwarded to your cell phone. You will record the caller's information, schedule appointments, and may connect callers with our mentors.
2. Be a **RECEPTIONIST** - Greet our clients as they arrive at our centers and record their basic information, like names and addresses. Answer the phone during business hours and help to schedule appointments with our mentors.
3. Be a **MENTOR** - Meet and talk to clients face to face in our centers. You'll offer Bible-based advice tailored to each client's specific situation. You will get wonderful opportunities to share the good news of God's salvation with people who need to hear it the most.
4. Be a **FINANCIAL SUPPORTER** - Your monetary donations are used to cover operating expenses for our centers as they perform important Gospel-focused ministry. This includes purchasing Bibles, pamphlets, study materials, and other necessities.
5. Be a **DONATION SORTER** - Shy or uncomfortable talking to others? You can help by sorting and organizing the many donations we receive.
6. Be a **CLEANER** - Another good opportunity for those who don't feel ready to be a mentor/receptionist/helpline volunteer.
7. Be a **HANDYMAN** - Men can help too! Help maintain the two properties the Pregnancy Care Centers are blessed to own.
8. Be a **SHOPPER** - Find a great deal at a store or garage sale on maternity & baby clothes and equipment? Pick it up for the PCCs! Your donations of this type are even tax deductible!
9. Be a **CHILD CARE PROVIDER** - Show love for our clients by watching their children while moms attend Bible classes.
10. Be a **PRAYER WARRIOR** - Don't underestimate the power of prayer. God says your prayers are powerful. Use them!
11. Be a **BOARD MEMBER** - Another great way for men to serve. We are in near-desperate need of Christian men to fill our Board of Directors, and to help guide the PCCS in the future!



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