

**Salem Ev Lutheran Church  
Baptism of Our Lord**

**Pastor Bare & Pastor Wilde  
January 7 & 10, 2021**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN 90**

**The people that in darkness sat  
A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shone on them who long  
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.**

**To us a child of hope is born,  
To us a son is giv'n,  
And on his shoulders ever rests  
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.**

**His righteous government and pow'r  
Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based,  
His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.**

**Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
And make us yours alone,  
For you are with the Father and  
The Spirit ever one, The Spirit ever one.**

**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** Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ, faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON**

**Isaiah 49:1-6**

Listen to me, you coastlands. Pay attention, you faraway peoples! The Lord called me from the womb. When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name. He made my mouth like a sharpened sword. He hid me in the shadow of his hand. He made me a polished arrow. He concealed me in his quiver. He said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory." But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain. I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing. Yet a just verdict for me rests with the Lord, and my reward is with my God." But now the Lord, who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to turn Jacob back to him, so that Israel might be gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the eyes of the Lord, because my God has been my strength— the Lord said: It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant to raise up only the tribes of Jacob and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel, so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

## **HYMN 78, vv 2.3**

**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.**

## **SECOND LESSON**

**Acts 16:25-34**

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Instantly all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted with a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we are all here!" The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his home. At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds. Without delay, he and all his family were baptized. Then he brought Paul and Silas into his house and set food before them. He rejoiced, because he and his whole household had come to believe in God.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 1:4-11**

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He preached, "One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! I 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. Just as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you."

## **HYMN OF THE DAY 89**

**To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.**

**The Savior came to be baptized --  
The Son of God in flesh disguised --  
To stand beneath the Father's will  
And all his promises fulfill.**

**As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on him from above.**

**Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound  
Came God's own voice with words profound:  
"This is my Son," was his decree,  
"The one I love, who pleases me."**

**The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**

**Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

**SERMON**

**God's (Not So) Hidden Greatness**

**Isaiah 49:1-6**

## **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 36**

**A great and mighty wonder, A glorious mystery:**

**A virgin bears an infant Who veils his deity.**

**Repeat the hymn again:**

**"To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men."**

**The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.**

**Repeat the hymn again:**

**"To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men."**

**Since all he comes to ransom, By all be he adored,  
The infant born in Beth'lem, The Savior and the Lord.**

**Repeat the hymn again:**

**"To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men."**

## **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 709**

**Christ, your footprints through the desert  
Led to Jordan's flowing stream.  
There you heard the herald crying  
Israel's old prophetic dream:  
"He is coming! He is coming!  
He will cleanse the earth with flame!  
Sinners, plunge beneath the waters!  
Wash away your guilt and shame!"**

**Christ, you heard the stirring summons  
As by Jordan's bank you stood;  
Bathed, though sinless, with your people  
In the river's cleansing flood.  
High above, the heavens opened;  
Came the Spirit as a dove;  
Spoke a voice beyond all hearing:  
"See my Son, the one I love!"**

**Son of God, the road from Jordan  
Led at last to Calv'ry's hill.  
There upon the cross forsaken,  
You fulfilled the Father's will.  
Lamb of God, we see you dying,  
Sinless, yet for sinners slain.  
But where death rose up to triumph,  
You began your glorious reign!**

**God, in Baptism you have made us  
One with Christ, our risen Lord;  
Freed us, claimed us, cleansed, forgiven  
Through the water and the Word.  
Help us hear your urgent summons,  
Calling us to serve you now.  
Send us forth, your sons and daughters,  
With the cross upon our brow.**

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

**In Loving Memory of  
Betty Louise Smith  
Entered Earthly Life: July 28, 1929  
Entered Eternal Life: January 1, 2021**

**This week at Salem**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8 &amp; 10:30am</b>	<b>Worship Services</b>
	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Bible Class</b>
	<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>Public Confirmation Class</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Elders' Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Bible Class</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Handbells</b>
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Bible Information Class</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Communion Service</b>

**Our sincere sympathies** to Donna Mueller and family on the passing of her youngest son, Kurt. Donna's address is 4411 Alvarado Dr, Bay City MI 48706

**December 24-31    Year End**

Offerings received	\$34,229.15	\$581,738.58
FEF/Tuition/ Reg	\$ 304.27	\$ 30,142.14
Other/ Interest	\$ 7.73	\$ 1,023.93
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 34,541.15</b>	<b>\$612,904.65</b>



Budgetary needs	\$12,588.37	\$654,463.16**
Difference	\$21,952.78	-\$41,558.51

\*\* Budgetary needs are based on our 2020 budget; our expenses in 2020 have been considerably under-budget due to Covid closures.

Owed to internal line of credit:        \$0