

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FONTANELLE
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November 22, 2020



SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
FONTANELLE, NEBRASKA

Sunday, November 22, 2020 - Christ the King Sunday

Gathering + The Word + Community + Sending

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us into one body all together (online and in person!) by God's grace.

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Holy One,

C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

+DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: Amen.

+APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: Good and generous God, on this Christ the King Sunday, help us to remember that you are the king of our hearts. Help us to be thankful, knowing that all we have, and our very lives are gifts to use in service to your name. Give us grateful hearts for our families, our friends, and our neighbors near and far. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Word

We listen to the Word.

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

PSALMODY: Psalm 95:1-7a (to be read responsively)

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.

3 For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

4 In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.

5 The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

7a For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** (Reading of Matthew 25:31-36.)

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

Jesus said to the disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

SERMON SONG/SPECIAL MUSIC

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Tricia Siburg

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;

wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his harvest home;

from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;

give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.

Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

there, forever purified, in thy garner to abide.

Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home!

God calls us to be united in God's love, one in Christ.

+CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED

C: 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need

At the end of each petition:

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

+SHARING OF PEACE

Wave the peace to each other, share peace signs, or do a socially distanced "butterfly peace"

P: The peace of Christ be with you now and always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING REFLECTION - *Gratitude for God/Special Music*

Shout to the Lord

Tricia Siburg

*My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;
let ev'ry breath, all that I am never cease to worship you.*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.*

Darlene Zschech/1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin Integrity Hosanna! Music

Offering plates are at both entrance and exits for your convenience,

or you can give online thru our website.

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

C: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

+DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.

+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Thanks be to you, O God, for the many gifts you have given us: each day and night, each river, valley, field and mountain each weather fair, each calm, each wild. And especially we thank you for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

P: We remember his mercy given so gently and generously, even in the very night in which he was betrayed, Our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in the remembrance of me.

**P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in the remembrance of me.**

P: With your Holy ones of all times and places, with earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon, and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+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 DISTRIBUTION (please be seated as we receive the sacrament)

P: This is the body of Christ, given for you.

P: This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

C: Amen.

Sending

We are sent from the worship service, to our serving of God & our neighbors in the week ahead.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS *for in-person and online worshippers for departing and the week ahead*

BENEDICTION (please stay seated - ushers will dismiss by pew)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord, and remember that Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name, arr. Holden

- Rev. Allison Siburg --- Pastor
- Rev. Scott Johnson --- Preacher
- Nancy Schroeder --- Musician
- Cynthia Carter, Ava Miller --- Acolytes
- Lynne Walz --- Lector
- Tricia Siburg --- Cantor
- Health Cabinet --- Ushers
- Scott Flynn, Briar Uhing --- Sound Room
- Brett Hull, Carrie Flynn --- Counters
- Carrie Flynn, Confirmation kids --- Altar Guild

WELCOME TO SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Enter in stillness...know that the Lord is God.

Listen in reverence...it is God who had made us.

Sing with delight...it is God who hears us.

Depart in peace...it is God's gift to you.

Serve with joy...it is your gift to God.

THIS WEEK AT SALEM:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22:	Hanging of the Greens	11:30 am
	Men's Bible Study	6:00 pm
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24:	Mail Shalom	
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26:	Thanksgiving/Church office closed	
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29:	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Worship/First Sunday of Advent	10:30 am
	Men's Bible Study	11:30 am

Mondays - In the office - Jody, 9-5
Tuesdays at 10:00am - Children's Message on Facebook
Wednesdays - In the office - Jody, 9-5
Thursdays - In the office - Jody, 9-1

MANY THANKS TO Pastor Scott Johnson who will be serving as pulpit supply for the majority of Pastor Allison's maternity leave. Pastor Johnson is the Director of Campus Ministry at Midland University in Fremont. Please welcome Pastor Johnson this morning.

MANY THANKS TO Nancy Schroeder for serving as our organist/pianist today and to Tricia Siburg for canting for us this morning.

HANGING OF THE GREENS WILL TAKE PLACE TODAY!! Please plan to stay and help if you can.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE - As in the past Salem is participating in the Holiday Food Drive helping the Care Corps' LifeHouse Food Pantry. This is a great program that helps get full case lots of the kinds of food LifeHouse can utilize. It is also less hassle for the giver as they will have a record of donations and will not have to worry about taking food to church and then having delivered to LifeHouse. The supplier does this at no profit, so every dollar is going to help feed people in need in our local area.

Forms are available in both the front and back narthex. Just fill out the form along with your check made out to Salem (one check will then written to LifeHouse) and place in the offering plate.

Deadline is Wednesday, December 2. Thanks in advance for your help.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY So our Men's group at Salem Fontanelle has been pretty quiet, since our Men's group; holding a men's bible study starting this Sunday, November 25 beginning at 6pm, at Salem in Fontanelle. I chose a study from Vince Miller called "7 Challenges for Men". Everyone's invited. See you Sunday! The study will last for 7 weeks. Please contact Chris Walz if you have any questions.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH - I'm certain that when I tell you I'm tired of hearing the words COVID-19, pandemic, home school, on-line school, new normal, you-fill-in-the-blank, you will nod your head in agreement. I am tempted to just give up and throw my hands up in frustration. Temptation is exactly what we'll be studying this year through a book called "The Screwtape Letters." Remember the guy who wrote the Narnia Chronicles? Well, he wrote an interesting book about Christian theology, temptation and the resistance to temptation. Sounds deep doesn't it? It can be, but I have a great study guide specifically for teens to help us navigate temptation. Because maybe you're like me, and you're tempted to just give up. It would be so much easier, but God doesn't want us to give up. If you're tempted to avoid the unattractive path God has planned, turn to Jesus on the cross. See Him as a reminder that priceless treasures are in broken vessels. (Chris Tiegreen wrote this.)

Are you tempted to join me? Come spend time on God's word on Sunday mornings in the church basement at 9:15.

Merry Muhsman

ADVENT 2020 - Council met on Monday, November 9th and discussed how to handle Advent this year. The decision was made to have **no meals** prior to worship and worship will be **online only**. Service will begin at 7:00 pm each week and can be found on Facebook.

Our series - "Arise and Shine" focuses each week on a different aspect of the light of Christ and how we are enlightened by him throughout our lives.

For the first week in Advent we will celebrate the "Rising Light". Repenting of our sins, as we put away the works of darkness and dress in the armor of light.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS FROM THE FLOCK The Worship and Music Committee is inviting families and households to make videos singing a favorite Christmas hymn or carol. We know you have favorites!! Sign up quick, the carols are first come, first serve!

We would then show the whole batch families singing carols as a part of the Christmas Eve 5:00pm worship service.

Kids, break out those instruments! Need a musician to accompany you? Let us Salem's musicians know (Nancy Schroeder, Tricia, and Timothy Siburg). Have fun video recording on your phone/device from

your home, your favorite space, your Christmas tree, you name it—or record it at church! All recordings must be completed & sent in by Monday, December 14th, in order to be ready and used for Christmas Eve.

Choose your carol!

- ... Angels from the Realms of Glory
- ... Angels We Have Heard on High
- ... Away in a Manger
- ... The Bells of Christmas
- ... The First Noel
- ... Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
- ... Go Tell it on the Mountain
- ... Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
- ... I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve
- ... Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
- ... In the Bleak Midwinter
- ... It Came upon the Midnight Clear
- ... Jesus, What a Wonderful Child
- ... Joy to the World
- ... Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
- ... Love Has Come
- ... O Come, All Ye Faithful
- ... O Little Town of Bethlehem
- ... Of the Father's Love Begotten
- ... Once in Royal David's City
- ... Silent Night, Holy Night!
- ... Your Little Ones, Dear Lord
- ... What Child is This

Sing loud and proud! Since it's a lower risk to sing in our homes than it is as a whole worshipping body in this time of COVID, we thought as a committee, why not have fun with it by gathering around your favorite Christmas carol. We're happy to provide words and music as requested. Please save and send the recording as a .mp4 file. If you record at church in early December, Deacon Timothy will be happy to help.

- Deacon Timothy Siburg (on behalf of Worship & Music); E-mail: timothy@nebraskasynod.org & Phone: (360) 536-1963.

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!!

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