
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 24 - 30

A Different Kind of Bloodline

Combining into one liturgy the “Hosanna!” of the triumphal palm procession and the “Crucify him!” of the passion drama—especially as filtered through Paul’s image of the “exalted” slave—invites a meditation on the mystery of Jesus’ sovereignty.

How can we Americans or Canadians grasp what it means to have or want a king when we reject the notion that bloodline conveys the right to rule? And yet, thanks to fairy tales, the Arthurian legends, and Shakespeare we have some inkling of the power, privilege, and even “divine rights” of royalty. We can use our imaginations to muster up a rousing “Ride on, King Jesus!” Then we can appreciate the incongruity: this king has to borrow a donkey, a room, and a tomb. Then, even more confounding, is that this king, “who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited” and even borrows our human likeness—including our death (Phil. 2:6).

Judas and Pilate are symbols of all humanity—including the church, to its shame—in their desire for a grand royal gesture: start a revolution, call in your army, dazzle us with eloquent testimony. Jesus resists every such temptation and embraces the mortal human scale of his limited earthly reign.

Jesus prophesied that when he was lifted up all the world would be drawn to him; Philippians proclaims that “every knee should bend” and “every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.” So, whose knee will bow at the name of Jesus? All those who, following Jesus and trusting the faithfulness of God, are drawn to attend fully to human life, need, and mortality.

In monarchy, leaders lead by virtue of divine sanction of a particular bloodline. Our fond hope is that leadership is bestowed on the basis of merit, hard work, and authentic charisma. Our cynical fear is that it is bestowed on the basis of money, influence, and cronyism. The witness of Passion Sunday is that Jesus’ credential is innocent blood shed in obedience to God for the sake of the broken.

THIS WEEKS TEXTS

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1--15:47



NEXT WEEKS TEXTS

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

Each week we will lift up five church families/members in prayer.

THIS WEEK WE WILL PRAY FOR: Lou, Steph, Nate and Courtney Lorenson, Dennis Madson, Janet Vinson, Allen & Sara Mannes, Austin Mannes, Beverly Mannes.

This week the following members will be celebrating their birthdays and we would like to wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Please call the office if you have an upcoming birthday, to ensure we have it in our records. 641.592.1771

24-Summer Lauen

27-Andrew Knudtson

28-Gracie Order

25-Justine Stensrude

27-Clayton Helgeson

29-Brittany Benjegerdes

25-Finn Ritter

28-Abby Beaty

30-Katlyn Eidness

-WEEKLY GIVING-

LAST 2 SUNDAYS 3/17/24: \$ 7,826

YEAR-TO-DATE: 3/19/24 \$ 44,837

LAST YEAR: as of 3/19/23 \$ 40,517

DIFFERENCE YEAR TO DATE: \$ 4,320

-Last Weeks Attendance-

81

Tuckpointing/Steeple Project Update: Total received as of 3/13/24 **\$161,012**

Total available balance as of 2/29/24 **\$54,064.32** All contributions towards this project are greatly appreciated! Please remember to note the "Steeple Project" when submitting your contribution. Thank you!

Thrivent Choice Dollars: To the Salem members with Thrivent financial products, the deadline to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars is approaching. Here are the deadlines to designate your dollars: By Mail: **Past due**. By Phone: **March 28** (before Easter weekend / Good Friday. Online: **March 31**. **In the past this has meant thousands of dollars, at no cost to you, to help with projects at Salem and we ask that you please continue to support this valuable program.**

Memorial Donation: Shas been notified by the estate of former member Adrian Halvorson, brother to Janet Vinson and Orloue Thomson, that monies will be given designated to the Cemetery Endowment fund and to Building, Repair and Maintenance fund. Salem is extremely grateful for this memorial giving which will be published upon receipt.

Noisy Offering: The Stewardship Committee will be collecting noisy offerings for the Good Samaritan Ministries until March 31st. "Good Sam" was created to assist people in need in emergency situations. In the past Good Sam has helped with housing emergencies, medical issues, and situations relating to abuse and domestic violence. Please keep the people this program helps in your prayers. If you or someone you know, is in need of assistance, please call the office.

Donations: The Board of Life & Growth is collecting donations to make Personal Care Kits. Items needed: metal nail clippers, 4 oz. bars of soap, bath towels (dark colors, approx. 52x27), toothbrushes in original packaging and sturdy combs.

Celebrating Generosity: Thank you for your support of ministry at Salem!

Go Green—Go Paperless by giving in one of the following ways...

-- Give through PayPal or Card by going to the bottom of www.salemlakemills.com

-- **Give automatically through the Simply Giving Program.** Sign up for monthly or weekly ACH withdrawals. Call the office to have a form sent to you or stop by the office. We also have forms in the Narthex. Please return forms to the office.

(We are charged a much lower service fee through the Simply Giving Program)

Volunteers Needed for Worship and Faith Formation. If you are willing to usher, acolyte, read or sing in the liturgical choir, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to learn how to help with sound, monitors or live stream, call the office. If you are willing to help with Faith Formation, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the chapel. No planning or experience needed. Youth Board leaders do all the planning.

The Living Last Supper will be presented at Pilot Knob Lutheran Church on Palm Sunday, March 24 at 2:00pm (2391-330th St. Forest City, IA)

ALL ARE INVITED DOWNSTAIRS FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE SERVICE

SUNDAY 3/24

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judy Wozniak)

10:00am Fellowship-Fellowship Hall

10:00am Faith Formation-Chapel

10:00am First Communion Class-Lounge

MONDAY 3/25

1:00pm-4:00pm Mission Quilters-Fellowship Hall

2:00pm-4:00pm Salem's Clothes Closet is OPEN

2:30pm-5:00pm Lake Mills Food Shelf is OPEN

WEDNESDAY 3/27

10:00am Bible Study-Choir Room

THURSDAY 3/28

6:00pm First Communion Dinner-Fellowship Hall

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service-Sanctuary

FRIDAY 3/29

7:00pm Good Friday Service-Sanctuary

SUNDAY 3/31

9:00am Worship Service-Sanctuary (Pastor Judy Wozniak)

March Council Minutes will not be published the last week of March, instead they will be published the first Sunday in April.

Thank You to everyone that donated goodies for the bake sale and thank you to those that made purchases. We appreciate all of you so much!

Live Stream Sponsorship: Call the office to reserve your date. Cost is \$40.

Dates available: May 5.July 14, 21.Aug 4, 11, 25.Sep 1.Oct 20.Nov 17, 24.Dec 29

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

(Marci) Monday: 11am-2:30pm, Tuesday-Friday: 11am-5pm.

(Hours subject to change. You are welcome to call ahead to ensure the office is open)