



Salem Lutheran Church
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

Welcome to the House of the Lord
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.

***Larger print bulletins are available from the ushers.

PRELUDE

Sonatina Op. 55, No 1

Fr. Kuhlau

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

With our feet still wet from the water of our baptism, we have sinned yet again. Ever dependent on the grace of God, let us affirm our brokenness and trust God's goodness to carry us through to a new day, with a new name, and a new song.

God of our baptismal waters,

You sent the Baptist to point to your Son.

But too often, we abandon his message and point only to ourselves. We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship. We point to our status rather than the grace that makes us all equal. We point to our values rather than the One who has always valued everyone. We point to our traditions rather than to the One who calls us to let go. We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.

Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions.

(A time for silent confession can be made)

God of our baptismal hope,

Forgive us when we do not wait patiently for your direction. Forgive us when we are too patient with our misdirection. Hold our gaze on your baptismal promise sealed in the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Through the power of your Spirit, give us the courage to speak what we have seen and point to the One who takes away the sins of the world. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God called each of us before we were even born. It is God who named us and it is God who claims us. It is in the light of God's love for us that we are forgiven. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, mourners, the meek, those who hunger for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
 word and thought may work a work for you.
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1)

People of God, who do you come to worship?

We come to worship the one true God.

How will you worship?

Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Micah 6:1-8

Bible Page 966

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Bible Page 173

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL SONG

God, Whose Almighty Word

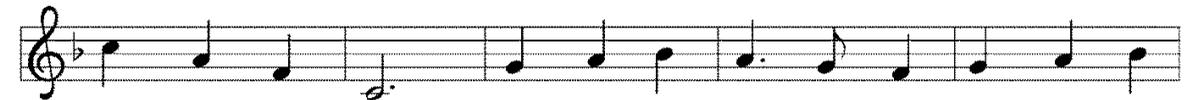
ELW 673

Verse one will be sung before the reading of the gospel;

verse two will be sung after the reading of the gospel.



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light.
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

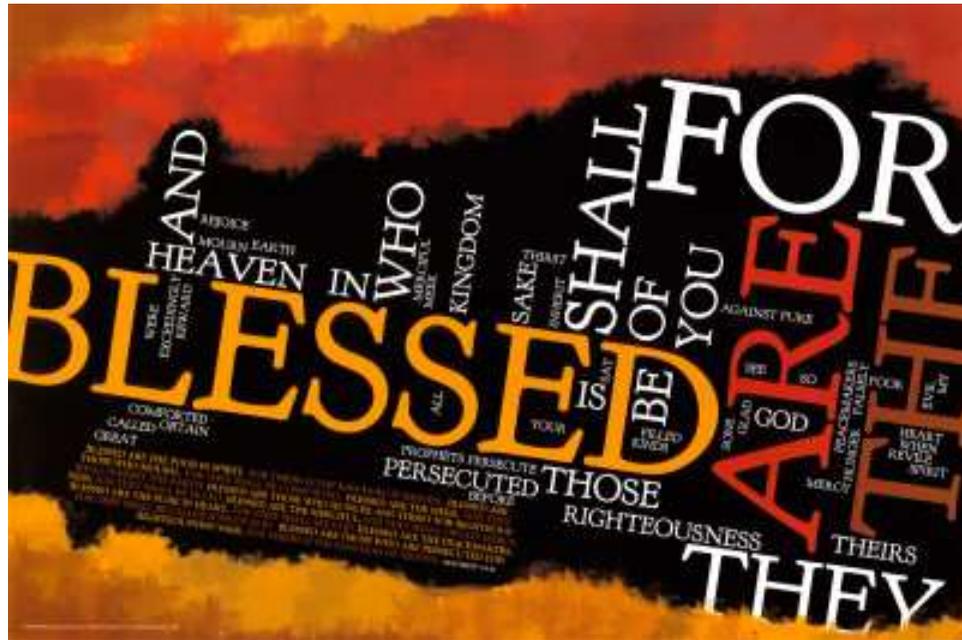
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



SERMON SONG

Blest Are They

Leader or All

1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . . they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -

king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,

full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
 pure of heart; they shall see God.
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain

All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

A brief silence.

Please respond at the end of each petition:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

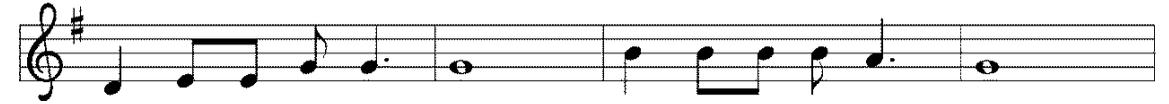


OFFERING

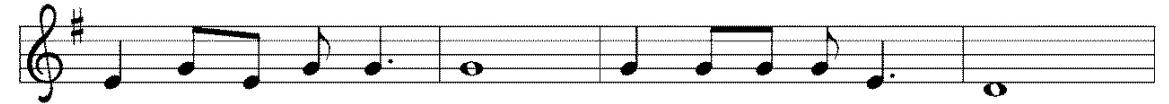
OFFERING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

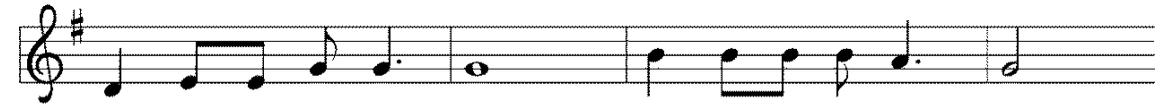
ELW 677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. 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.

BLESSING

Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.
Go and tell the news of God's love.
Go forth and shine with God's light!
May God bless you with the radiance of love. **AMEN.**

SENDING SONG

To Be Your Presence

ELW 546



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson

Assisting: Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey

Organist: Ruth Sheldon

Ushers: Delane & Darlene Behr

Acolytes: Jady Hengesteg, Megan Knudtson

Reader: Dan Rice

Video Coordinator: Carol Abbey

Videographer: Hope Levine

January Altar Guild: Candy Hanna & Medara Winter

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The radio broadcast this morning is given in loving memory of their twin infant sons, from Arlie & Joan Olson.

The 8:30 a.m. worship service is broadcast weekly on KIOW-FM 107.3.

Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2017 8:30 a.m. worship service broadcast on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City. The service can also be heard at 8:30 a.m. on cable channel 2. **Call the office to reserve your dates. Cost for 2017 is \$83.**

Dates available: March 26, April 23, 30, May 7, 14, June 11, July 9, 16, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 10.

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 8:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. **Call the office to reserve a date in 2017.**

2017 Offering envelopes are on tables in the elevator entry.



**Save the Date for a Chipped Inscriptions Class
at Salem Lutheran Church
Sunday, February 26 at 1:00 p.m.
Details, examples, cost and signup sheets
available Feb. 5.**

STEPHEN MINISTRY – is a caring ministry by lay people for their brothers and sisters in Christ. We are about to start a new training session of forty plus hours to help sharpen their gifts and talents of caring for people, learning to walk alongside those who are hurting, bringing Jesus’ healing presence into the relationship. Please keep these new trainees in your prayers as they prepare to be God’s ministers in your midst. Stephen Ministry is a shared ministry between One in Christ, Our Savior’s and Salem.

Alzheimer’s: Get The Facts Educational Series

A series of meetings are designed to inform individuals how to identify Alzheimer’s, strategies for living with Alzheimer’s and planning for the future. The series will be presented in three evening meetings beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending at 8:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room in the Lake Mills Care Center. Brandi Folkerts, Lake Mills Care Center (LMCC) Director of Nursing and Chris Johnson, LMCC Social Worker will be providing information and answering questions each evening. Coffee and cookies will be provided. The series of classes are free and individuals may attend as many meetings as they wish.

The dates and the information for each meeting are listed below.

February 21 Living Each Day - Special Guest Speaker - Lois Johnson

March 21 Preparing for the Future - Special guest speaker Amanda Green,
LMCC Administrator

Confirmation

February 15...Parent meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We are asking all 7th/8th grade parents to gather together for an informational meeting. Topics include: planning for Lenten meals, confirmation date/banquet, confirmation stoles and faith statement. Please be sure to have at least one parent or grandparent at the meeting. We will be setting the schedule for the Lenten meals and worship at this time.

February 28...Bowling with One In Christ Parish. Meet at Salem at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for shoes and 2 games; cost of snacks while bowling is not included. We are in need of parents to help transport students to bowling and back. We should return to Lake Mills by 6:00 p.m. We have 30 students and will need 5-6 drivers. Please contact Pr. Melinda.

Confirmation classes will continue to meet from 2:15 – 4:00 p.m.

This Week at Salem

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

8:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation – Chapel; Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Faith Forming Worship - Chapel

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

2:15 - 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Instruction – Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m. New Life Nutrition – Room #4

7:00 p.m. St. Patrick’s Youth Group – Room #9

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:30 a.m. Grace Circle – Library, Rhoda Circle – Phyllis Moen, Sarah Circle – Carole Hagen

2:00 p.m. Elizabeth Circle – Library

5:00 p.m. Life & Growth Board - Library

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

5:30 p.m. Communion Worship – Chapel

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8:30 a.m. Communion Worship – Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation – Chapel; Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Faith Forming Worship - Chapel

Readings for next Sunday:

Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 112:1-10, 1 Corinthians 2:1-16, Matthew 5:13-20

Those worshipping January 21/22: 135 Giving Ending January 15: \$4735.54

SALEM CONTACT INFORMATION

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