



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

**Welcome to the House of the Lord**

**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 15, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.**

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## **Salem's Mission and Vision**

We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**As God's people...we desire to be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude.**

**Central to this is that we are a- forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.**

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

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## **GATHERING**

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### **PRELUDE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters. **Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

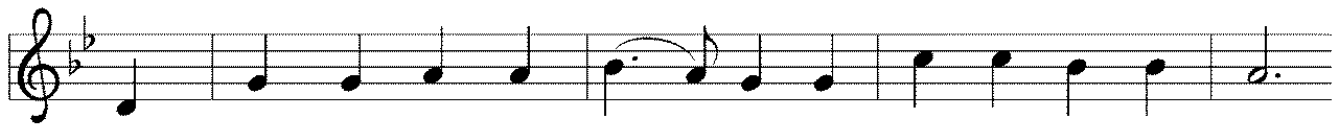
God who searches us and knows us,  
**you have shown us what is good,  
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.  
We have not been just in our dealings with others.  
We have chosen revenge over mercy.  
We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you.  
With what shall we come before you?  
Forgive us our sin, and show us your salvation  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
you have not received the spirit of the world,  
but the Spirit that is from God, poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. Receive the  
promise of baptism: You are God's child; ✝ your sins are forgiven. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the  
reign of heaven. **Amen.**

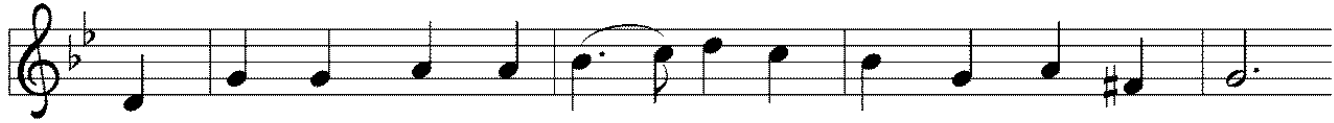
**GATHERING SONG**

***O God of Every Nation***

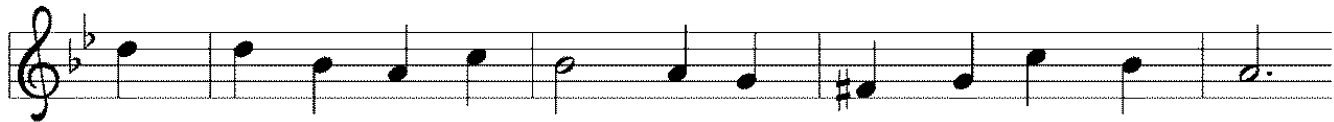
**ELW #713**



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,  
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease  
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,  
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,  
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;  
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



**GREETING**

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.  
 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the com - mu - nion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,  
 your ser - vants un - der - gird.  
 And also with you. Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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**WORD**

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**FIRST READING**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

[Moses said to the people:] <sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.  
<sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then

you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

**Psalm 119:1-8**

*The psalm will be spoken responsively beginning with the lector*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,**

<sup>3</sup>who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

<sup>4</sup>**You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.**

<sup>5</sup>Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

<sup>6</sup>**Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.**

<sup>7</sup>I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

<sup>8</sup>**I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

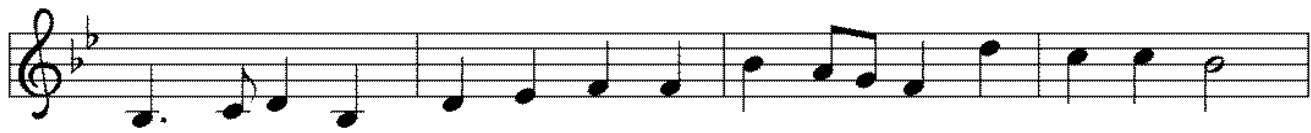
<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each.

<sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

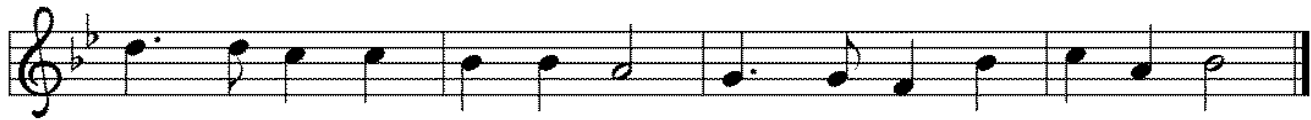
## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable

to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

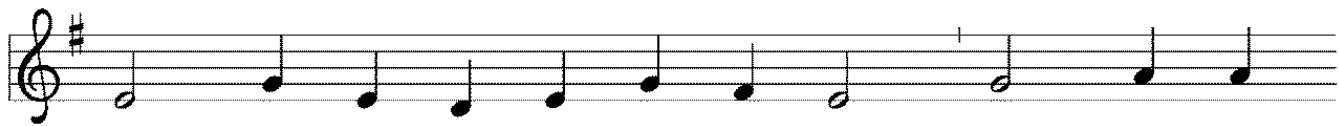
<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

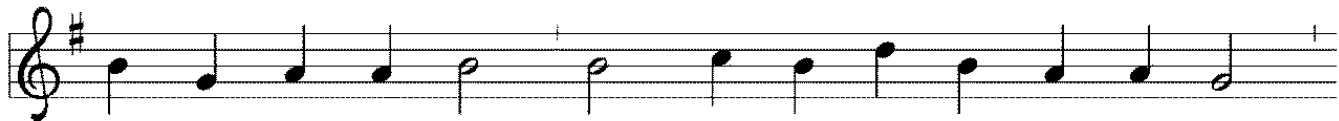
<sup>33</sup>“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

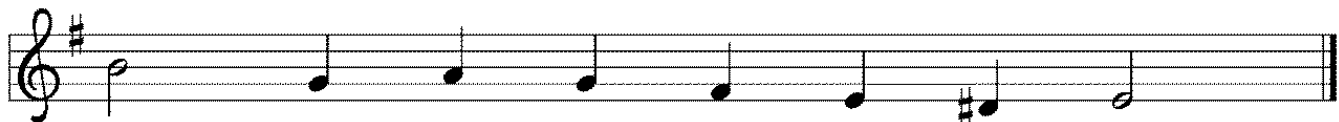
**Praise to you, O Christ.**



1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through -  
 2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders  
 3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but  
 4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are



out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.  
 that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.  
 on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.  
 knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.



Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 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 INTERCESSION

Response to the petitions: **your mercy is great.**

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Shepherding God, you protect and guide us with your word. Lead your church into ever closer relationship with you, that we might better know your commands, hold fast to your decrees, and live in your law. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the cosmos, heaven and earth bear witness to the splendor of all you have created. Bless the ground, trees, waterways, and skies with abundant life. Restore synergy between humankind and the natural world, that we may live in harmony with the world you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, you show solidarity with all who suffer. Bring an end to violence, war, discrimination, and all other forms of deadly hate, that we may experience your love through the power of justice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, you provide bountifully for all people. Use our lives to alleviate global injustice and eliminate poverty, that all benefit from the abundant gifts you pour out for your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**



God of growth, you nurture this community. Cultivate in us a spirit of service to one another, and bless us in the ministry we share (*ministries of the congregation may be named*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Leah and Rachel, we give you thanks for our forebears in the faith who now rest in your eternal grace and love (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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## **MEAL**

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## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of wonder, you formed us in our mother's womb,

and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.

We place them on your table, together with our lives and all that you have made.

Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.

We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace;

we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life. **Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 for the remembrance of me.

### **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; 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table of mercy and joy.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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### **BLESSING**

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God, and the source of our life together, keep you united in mind and purpose. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Let your light shine.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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<p><b>Preaching:</b> Pastor Joel Guttormson <b>Acolyte:</b> Hannah Sterrenberg <b>Pianist:</b> Ruth Sheldon</p>	<p><b>Altar Guild for February:</b> Shelley Hagenson, Sharon Johnson</p>
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The radio broadcast this morning is given in loving memory of Royden & Lorraine Johnson, from their family.

Reserve your special date to sponsor a 2020 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast.

The 8:30 a.m. worship service is heard on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2. Cost for 2020 is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE - 641.592.1771.

**2020 BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:**

March 29, May 3, 10, 24, June 21, July 12, 19, 26, Aug. 2, 9, 30, Sept. 6, 20,  
Oct. 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, Dec. 6, 13, 27

**Upcoming Faith Formation Events...**

**MARCH**

- 1 Ski Trip Mt Kato
- 8 Play & Pray 9:35 a.m.
  - 5th Grade First Communion Class Begins
  - 4 year old-2nd grade sing at 10:30 service
- 15 5th Grade First Communion Class
- 22 5th Grade First Communion Class
- 29 5th Grade First Communion Class

**MAY**

- 3 Confirmation Sunday
- 10 Last Day of Faith Formation
  - Play & Pray 9:35 a.m.
  - 4 year old-2nd grade sing at 10:30
- 17 Graduation Sunday

Rescheduled...

Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Come join us for Family Game Day...BINGO edition.

We will provide a meal and BINGO fun for the whole family.



**APRIL**

- 5 Play and Pray 9:35 a.m.
  - 5th Grade First Communion Class 9:35 a.m.
  - 4 year old-2nd grade sing at 10:30 a.m.
- 9 Maundy Thursday – 5th Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Class
- 12 EASTER – Egg Hunt at 9:45 a.m.

**Salem's Clothes Closet is open Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Donations of new socks & underwear are always needed.**

Please consider donating any new or gently used children's coats to the Clothes Closet.

Hats and mittens are also needed to keep our youngsters warm.

These items can be brought to the church office, or contact Rita Anderson.

**'Thank You' from the Good Samaritan Committee.**

**The Good Samaritan Ministry Team meets the last Wednesday of the month at 6:15 pm.**

**Skiing, Snowboarding, Tubing Event!** Join us on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Mt Kato for some winter fun. Registration, waiver, and payment are due to church office **by Sunday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>**. Detailed information and registration will be on the Bulletin Board across from Pastors' offices. Hope you and your friends and family can join in on the FUN!



**Lent/Holy Week Schedule:**

**February 26 - 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service (No Confirmation)**

**March 4, 22, 18, 25, April 1 – 7:00 p.m. Lent Services (Confirmation Class as Scheduled)**

**April 9 – 5th Grade Family Meal – 6:00 p.m.**

Maundy Thursday & 5th Grade First Communion Service – 7:00 p.m.

April 10 – Good Friday Service – 7:00 p.m.

April 12 – Traditional Easter Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast - 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - 9:45 a.m.

Contemporary Easter Worship - 10:30 a.m.

**Save Local Lives**

**Lake Mills Community Blood Drive**

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 - 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Salem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall  
401 South Lake Street, Lake Mills IA

**To make an appointment,**  
contact LifeServe Blood Center  
at 800. 287.4903 or visit

[www.liveservebloodcenter.org](http://www.liveservebloodcenter.org)



**THIS WEEK AT SALEM**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Service - Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Faith Formation, Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Communion Service – Sanctuary

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet Open – Room #7  
2:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open  
3:15 p.m. Cadette/Sr. Scouts – Room #2  
6:00 p.m. Quilt Club – Fellowship Hall

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

1:00 p.m. Staff – Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. Life & Growth Board - Library

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

2:15 p.m. Junior Scouts – Room #2  
5:00 p.m. Confirmation

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

**NO WELCA**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

5:30 p.m. Casual Worship Service – Fellowship Hall

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Faith Formation; Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Communion Service – Sanctuary  
4:00 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting – Winnebago Lutheran Church

**Salem Contact Information:**

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