



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 11, 2018 - 8:30 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION Dan Antoine, Program Director Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Merciful God,
you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We fail in love, neglect justice,
and ignore your truth.
Have mercy on us and wash away our sin.
Create in us clean hearts
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Behold, now is the acceptable time;
now is the day of salvation.
Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us all our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

LENTEN HYMN *Canticle of the Turning (Verses 1-2)*

ELW #723

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith, for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

WORD

FIRST READING

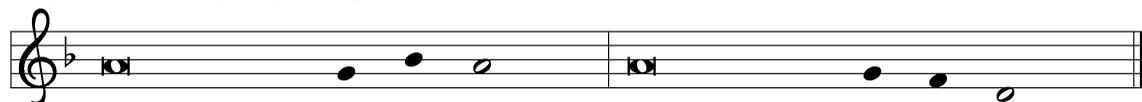
Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Sung responsively beginning with the cantor

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good, for God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the | LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,**

³gathering them in | from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

¹⁷**Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths; through their sins they | were afflicted.**

¹⁸They loathed all man- | ner of food and drew near | to death’s door.

¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD and you delivered them from | their distress.**

²⁰You sent forth your | word and healed them and rescued them | from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love
and your wonderful works | for all people.**

²²Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Return to the Lord, Your God*

ELW #142



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

VIDEO, SHARING AND SONG ABOUT THE MINISTRY OF INGHAM OKOBOJI

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence. *Response after each petition: hear our prayer*

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

All may greet each other with a sign of peace

MUSICAL OFFERING

Shout to the God

Senior Choir

OFFERING SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #186

The offering is received and the table is set

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,
receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our 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; 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.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Lift High the Cross

ELW #660

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson Assisting: Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey Organist: Ruth Sheldon Ushers: Dolly Gregor and Margaret Okland	Acolytes: Josie Gilbertson, Courtney Lorenson Reader: Margaret Okland Altar Guild for March: All Guild Members
--	---

The radio broadcast this morning is given in loving memory of Ron Rasmusson's birthday, March 12, from Karen.

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

Reserve your special date to sponsor the 2018 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 2018 DATE - 592.1771. Cost for 2018 is still \$83

2018 - 8:30 A.M. KIOW RADIO BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

April 29, May 6, 20, June 10, 17, July 8, 15,

Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 23, 30

We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. Call the office to reserve a date in 2018

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

Lenten Soup and Study: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday during Lent.

In addition to the soup & sandwiches offered before Lent services, you are invited to gather at the tables for a discussion of the book *I Am A Church Member* by Thom S. Ranier. At each meal we discuss the topics in the book and answer questions at the end of each chapter. Worship at 7:15 p.m.

Lutheran World Relief...PROJECTPROMISE Personal Care Kits

Kit items will be collected during Lent. You may place them in the basket in the narthex.

Kits include: 1 light-weight bath sized towel; dark color, 2 or three bath-sizes bars of soap equaling 8-9 ounces, in original wrapping; 1 adult-size toothbrush in original packaging; 1 sturdy comb, removing packaging; 1 metal nail clipper, remove packaging

Blood Drive - Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. in Salem's Fellowship Hall. To make an appointment, contact LifeServe Blood Center At 800.287.4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org

Thrivent Choice Dollars...We are excited to share, based on member recommendations, Salem Lutheran Church received \$3,379 in charitable outreach funding in 2017. Thrivent Financial members have until March 31st to direct any remaining 2017 Choice Dollars. After that date, 2017 Choice Dollars will expire. Please remember these Dollars can help our church. You can visit www.thrivent.com. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on **Thrivent Choice** to help you understand how **Thrivent Choice Dollars** work.

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship – Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Youth Praise Choir–Choir Room; Coffee Fellowship–Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation – Chapel; 5th Grade 1st Communion Class

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Communion Worship – Sanctuary

1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Safe Guarding God's Children Training – Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. VBS Meeting - Salem

5:00 p.m. Community Singers Practice – Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 12

1:00 p.m. Mission Quilters – Fellowship Hall

2:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open 5:30 p.m. Council - Library

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

10:00 a.m. Caregivers Support Group – Lounge;
LMAMA – Food Shelf

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

1:00 p.m. Bloodmobile – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

5:30 p.m. New Life Nutrition – Room #4

6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup & Study – Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Choir – Choir Room

7:00 p.m. St. Pat's Youth Room – Room #9

7:15 p.m. Lent Service – Sanctuary

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

2:00 p.m. WELCA – Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

5:30 p.m. Casual Communion Worship – Chapel

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Worship – Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Youth Praise Choir–Choir Room;
Coffee Fellowship–Fellowship Hall

9:35 a.m. Play & Pray - Lounge

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation – Chapel;

5th Grade 1st Communion Class

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Communion Worship

Readings for next week: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-23

Those worshipping March 3/4: 176 Giving: \$7463.42

Salem Contact Information:

Pastor Joel Guttormson: 641.596.0535

Email: joelguttormson@gmail.com

Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey: 563-581-9965

Email: melindamcmc@gmail.com

Ashley Hoffman, Communications:

Email: salemlminfo@gmail.com

Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184

Salem Office: 641.592.1771

Email: salem@wctatel.net

*New Number - Salem Kitchen/South Hallway Phones: 641.592.1772

24 Hour Prayer Vigil

The night before Jesus was crucified he went to the upper room and had the last supper with his disciples. Afterwards he went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He asked his disciples to watch and pray for an hour. Jesus went further into the garden and prayed "Father, if it be possible—take this cup from me. But not my will but Thine be done." After an hour, he went back to his disciples and found them asleep. He woke them and again asked them to watch and pray for an hour. He went back to pray to his heavenly Father. When he returned an hour later to his disciples they were still asleep.

To commemorate Jesus hour of trail in the Garden of gethsemane, Salem Church will be holding a 24-hour prayer vigil in the chapel. It will take place from after the Maundy Thursday, **March 29, 2018** until the Good Friday service begins on **March 30**. Please sign up for 1-hour time slots to "Watch and Pray with Jesus." Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.