

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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

First Sunday of Advent December 2, 2018 - 8:30 a.m.



INTRODUCTION

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper.

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Basque Carol

BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 27: 1, 13-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

Whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

Of whom shall I be afraid?

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD;

Be strong, and let your heart take courage;

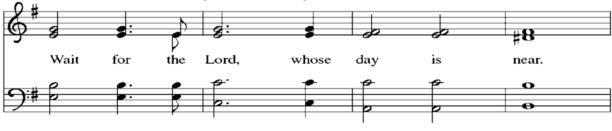
Wait for the LORD!

ADVENT SONG

Wait for the Lord

ELW #262

The Advent wreath will be lit during the Advent song.





GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus ELW #254









PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY Psalm 25:1-10

Sung responsively beginning with the cantor



¹To | you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame; rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD, and teach | me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love, for they are from | everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice and teach the low- | ly your way.

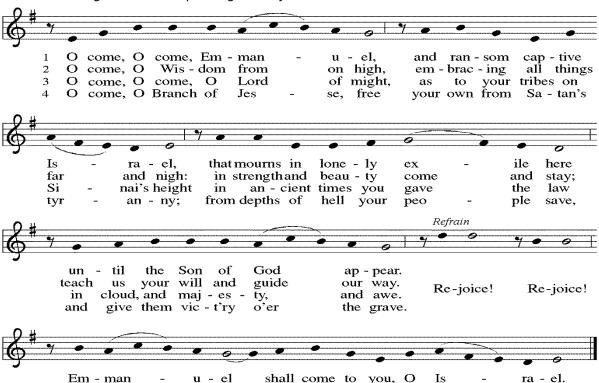
¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW #257

One verse is sung in each corresponding week of Advent



GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for vourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!

ELW #246



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

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation. A brief silence.

Equip your church, merciful God. Secure our roots in the soil of your eternal word. Ease our worries and remove our shame. Grow our faithfulness and let your steadfast love blossom among us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sustain your creation, holy God. Water the parched soil. Restore depleted fields. Send farmers, forest rangers, and gardeners to care for fig trees and wheat fields, gardens and arboretums. Increase our love for the land. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grow peace within us, abundant God. Raise up leaders in every community grounded in your justice and mercy. Increase their love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed the hungry, living God. Gather our harvest into a feast for our neighbors. Move us to nurture those who are bereaved and lonely. Empower those living with HIV/AIDS and all who are sick. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Increase our joy, wondrous God. Plant thanksgiving in our hearts and multiply the good fruit of our outreach ministries and creation care programs (especially). Guide us in our service to local and global neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving, we remember all who have died and now rest in your glory. Hold all who mourn in the comfort of your eternal light, and bring us to delight in the new life you promise. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

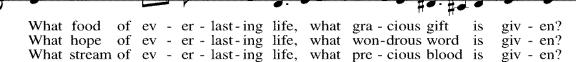
And also with you.

OFFERING

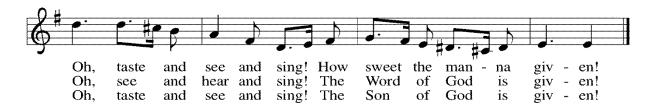
MUSICAL OFFERING Emmanuel Soon Will Appear

Senior Choir









OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

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

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness,

and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SENDING

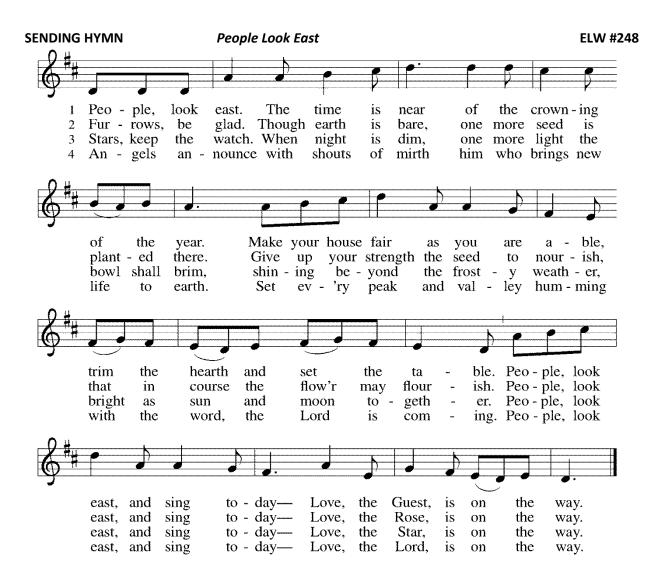
BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, Father, \pm Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.





DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Preaching: Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey **Assisting:** Pastor Joel Guttormson

Organist: Ruth Sheldon

Ushers: Dolly Gregor, Margaret Okland

Acolytes: Elijah Menke and Sophia Nelson

Reader: Aidan Johanson

Communion Servers: Kristi Grothe, Mike Swenson **Altar Guild for December 1-7:** Sharon Casey, Pat Young

The radio broadcast this morning is given by the Haugen family. Merry Christmas and may God's blessings be with you.

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.

Needed: 8:30 ushers for December. Sign-up sheet is in the back of the church, please consider helping. Thank you!

Readings for next week: Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6



Salem's Clothes Closet is open Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Donations of new socks & underwear are needed. Thank you for your help.



Monday Mornings on Lake Street

There's a pot of coffee and goodies available on Monday mornings in the Lounge at Salem from 8-10:00 a.m.

Stop by and visit, have a cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate and a goody, visit with friends. Bring a friend!

Call the office if you would like to provide goodies some Monday!

Free-will donation.



Senior Choir practices Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room. All are welcome to attend. Contact Kathy Nelson with any questions.

The Creature Praise Choir rehearses on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room. Youth Grades 3-7 are welcome to attend. Contact Kathy Nelson with any questions.

BABY FOOD JARS w/LIDS NEEDED For a 2019 VBS Project

We will be making snow globes during VBS in 2019. We need baby food jars. Please save any size (maybe not the tiny jars) and bring to Salem's Narthex (there will be a box ready to receive the jars). We will need over 100 jars. We won't be able to do this craft if we do not get enough jars, so please place them in the box in the narthex throughout the next 7 months. Thank you!



Angel Tree – A Little History

The Angel Tree was started in 2000 by the Miriam Circle members. A longtime circle member had passed away and the Angel Tree was dedicated to her memory. People were able to purchase angels and the narthex tree was decorated with these angels each year. The names of all dedications were also recorded in a special book on display near the tree. Through the years over 500 angels have been dedicated.

If you have purchased an angel in the past you can also pick up an angel and either hang it on the Angel Memory Tree or take it home to enjoy on your own tree. All previously dedicated angels are recorded in the memory book.

There is no charge to dedicate an angel. You can pick up an angel in the church office and hang it on the tree yourself anytime you wish. A book will be on the table where you can write the name of your loved one and note who is dedicating the angel.

Salem Board of Life and Growth/Stewardship is hosting a Faith–Filled children and adult book fair.

A display table of sample books is set up in the lobby by the elevator. There is a separate order form for kids and adult books. If you have any questions, contact Willie Skellenger.



Good Gifts Barnyard Tree

This year instead of giving the Shoebox Gift to Samaritan's Purse, Salem is encouraged to purchase farm animals through ELCA Good Gifts. The tree in the main entry area (by the elevator) is full of ornaments. To participate pick an ornament and take it home for your tree. Put your check (payable to Salem) for that amount in an envelope in the offering plate or the safe outside the office. Designate on the memo line of your check which animal you purchased. This is a good gift idea for hard-to-buy family members.



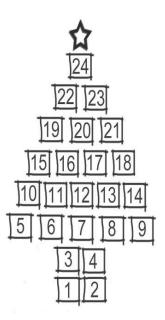
The Gifts of Advent: A Midweek Series for Advent

This series highlights four aspects of Advent that become blessings and gifts in our lives:

Patience • Speech and Silence • Hope • Family.

Begins November 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Salem Advent/Christmas Schedule



Mid-Week Advent Services - 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Wednesdays, November 28 - December 19
Confirmation Youth will attend the Advent Service
at 7:00 in the Chapel

Sunday Advent Services - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sundays, December 2 - 23

Hospice Tree of Life Service - Monday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m.-Held in the Fellowship Hall

Faith Formation Christmas Program - December 9 at 10:30 a.m.

The Salem Youth will be presenting "The Wonder".

We hope you can join us to hear the Christmas Story, followed by cookies in the fellowship hall.

If you are willing to donate cookies for after the program, please sign up in the narthex or contact Jennifer Sauer at 641.903.1847. Thank you!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship - Dec. 24, 5:00 & 10:30 p.m.

First Sunday of Christmas - Dec. 30, 8:30 a.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols. One service today.

Faith Formation Offering

for the months of November and December will be collecting warm, waterproof, snow mittens and gloves of all sizes. These will stay local and be dispersed by Joan Krull to those in need. If you would like to donate, please hang them on the Christmas tree outside of the chapel.



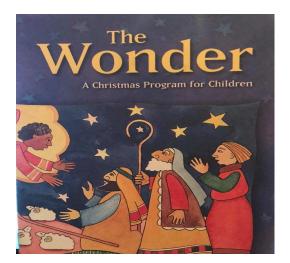


The Marine Corps Toys for Tots collection box is outside the church office!

Unwrapped gifts may be placed in the box. Monetary donations are also appreciated.

Pickup up date is December 14.

Salem Faith Formation



Christmas Program

Sunday, December 9 - 10:30 a.m.

If you are willing to donate cookies for after the program, please sign up in the narthex or contact Jennifer Sauer at 641.903.1847. Thank you!

• High School Youth Group will be meeting on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the youth room. All High School students welcome... bring a friend! Questions? Contact Abby Holtan.

December 5 - Christmas program practice for 3rd thru 6th grade. Preschool thru 2nd grade will just practice December 2nd & 9th during FF time. 12/8 Sat morning practice has been canceled.

December 16 – Faith Formation will be held from 9-10:30am. We will be showing movie "The Star".



The Hospice of North Iowa Tree Lighting Service will be held in Salem's Fellowship Hall on Monday, December 3rd at 6:00 p.m. With your gift to hospice, a light will be placed on the Tree of Life. Every light on the Tree of Life celebrates and honors our loved ones and friends in a very special way. A light in memory of a loved one who has died, is a reminder that despite the wintry effect death can bring, life can still be celebrated. Names of those you wish to remember and honor will be listed at the service. Your contribution will help extend hospice care to others, so they can live the last months of their life in dignity, often in their own homes. More information on the bulletin board outside the lounge.



2018 OPERATION CLOTHES FOR KIDS!

Ninth Annual Operation Clothes for Kids

Donations will be distributed throughout the Lake Mills Community School District.

Pick a Christmas Tag (with a child's needs/sizes on it) from one of the following tree locations: Salem Lutheran Church, Winnebago Lutheran Church, Word of Faith Dominion Church, Asbury United Methodist Church, Farmers Trust and Savings Bank, or Manufactures Bank and Trust.

Purchase the items on the child's tag, wrap in one box, attach the original Christmas tag to the gift, and deliver to the listed sites by

4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 13.

Cash donations are accepted at the banks or send to the LMCS Nurse's Office, 102 S 4th Avenue E, Lake Mills, IA 50450. Make checks payable to LMCS Clothes for Kids

Reserve your special date to sponsor a 2019 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 2019 is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE - 641.592.1771.

2019 BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:

Jan. 6, March 24, 31, April 21, 25, May 5, 12, June 9, 30, July 14, 21, 28, Aug. 18, Sept. 1, 15, Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 10, 17, Dec. 1, 22, 29

Church Dashboard for Contributions 11/26/2018

LAST SUNDAY, 11/18/18: \$6,774

Year-to-date as of 11/26/18: \$245,855 - Last year as of 11/26/17: \$251,165

DIFFERENCE YEAR-TO-DATE: -\$5310

NOISEY OFFERING TO DATE FOR ELCA GOOD GIFTS ANIMALS: \$322.60

Attendance: Those worshiping November 24/25: 154

Ongoing Financial Needs: Remember whether you are at worship or on vacation, Salem still needs

to keep working. **We need \$6,500-\$7,000 per week** to do the Lord's work.

Any donations you would like credited for 2018 need to be received by December 31, 2018.



THIS WEEK AT SALEM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Service

9:35 a.m. Praise Creature Choir Room; Faith Formation - Chapel; Coffee Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

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

4:00 p.m. Tapestry Advent Concert - Sanctuary

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet Open - Room #7

2:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open

3:15 p.m. Daisy Scouts - Room #2

6:00 p.m. Hospice Tree of Life Service – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

11:30 a.m. Miriam Circle - Restaurant

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. Altar Guild – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

5:00 p.m. Life & Growth Discipleship Study - Library

5:30 p.m. Worship & Music Board – Library; Christmas Program Practice (Grades 3-6) - Sanctuary

6:20 p.m. Senior Choir – Choir Room

7:00 p.m. Advent Service – Chapel; St. Patrick's Youth Group – Room #9

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle – Faye Aamodt; Grace Circle – Library

11:30 a.m. Sarah Circle – Teluwut; Martha Circle – Main Street Pizza

3:15 p.m. Brownie Scouts – Room #2

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

5:30 p.m. Casual Worship Service - Chapel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Praise Creature Choir Choir Room; Faith Formation – Chapel;

Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program/Service – Sanctuary

Salem Contact Information:

Ruth Sheldon, Organist: 641.592.0184

Salem Office: 641.592.1771 Email: salem@wctatel.net