



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 10, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.



INTRODUCTION

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

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

TAIZÉ ADVENT LITURGY 2017

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying*

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*The call to worship is led by youth or Children and their families.*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

**John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way**  
for the kingdom of heaven is near.

**Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.**

Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit,

**that we may be a light shining in the darkness**

welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,

**for he is our light and our salvation.**

Blessed be God forever.

ADVENT SONG

*Wait for the Lord*

ELW #262

*The Advent wreath will be lit during the Advent song.*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Let us pray.

God our shepherd, gather us as lambs in your arms. Forgive our sins so that we may rejoice in your coming. Amen.

**GATHERING SONG**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

ELW #256

**GREETING**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
who comes to wake us from sleep,  
who leads us into the light of grace.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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**WORD**

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**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13**

*Sung responsively beginning with the cantor*



<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.  
<sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people and blotted out | all their sins.**  
<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.  
<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,**  
**that your glory may dwell | in our land.**  
<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;  
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.  
<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,**  
**and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**  
<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity, and our land will | yield its increase.  
<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD and shall prepare for | God a pathway.**

**SECOND READING**

**2 Peter 3:8-15a**

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Magnificat*

ELW #236

*Canon*

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!

## GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" <sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW #249

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## PRAYERS

Response: "hear our prayer."

Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

*A brief silence.*

We long to see your glory. Prepare our hearts for your arrival by healing divisions in your church and blessing those who work for reconciliation within it. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your creation. Bring renewal to open spaces, parks, forests, mountains, and grasslands. Restore the creatures and lands that are damaged or destroyed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We long for your peace. Make places of welcome for people fleeing violence. For nations facing conflict or crisis, deliver relief. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We seek healing for all people who long for justice, freedom, and comfort. Sustain them in their time of need. Be with all who wait for you, who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who are ready to help in times of crisis. Give courage to disaster and emergency response teams, police officers, nurses, doctors, surgeons, chaplains, and all who work for the sake of others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We are your beloved flock and you are our shepherd, O God. Along with the saints already at rest in you, bring us together as your people under your holy rule. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

*All may greet each other with a sign of peace*

**GENEROSITY MOMENT**

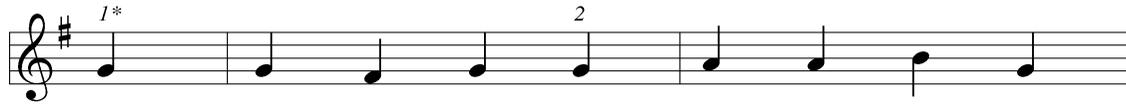
*The Lingson Family Story (Kaseleka, Malawi)*

**ELCA HUNGER**

**OFFERING SONG**

*Come Lord Jesus*

**LS #97**



1 Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and  
 2 Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and  
 3 Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and  
 4 Oh, come, Lord Je - sus, be our guest, and



let your gifts to us be blest. Keep us for - ev - er  
 let your gifts to us be blest. Oh, may there be a  
 let your gifts to us be blest. Guide us a - long the  
 let your gifts to us be blest. Come deep with - in our



in your sight, and be our joy, our hearts' de - light.  
 good - ly share on ev - 'ry ta - ble ev - 'ry - where.  
 ser - vant's way, and lead us to your dawn - ing day.  
 hearts to dwell, that we may all your good - ness tell.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path.

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

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*Hark, the Glad Sound!*

**ELW #239**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

<b>Preaching:</b> Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey	<b>Reader:</b> Summer Sterrenberg
<b>Assisting:</b> Pastor Joel Guttormson	<b>Acolytes:</b> Josie Gilbertson, Megan Knudtson
<b>Organist:</b> Ruth Sheldon	<b>December Altar Guild:</b> All Guild Members
<b>Ushers:</b> Jeremy & Janelle Gilbertson Family	

**The radio broadcast this morning is given in loving memory of our family members from the Sharon Hoffmann family.**

**Pledge cards for 2018 were distributed at the services this past weekend.** If you did not get one, please check with the office for your copy. All completed cards can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off/mailed to the church office over the next several weeks. Thank you for your support. Stewardship Board

**\*\*\*Confirmation pictures and certificates are available on the safe outside the office.**

**Those worshipping December 2/3: 189 Giving: \$6358.19**

**National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** was celebrated on December 7 recognizing the surprise attack by Japanese planes on the Naval Station Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Oahu, killing 2,403 American servicemen, and injuring 1,178 others. This drew the United States into World War II the following day.

We give thanks for their service and honor their legacy, assuring our freedom and security. In our prayers on Sunday we will honor and pray for those from Salem and community members who are veterans of World War II; Don Adams, Lawrence Branstad, Vern Hagen, Morris Levorson, Wayne Miller, Doc Nelson, Wayne Roberts, Arlo Rogstad, Leo Schmidhuber, Jim Tweeten and Don Wirt.

***And the two shall become one...***

Please keep in your prayers Dan Hanson & Mary Proctor. They were married Saturday at Salem.

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 2018 DATE - 592.1771. Cost for 2018 is still \$83

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

Jan. 14, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, April 1, 22, 29, May 6, 20,

June 10, 17, July 8, 15, 29, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 2, 16,

Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9, 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 2017.



### The Children's Christmas Program

#### *Symbols of Christmas*

will be presented this morning at the 10:30 a.m. service, followed by cookies in the fellowship hall.

#### The Good Samaritan/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. This is a good gift idea for hard-to-buy family members.

The hat & mitten tree this year is replaced by collection boxes for socks and packaged underwear. The boxes are near the Good Gifts tree in the main entry.

**The Hospice of North Iowa Tree Lighting Service will be held in Salem's Fellowship Hall on Thursday, December 14th 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.

#### 2017 OPERATION CLOTHES FOR KIDS!

##### Eighth Annual Operation Clothes for Kids

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

The tree is located in the narthex.

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, 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 Wednesday, December 13.

Feel free to team up and share costs.

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



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.



#### 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.



## GIVE+Text

### INTRODUCING GIVE+ TEXT

**Do you need an easy, convenient way to contribute to the church? GIVE+TEXT is a powerful way to give in a matter of seconds.**

During the most hectic times, you can continue to fulfill your pledges, respond to special appeals and give whenever you are moved from wherever you are. Send a text to **1.641.832.5367**. It's that simple and secure.

We hope you'll make **GIVE +TEXT** a regular part of your giving routine.

**See the December Outreach for instructions on how to set up Give+ Text or stop by the office for help setting it up on your cell phone.**

**Thank you for your spirited generosity!**

### MAP MISSIONAL ASSESSMENT PROFILE

#### Map Result Sharing – MAP Points of Interest

##### Week 4:

90 % of our congregation believe it's important to make changes to fully live out our mission and faith. And over half believe that something should happen in the next six months.



**Save the Date: Discernment Retreat for all Salem members.  
Saturday, January 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
(Registration & coffee at 8:30 a.m.)**

**This is also a powerful Bible study. Many churches have found this opportunity as they listen to God and each in other making plans for the future. This is a unique opportunity you don't want to miss.**

### THIS WEEK AT SALEM

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

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

10:30 a.m. Faith Formation Christmas Program - Sanctuary

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

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

2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Food Shelf Open

5:30 p.m. Council - Library

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

10:00 a.m. Care Givers Support Group - Lounge

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class – Sanctuary; New Life Nutrition – Room #4

7:00 p.m. Senior Choir – Choir Room; St. Pat's Youth Group – Room #9

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

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

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

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

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

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation - Chapel

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

**Readings for December 17:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

#### SALEM CONTACT INFORMATION

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