



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

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.



INTRODUCTION

God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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.
In your Son, Emmanuel,
you have shown us your light
and saved us from the power of sin.
Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.
Increase our longing for your presence,
that at the celebration of your Son's birth
his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst,
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 Savior, nothing is impossible for you. Prepare our hearts to rejoice in your glorious advent. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW #263

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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” ³Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.” ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

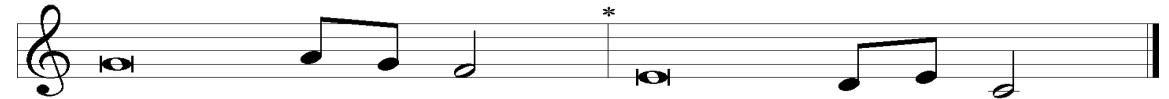
Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26

Sung responsively beginning with the cantor



- ¹Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will pro- | claim your faithfulness.
- ²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab- | lished forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.**
- ³“I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:
- ⁴**‘I will establish your | line forever, and preserve your throne for all | generations.’”**
- ¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your | faithful people:
“I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out | of the people.
- ²⁰**I have found Da- | vid my servant; with my holy oil have I a- | nointed him.**
- ²¹My hand will | hold him fast and my arm will | make him strong.
- ²²**No enemy | shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked | bring him down.**
- ²³I will crush his | foes before him and strike down | those who hate him.
- ²⁴**My faithfulness and steadfast | love are with him,
and he shall be victorious | through my name.**
- ²⁵I will set his hand | on the sea, and his right hand | on the rivers.
- ²⁶**He will say to me, ‘You | are my father, my God, and the rock of | my salvation.’**

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW #272

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS

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. Response to the prayers: 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.

Luke 1:26-38

PEACE

All may greet each other with a sign of peace

GENEROSITY MOMENT

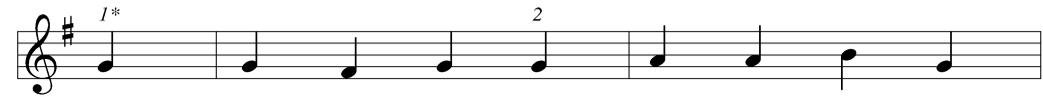
GOOD GIFTS

The Lingson Family Story (Kaseleka, Malawi)

ELCA HUNGER

OFFERING SONG

Come Lord Jesus



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

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW #242

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson

Assisting: Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey

Organist: Ruth Sheldon

Acolyte: Kelsey Kirschbaum

Ushers:

Reader:

Altar Guild for December: All Guild Members

The radio broadcast this morning is in loving memory of Jim Tweed and Vince Tweed from Doris and Jennifer Tweed.

Any donations you would like credited for 2017 need to be received by December 31, 2017.

Salem's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 28 at 11:00 a.m. There will be one service at 9:30 a.m. Potluck dinner held in the fellowship hall. The Annual Meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m., in the fellowship hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

PRAYER

changes things

Please remember in prayer this week: The family & friends of Allan Pederson & Morris Levorson

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:

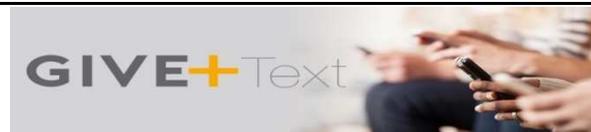
Jan. 14, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, April 1, 22, 29, May 6, 20,

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 2018.

Pledge cards for 2018 were distributed at services recently. If you did not get one, they are in the narthex and outside the office. 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.



INTRODUCING GIVE+ TEXT

Have you made a donation through Give+ Text? You can make weekly offerings, respond to special appeals or set up a recurring donation by sending a text to 1.641.832.5367.

With **GIVE+ TEXT**, you can conveniently give to the church even when you're away, or don't have cash or checks with you. It's simple and secure.

It takes just minutes to sign up and support the church. So, we hope you'll try this easy way to give.

Stop by the office for help setting it up on your cell phone.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

OFFICES CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

1:45 p.m. Mills Harbour Communion

2:30 p.m. LMCC Communion

5:15 p.m. Good Samaritan – Lounge

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

No Saturday Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30 a.m. Service of Lessons & Carols – Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 OFFICES CLOSED

Readings for next week: Isaiah 61:10-6:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40

Salem Contact Information:

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