LENT - Wednesday, February 24, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Rev. Ronald R. Sprehe - Vacancy Pastor
Lois L. Jones, Director of Music Ernelle L. Ponivas, Secretary
Stephen Jarmusz Sr., Custodian - Rev. Richard E. Blemaster, Pastor Emeritus

Sunday School & Bible Classes . . . 10:15 a.m. -Worship . . . . 9:00 a.m.

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G A T H E R I N G

OPENING HYMN – "Grant, Lord Jesus, that My Healing"–vs.1 – 3 LW 95

INVOCATION –

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

Psalm 139 – responsively by verse:

P: O Lord, You have searched me and You know me.
C: You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar.
P: You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways.
C: Before a word is on my tongue, You know it completely, O Lord. You hem me in behind and before; You have laid Your hand upon me.
P: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
C: Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?
P: If I go to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.
C: If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast.
P: For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful. I know that full well.
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

CONFESSION

P: Lent. A sad and bleak season of the Church year; a time for confession and Renewal.
C: We know we're supposed to examine our lives and confess our sins; we may even want to give something up as we follow Christ to the cross.
P: As we begin our Lenten worship, we begin our voyage with Jonah.
C: He is the one who heard God's command and went the other way.
P: He is the one who begrudged God for giving His grace to others.
C: He is the one who was caught in a storm and thrown overboard.
P: He is the one who was sure that he could get away from God and avoid his responsibility.
C: But let us also examine our own lives and see how we run from God's call in our lives. Forgive me, O Lord, when I doubt that you actually love the world. Forgive me when I make excuses to avoid making any commitment to You. Forgive me when I run away from You and doubt that You really care about me. Forgive me when I disobey Your Commandments, and I am satisfied with living in my sin.
C: As Jonah ran away, we often run from You, Father, because we are sure that we have a better plan for our life which selfishly does not include others. As we consider Your gracious plan for salvation in Jesus Christ, we look to You for forgiveness of our sins and for Your renewal. Forgive us, Heavenly Father.
P: Upon this your confession to God our Father who knows our going out and our lying down and who is familiar with all our ways, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hole fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SONG - "Oh, How He Loves You and Me" SH 29

W O R D

FIRST READING – Jonah 1:4-16

SECOND READING – Matthew 8:23-27

PASSION NARRATIVE – Luke 22:24-37

HYMN OF THE DAY – "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" LW 513

MESSAGE – Rev. Robert Knepel

APOSTLES CREED LW page 167

OFFERING – **OFFERING PRAYER**

S E N D I N G

PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER

BENDEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN – "Grant, Lord Jesus, that My Healing" – vs. 4 & 5 LW 95

For next week – re-read Jonah 1