Fourth Sunday in Lent March 14, 2010

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

10 McClellan Circle - Buffalo, New York 14220

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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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ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE -

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER - "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Let us pray: **Dear Lord, we thank You for all the blessings You have given to Salem Congregation these many years. We ask now with humble hearts for Your direction in the selection of a pastor for Salem. Help us to be patient, with hope in our hearts, trusting totally in You, because You have promised to hear us. We ask this in faith that You have already chosen a new Shepherd. We thank You, and trust in Your will. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN - "God Himself Is Present" – vs. 1 - 3 LW 206

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION – (kneel as able)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
C: whose sin is covered. [Psalm 32:1]
P: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
C: and in whose spirit there is no deceit. [Psalm 32:2]
P: I acknowledged my sin to you,
C: and I did not cover my iniquity;
P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]
(silence for personal reflection)
P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,
C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

INTROIT & GLORIA PATRI (insert) - spoken

HYMN OF PRAISE – (omit in Lent)

COLLECT OF THE DAY - read by all - (insert)

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON (insert) - Isaiah 12:1-6

GRADUAL (insert) - spoken by all

EPISTLE (insert) - 1 Corinthians 1:13-31
Lenten Verse - page 165

GOSPEL - (insert) – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
(Versicles sung before & after reading) page 165

HYMN OF THE DAY – "Not All the Blood of Beasts" - vs. 1 - 4 LW 99

SERMON: "There Is Hope" – Isaiah 12:1b

CREED - Apostles Creed page 167

OFFERING - Choir: "We Would See Jesus" – Londonderry Air- arr. Courtney
(words on back page of bulletin)

OFFERTORY - "What shall I render . . . . " page 169

SENDING

PRAYERS FOR TODAY'S NEED AND MISSIONS
At words of "Lord in Your mercy"
Response of Congregation: "**Hear our prayer"**

LORD'S PRAYER page 176

BENEDICTION

HYMN - "Nearer, My God, To Thee" – vs. 1, 2, 4 LW 514

POSTLUDE -

(over)

= = = ***Mission: SALEM/Peace - As the Father sent me I send you.*** = = =
Vision: Preach – Teach – Heal – doing what Jesus does.

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ASSISTANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant . . . Rev. Ronald R. Sprehe — Lector . . . Claire Carlson
Organist . . . . Lois L. Jones
Welcomers . . . . Ken Kushka and Rich Landseadel
Prayer Leader . . Pastor Sprehe — Acolyte . . . Erin Webster
Ushers . . . . . Richard Landseadel, Stephen Jarmusz Sr., Stephen Jarmusz Jr., George Merkt, Rose Ann Merkt
Altar . . . . . Kim Alessi and Maureen Wilke

Sr. Choir: "We Would See Jesus" – Courtney

We would see Jesus, Lo His star is shining
Above the stable while the angels sing;
There in a manger on the hay reclining
Haste let us lay our gifts before the King.

We would see Jesus, Mary's Son most holy,
Light of the village life from day to day.
Shining revealed through every task most lowly,
The Christ of God, the life, the truth, the Way.

We would see Jesus, on the mountains teaching,
With all the listening people gathered round;
While birds and flowers and sky above are preaching
The blessedness which simple trust has found.

We would see Jesus in His work of healing,
At eventide before the sun was set.
Divine and human, in His deep revealing,
Of God made flesh in lowing service met.

We would see Jesus, in the early morning –
Still as of old, He calleth "Follow Me!"
Let us arise, all meaner service scorning;
We give to Thee.

We would see Jesus, Shepherd, Savior, Corner Stone.
The Bread of Life, beloved Son of God.
The Risen Lord, who claims me as His very own,
Bids me to follow where His feet have trod.