

SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Services:
9:30a.m.
Sunday School:
10:45am for children
and adults

Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
“*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*”

Rev. John L. Pingel, M. Div., M.A., Pastor
Vicar Domenick Lettieri
Ernelle Ponivas, Secretary
Lois Jones, Director of Music
Stephen Jarmusz Sr., Custodian
The Rev. Richard E. Blemaster, Pastor Emeritus

Phone:
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Office Hours:
M, Tues, Thurs., 9:00 a.m. –
1:30 p.m.; Wed. – 9:00 –
11:30 a.m. ; Fri. -closed

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 13, 2011

AS WE GATHER

We are sinful from birth, and our hearts are not pure. Although evil thoughts and desires come from them, we know that God creates in us pure hearts by the blood of Jesus, whose death for our sins brings forgiveness and new life.

THE PRELUDE – “Aria” by Peeters

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/EXCHANGE OF PEACE

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "To Your Temple, Lord, I Come" LW #207

INVOCATION and PSALM *Psalm 119:1-8*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!

People: Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart,

Pastor: who also do no wrong, but walk in His ways!

People: You have commanded Your precepts to be kept diligently.

Pastor: Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Your statutes!

People: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all Your commandments.

Pastor: I will praise You with an upright heart, when I learn Your righteous rules.

People: I will keep Your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God's Word says: "If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules, then you shall live." *Deuteronomy 30:16*

We confess our sins to God in sincere repentance.

(Silence for reflection)

Pastor: Glorious and gracious God,

People: we are sinners, sinful from birth. We have so often disobeyed Your commands. In our hearts, we have lusted and raged; with our lips we have cursed and judged unfairly; our actions have not consisted of walking in Your ways. Forgive us our sins, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: Jesus lived a perfect life and died a sacrificial death on the cross for us. For His sake, God forgives our sins. As a servant of Jesus, and in His stead, I therefore announce the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Pastor: Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.

People: Lord God heavenly King, Almighty God and Father; we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people. We justly suffer the consequences of our sins, sins of our hearts and sins of our actions. Mercifully deliver us by Your goodness to the glory of Your name. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT - Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (*Moses offers a choice of life and good, or death and evil.*)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 (*Paul speaks of divisions in the church.*)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE

People: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL - Matthew 5:21-37 (*Jesus tells us that sin is not just outward actions, but originates in the heart.*)

Pastor: The Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HYMN "Just As I Am, Without One Plea" LW #359

THE MESSAGE

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY MUSIC – Choir: “Oh, How He Loves You and Me” – SH 29 (Choir will sing verses 1 & 2 and congregation please join as we repeat verse 1.

People: Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest of the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, You are worthy to be honored by all the peoples of the earth. In humility, we give You heartfelt thanks for the many blessings, both for our lives now and for our lives in eternity, that You give to us, though we in no way deserve them.

We praise You especially that the Word and Sacraments have continued to be given to us in purity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We ask, Lord, that You preserve and extend Your kingdom of grace and give to Your holy Church throughout all the world faithful pastors who will preach Your Word in all its truth and power; help all who hear the Word to receive it with joy and believe it. Since the harvest is plentiful, send forth workers into the field, and open the door of faith to all who do not believe. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: In mercy remember even the enemies of the Church, and grant them the repentance that leads to eternal life. Be our protector and defender in times of trouble or danger; and may we, with all the saints on earth, fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the gift of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give Your grace to all nations and peoples of the earth. Bless the land and the people among whom we live. Cause Your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy, truth, righteousness, and peace prevail everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We commend into Your care all our schools and pray that You would use them to bring useful knowledge and Christian virtues into the lives of students, that they may bring forth the wholesome fruits of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Graciously defend us from war, famine, flood, fire, storm, and earthquake. Protect and prosper everyone in the calling to which You have appointed them, and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Be the God and Father of the widow and the fatherless, the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the forsaken and distressed. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come; doing the work You have given us to do while it is day; for the night comes when no one can work. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power and receive us into Your everlasting kingdom. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Christ Be My Leader" LW #365

THE POSTLUDE – "Postlude in G" - Handel

WELCOME

All who enter here are welcome! It is the house of the Lord; come with a spirit of reverence; worship with a spirit of humility; and do not leave without a prayer to the Lord Jesus Christ for yourself, for those who worship here, and for him who ministers.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD by Marilyn Krentz in memory of nephew, Daryl James . . . and the other sidepiece by Shirley Banas and grandchildren in memory of George Banas, who died on February 13.

SICK - Sharon Miller; Leola Colvin; Allen Feltz ; Carolyn Callea; Fran Wiedemann; Lynda Yung; Mark Beyers; Delores Landwehr; Jean Poniwas; David Poniwas; Hazel Murphy; Eleanor Senchoway; Betty Radke; Pastor Sprehe; Carl R. Radtke; Cheryl Bak; Russ Alessi Jr.; Shirley Wilke; Eunice Foote; Grace Belter (Autumn View HCC – Room 203, 4650 Southwestern Blvd., Hamburg, NY 14075); Augusta Schultz; Marie Radtke; Arlene Ball; Robert Yerbury; Sharon Croston; Stephanie Pittock; Gregory Alfes; all shut-ins.

BIRTHDAYS - Bob Wolf's 84th this Tuesday.

DEATH - Rosemary Battle (cousin of George and Rose Ann Merkt), died Sunday, February 6, 2011; Memorial Service was Saturday, February 12, 2011 in St. Luke Lutheran Church. Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Rosemary.

When a member of the family is in the hospital, or in need of pastoral counsel or care, please phone Ernelle at the Salem church office, 824-2787, or contact Pastor Pingel at 771-1328 (Pastor's home) or 1-724-494-9492 (cell), or Vicar Domenick Lettieri at 525-1044 (home) or 392-1148 (cell). Thank you! Family members are asked to please inform the church office and/or pastor when a member of Salem is released from the hospital and goes to a rehab center. Thank you!

OFFERING UPDATE - Weekly offerings for February 6, 2011 – \$_____; Attendance: 73; Weekly offerings needed to meet our *Current Fund ministry program* are \$_____.

Special Note for Worship or meeting cancellations – *If the worship service or any other meetings or activities are cancelled due to inclement weather or other reasons, please contact Dave Bartholomew, Property Maintenance Chairman at 822-2909 or (cell) 913-1120 as soon as the cancellation decision is made. He will contact various media outlets so the notice of the cancellation is available on Channel 2 or 7 and on WBEN Radio 930 am. Thanks for your cooperation.*

SEE THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES continues to meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Classes began last month, but you are welcome to come any week and see what it is about! See Through the Scriptures is part of the "Crossways" curriculum and is taught by Pastor Pingel.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP please speak to Pastor or Vicar, or call the church office. We'd love to have you as part of our family of faith, and an opportunity to tell you about the ministries here at Salem.

NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST is Saturday, March 5 at 8:30 a.m. Men of the congregation are cordially invited to attend.

CHRISTCARE DANCE LESSONS are held at Salem every Monday at 5 p.m. If you have a child age 3 years and up, please speak to Darlene LaPenna at 822-4435.

DEADLINE for Salem's newsletter, THE DOVE, are due the third Sunday of each month.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES are held each Monday evening at 7p.m. If you have a child 6th grade or older, and would like to enroll them, please speak to Pastor.

SCRAPBOOKING at Salem the third evening of each month. If you are interested, please speak to Joanne Kushka at 823-8461.

CHRIST CARE BOOK CLUB – led by Sally McAlpine meets the first Monday of each month at different participant's house. They are currently reading the book "Everyday in Tuscany" by Frances Mayes. You are welcome to attend. Call Sally at 662-1842.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS, lead alternately by Pastor and Vicar, meets on Sundays in the Krueger Room, located off the upstairs hall. The current theme is "Evangelism in the Scriptures." You are welcome to join us.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK -

BIRTHDAYS - Today – Rebecca Croston; Tuesday – Brady and Katelyn Isch, Joshua Karter, Thomas Szpara Sr., Carol Webster, Kyle LaPenna; Robert Wolf; Wednesday – Vicar Domenick Lettieri, Christopher McEwen; Thursday – Marjorie Zawada.

ANNIVERSARY – Wednesday – Cornelius and Jean O'Keeffe.

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PRAYER IS AVAILABLE AT THE ALTAR following service for anyone desiring individual prayer. ChristCare Small Group Ministry Leaders will be in the vicinity to pray and bless.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE next meeting, February 28 at 7 p.m.

STEPHEN MINISTRY is way of caring for those going through a time of crisis, wherein a caregiver comes alongside the person and walks with them toward a brighter day. If you know someone in need of a caregiver, or are interested in Stephen Ministry, please call Rich Landseadel at 822-9695 or Dayle Austin at 822-5565. Thank you.

QUOTE OF THE DAY: "Salvation is a gift and you can't boast about a gift. You can only be thankful for it." --D. James Kennedy

SPECIAL EVENT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY –

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ASKING EVERYONE TO HELP US WITH THIS!

During the month of February please bring in any loose coins/change you may have to help fill a coin container we will have in the front of church. We would appreciate it if you would add any loose coins to help fill the jar. The money we collect will be given to charity. Thank you!

SERVING THE LORD

Officiant: The Rev. John L. Pingel
Assisting Minister: Vicar Domenick Lettieri
Prayer Leader: Vicar Dom

Organist/Pianist: Lois L. Jones

Lector: Barbara Bartholomew

Welcomers: Fred Bartz Jr. and
Elinor Jentsch

Acolytes: Brittany Houck and Kyle LaPenna
Crucifer: Jennie Swierczynski

Ushers: Richard Landseadel, Stephen
Jarmusz Jr., Stephen Jarmusz Sr.,
Rose Ann Merkt, George Merkt,
Roy Sheppard

Altar Committee: Ethel Berkhoudt and
Norrine Nagel

WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship . . . 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Classes . . . Valpo
Sunday with a Hot Dog Roast after worship . . .
deadline for all article/calendar events for the
March DOVE as soon as possible because this
is a short month.

Monday: 12:00 – Salem Piecemakers; 6:00 –
Confirmation Class; 5:15 – ChristCare Dance
Lessons, led by Darlene LaPenna; 6:30 –
ChristCare Leaders Meeting

Tuesday: 1:00 – Bible Study, led by Sally
McAlpine; 6:30 – Girl Scouts; 6:30 – Servant
Ministers; 7:00 – “See Through the Scriptures”
led by Pastor Pingel

Wednesday: 12:00 – Church Office
Professionals (COP) at St. Luke’s Lutheran
Church, Cheektowaga, NY; 7:00 – Choir
Rehearsal

Thursday: 9:30 – ChristCare Bible Study, led
by Ruth Carr; 6:00 p.m. and on – Scrapbooking

Friday:

Saturday: 11:30 – 1:30 – A.A. Group

NEXT SUNDAY: 9:30 – Worship
10:45 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Classes