

# SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4873 Cleveland Road

Wooster, Ohio 44691



*Building Faith by Praying for God's Guidance, Hearing God's Word,  
Sharing God's Grace, Serving God's Children*

MINISTERS: The People of Salem

330-345-6727

slcmain@gmail.com

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

***In Our Prayers:*** Lois Phillips, Debra Sears, Alyssa Snyder, Willy Zamora, Kathy Bond, Barbara Fedor, Kenny Wise, Sherri Snyder, Mike Fiser Jr., Regina Carson, Sheril Buchwalter, Chet Molzen, Marvin Hartman, Tari Lowe, Patty Stuart, Bill Buchwalter, Mike Ringgenberg, Amanda Herbert, Monica Crawford, Sue Haumesser Miller, Jean Shoup, family of Shirley Delefave.

***Welcome Visitors!*** Your presence is a blessing to us. Please pick up an information brochure, complete the visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

***Parents with small children:*** We welcome you and your children to worship this morning. There are activity bags in the Narthex. The nursery is available (with speaker system) should you have need of it.

***Holy Communion*** is offered the first Sunday of each month; we practice open table fellowship: All baptized Christians who share our belief that Jesus Christ is truly present with his body and blood along with the bread and wine, are invited to participate. Register using the card in the back of the pews.

P: Pastor    A: Assisting minister    C: **Congregation**    L: Lector

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

**Prelude**

**Bell**

**Call to Worship**

**Pastoral Greeting & Parish Time**

## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A: In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: **Amen.**

A: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

A: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

A: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

A: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

A: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: **Amen.**

## **WE PRAISE GOD**

**Gathering Hymn**  
**Greeting**

*Oh, Praise the Gracious Power*

**Red Hymnal #651**

- A** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

**Kyrie**

**Red Hymnal Page 213**

**Canticle of Praise**

*Glory to God*

**Red Hymnal Page 213**

**Prayer of the Day**

- A:** O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## **WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

**First Reading**

**Acts 11:1-18**

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get

up, Peter; kill and eat.’<sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’<sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’<sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.<sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.<sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.<sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter;’<sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.<sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?”<sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Refrain



Psalm 67:4

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Psalmody

Tone (2♭, 3 flats)



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## Psalm 148

- A: <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD <sup>1</sup> from the heavens;  
praise God <sup>1</sup> in the heights.
- C: <sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all you angels;  
sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup> hosts of heaven.**
- A: <sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup> sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup> shining stars.
- C: <sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heav- <sup>1</sup> en of heavens,  
and you waters a- <sup>1</sup> bove the heavens.**
- A: <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they <sup>1</sup> were created,
- C: <sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not <sup>1</sup> pass away. R**
- A: <sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD <sup>1</sup> from the earth,  
you sea monsters <sup>1</sup> and all deeps;
- C: <sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, <sup>1</sup> snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, do- <sup>1</sup> ing God's will;**
- A: <sup>9</sup> mountains <sup>1</sup> and all hills,  
fruit trees <sup>1</sup> and all cedars;
- C: <sup>10</sup> **wild beasts <sup>1</sup> and all cattle,  
creeping things and <sup>1</sup> flying birds;**
- A: <sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth <sup>1</sup> and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers <sup>1</sup> of the world;
- C: <sup>12</sup> **young <sup>1</sup> men and maidens,  
old and <sup>1</sup> young together. R**
- A: <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is  
over <sup>1</sup> earth and heaven.

**C:   <sup>14</sup> The LORD has raised up strength for the people and  
praise for all <sup>1</sup> faithful servants,  
          the children of Israel, a people who are near  
the LORD. <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! R**

**Second Reading**

**Revelation 21:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

**L:   The Word of the Lord.       C:   Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation       *Alleluia*       Red Hymnal Page 216**

*Please stand.*

**P:   The Holy Gospel according to John, the thirteenth chapter.**

**C:   Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel**

**John 13:31-35**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been

glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Tim Barrage

*Please stand.*

Hymn of the Day

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

Red Hymnal #359

## **Installation of new members**

*Dorothy White*

### **Presentation of New Members**

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for this person, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new member into the life and ministry of this congregation.

*(A representative of the congregation or the presiding minister may introduce the new member.)*

P: Dorothy White has requested full membership to Salem Lutheran Church. At this time we will welcome her and install her as new member in Faith to Salem Lutheran Church.

P: Dorothy, Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*



**I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

### **Apostles' Creed**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.**

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

### ***Address and Questions***

*(The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.)*

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word

and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Sister in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism?

*(Those being welcomed respond.)*

**R: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*(The minister addresses the assembly.)*

**P:** People of God, do you promise to support and pray for Dorothy in their life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

**P:** Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

**C: Amen**

*(The minister lays hands on new member.)*

**P:** Stir up in Dorothy the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**Welcome**

**P:** Let us welcome our sister in Christ to this community of faith.

**C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.  
Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world. Amen**

*(at this time all return to their seats)*

**Prayers of the Church**

A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

**C** #752 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*  
(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)

A: Prayers continue... As we lift up our prayers...

**C** #752 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*  
(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)

A: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**C:** Amen.

## **Peace**

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## **WE OFFER GOD OUR GIFTS**

### **Offering of Gifts**

### **Offertory**

Amanda Herbert & Tim Mann

*Please stand.*

### **Offering Song**

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Red Hymnal #186

### **Offering prayer**

P: Risen One, you have gathered these gifts that we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen

## Thanksgiving for the Word

### Canticle of Thanksgiving

Red Hymnal page 219

P: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

P: Remember us in your kingdom, O Lord, and teach us to pray.

C: **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

## WE ARE BLESSED AND SENT FORTH TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

*Please stand.*

### Blessing

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with  
resurrection dawn, now and always.  
C: **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**    *Now the Green Blade Rises*    **Red Hymnal #379**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Postlude

**Tim Mann**

*Liturgical elements and prayers are drawn from:*

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## ***THIS WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH***

### **Sunday, May 18**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live Stream)

10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship / CHILI COOK-OFF

5:00 p.m. YouTube Livestream Replay

### **Monday, May 19**

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Free Community Meal

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

## ***NEXT WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH***

### **Sunday May 25**

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live Stream)

10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

12:00 p.m. Council Meeting

2:00 p.m. Avenue Worship

5:00 p.m. YouTube Livestream Replay

### **Monday, May 26**

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Free Community Meal

7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study



**Pastoral Concerns** – Tim Barrage is available to the members of Salem in times of Pastoral concerns or emergencies. He can be reached at 330-465-5763.

**Nursing Home Worship:**

**June 08 2:00 p.m.** Brookdale Senior Living, Wooster. Services are held on the second Sunday of the month.

**May 25 2:00 p.m.** Avenue at Wooster Care and Rehabilitation Center. Services are held on the fourth Sunday of the month.

If you would be willing to help with these services, please contact Barbara Buchwalter @ 330-317-7906.

**Women of Faith** has a Facebook group called “Women of Salem.” If anyone is interested in meeting for brunch at Buehler’s Towne Market at 10:00 am on the first Wednesday of the month, please let us know. <http://www.facebook.com/WomenOfSalem>

**ELCA World Hunger** - All loose change in the offering plate will go toward this special social ministry project.

**Worship Lay Assistants Needed:** Consider being a part of this ministry. If you have never performed any of these duties before, we will be happy to show you the ropes. If you have a beautiful voice or are musically inclined, please let us know.

**Continuing Live Stream Services:** Our goal is to continue the livestream services. Please consider supporting this livestream ministry with a designated gift by marking “livestream” on your offering envelope. For us to be able to fully utilize this technology we continue to invest in additional tools and higher end cameras. This ministry is grateful for the support, consideration and generosity.

**NFL Monday Night Free Community Meal:** 6:00 p.m. Come for a hot meal, stay for a bible study. This meal is open to any all who hunger.

**The Chosen – Monday nights\*:** Monday evenings 7:00 p.m.. We continue to show a new episode of “The Chosen” series. Join us as we watch the series together and discuss the episodes in detail.

\*Invite friends or neighbors to one of our special events with the provided post card invites. Fill out their name, add a personal note, and drop in the mail. We can mail it if you drop them in the offering plate.

