# 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

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1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026

***In Our Prayers***: Brian Vincent, Michaela Johnson, Coleen Green, Marty Jacobson, Norma Jean Vincent, Clemencia Thmomasettti, Jerry Botkin Sr., Bob Thomasetti, Steven Williamson, Helen Raudebaugh, Fred Gilbert, Margarite Wise, Nancy Wise, Catrina Dotson, Mark Ewing, Lea Ewing, Diane Cook, Grady Cronick, Lois Phillips, Debra Sears, Alyssa Parish, Willy Zamora, Kathy Bond, Mike Fiser Jr., Regina Carson, David Carson, Sheril Buchwalter, Chet Molzen, Patty Stuart, Bill Buchwalter, Mike Ringgenberg, Amanda Herbert, Monica Crawford, Sue Haumesser Miller, family of Tyler Salmons, Family of Connie Schabitzer, family of Gene Lifer.

***Altar Flowers*** are provided by members of the congregation. See the last page of this bulletin for the full listing. Many thanks to all who have donated.

***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

*Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering*

*of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*

**Prelude**

**Bell**

**Call to Worship**

**Pastoral Greeting & Parish Time**

## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

### Confession & Forgiveness

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever.

C: **Amen**

A: A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love.

A: Comforting God,

**C: we are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.**

A: "Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!

C: **Amen.**

### We Praise God

**Gathering Hymn** *The King Shall Come* **Red Hymnal #260**

**Greeting**

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** **Page 138**

**Canticle of Praise** *Glory to God* **Page 140**

**Prayer of the Day**

A: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Week 1*

**Advent Verse** *Light One Candle (Verse 1)* **Red Hymnal #240**

*Litany*

A: The Lord is the living God, enduring forever. God's kingdom shall never be destroyed, and God's dominion has no end. God delivers and rescues; The Lord works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for God saved Daniel from the power of the lions. -Daniel 6:26-27

A: As shadows lengthen and chaos roars, one candle shines, the hope of God's kingdom in our midst.

C: **Christ is coming to make all things new! In prayerful waiting, we prepare him room, and we are waiting for Christ, the light of the world.**

A: Today we light the candle of Hope.

*(The candle of Hope is lit.)*

C: **Our hope is in the Lord.**

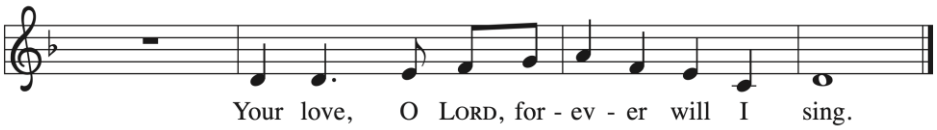
## We Hear God's Word

**First Reading** **Isaiah 64:1-9**

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that
the mountains would quake at your presence— 2 as when fire
kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make
your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might
tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we
did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your
presence. 4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who
wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who
remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become
like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a
filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind,
take us away. 7 There is no one who calls on your name or
attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O LORD,
you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are
all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all
your people.

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

*Psalm Refrain (Psalm 89:1)*




Psalm 89:1
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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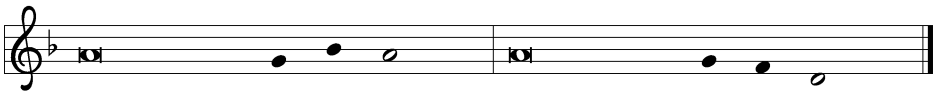
*Psalm tone (#9, one flat)*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

A: [1] Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

C: [2] **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,**
**stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

A: [3] Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

C: [4] **O LORD | God of hosts,**
**how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R**

A: [5] You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

C: [6] **You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,**
**and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

A: [7] Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

C: 17 **Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,**
**the one you have made so strong | for yourself. R**

A: 18 And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
C: 19 **Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;**
**let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R**

**Second Reading** **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Gospel Acclamation** *Alleluia* Red Hymnal Page 142

*Please stand.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel** **Mark 13:24-37**

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars

will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

P The Gospel of the Lord **C Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** **Tim Barrage**

*Please stand.*

**Hymn of the Day** *Awake! Awake! And Greet the New Morn* **Red Hymnal #242**

**Apostles' Creed**

P: Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith using the Apostles' Creed.

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.**

**Prayers of the Church**

A In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**C #262 Wait for the Lord**

*(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)*

A Prayers continue…As we lift up our prayers,

**C #262 Wait for the Lord**

*(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)*

A Prayers continue…As we lift up our prayers,

**C #262 Wait for the Lord**

*(Red Hymnal. Response is sung, led by organ)*

A We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our 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 & Sandy Smith**

*Please stand.*

**Offering Song** *Create in Me a Clean Heart* **Red Hymnal #186**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Thanksgiving for the Word

**Canticle of Thanksgiving** *Prepare The Royal Highway* **Hymn #264**

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**

A 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**
**they 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**

*Please be seated.*

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

*Please stand.*

**Blessing**

A: God our provider, God our feast, God our companion, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn** *Soon and Very Soon* **Red Hymnal #439**

A: Go in peace. Bring good news the brokenhearted.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** **Sandy Smith**

*Liturgical elements and prayers are drawn from:*
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## *THIS WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH*

**Sunday, November 29**

**1st Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Zoom/Livestream)
10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)
11:00 a.m. Fellowship / Decorating time
5:00 p.m. YouTube replay of livestream worship

**Monday, November 30**

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Community Meal
7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

**Friday, December 04**

7:00 p.m. Cover to Cover Bible Study (via ZOOM)

## *NEXT WEEK AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH*

**Sunday, December 06**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live Stream)
10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live Stream)
11:00 a.m. Fellowship
5:00 p.m. YouTube replay of livestream worship

**Monday, December 07**

6:00 p.m. NFL Monday Night! Community Meal
7:00 p.m. and Chosen Bible Study

**Friday, December 11**

7:00 p.m. Cover to Cover Bible Study (via ZOOM)




**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:**
**December 13 2:30 p.m.** Brookdale Senior Living, Wooster. Services are held on the second Sunday of the month.

**December 27, 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 Saturday 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:** As we return to services in the sanctuary, we will need help in continuing our online as well as our in-house service. 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.

**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.

**200th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee Formed:** Planning has begun, history being reviewed, invite lists being put together, activities being planned, dignitaries being contacted, programming and activities being created. We need your involvement and participation in this massive endeavor. Your ideas, your expertise, your funding, your presence. 2027 will be here before we realize and this is the year, 200 years ago that Salem Lutheran Church first held services as a congregation. Join us as we celebrate this amazing accomplishment! Next meeting December 6.

**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.

