

Salem Lutheran Church

Our Vision:

To be a congregation of disciples
proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all.

Our Mission:

To glorify God in all that we do,
reflecting His love to our community and the world.

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March 30, 2008

Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Prayer And Meditation

Gathering in Christ's presence

Prelude

* Apostolic Greeting

Page 78

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong.: **And also with you.**

Welcome In Christ! *Spiritual Emphasis: "The Weakness of Death"*

Invocation

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

Cong.: **Amen.**

* Hymn

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

LBW #158

Cong.: **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood."**

**Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?**

*** Prayer Of The Day**

Pastor: We celebrate with joy the resurrection of your Son, Heavenly Father---

Cong.: **with the joy that made Thomas exclaim, "My Lord and my God."**

A.M.: We celebrate with joy the resurrection of your Son, Heavenly Father---

Cong.: **with the joy that made Peter testify, "This Jesus God raised up, and of that, all of us are witnesses."**

Pastor: We celebrate with joy the resurrection of your Son, Heavenly Father---

Cong.: **with the joy that made Peter write, "God has given us a new birth into a LIVING HOPE through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."**

A.M.: Transform us into ambassadors of your joy.

Pastor: In your name Jesus, we pray this.

Cong.: **Amen.**

God's word for our lives

First Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, {22} "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — {23} this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. {24} But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. {25} For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; {26} therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. {27} For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. {28} You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' {29} "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. {30} Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. {31} Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' {32} This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, {4} and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, {5} who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. {6} In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, {7} so that the genuineness of your faith -- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire -- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. {8} although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, {9} for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." {20} After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. {21} Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." {22} When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. {23} If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." {24} But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. {25} So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." {26} A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." {27} Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." {28} Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" {29} Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." {30} Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. {31} But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

Kingdom Kids

"Seeing Is Believing?"

Pastor Cox

* Sermon Hymn

"The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"

LBW #135

Cong.: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won!
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sermon

"The Bully"

Pastor Cox

Cong.: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the church

Petitioner: ...Lord, in your mercy,
Cong.: "Hear our prayer."

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: Peace be with you.
Cong.: And also with you

Offering

Offertory Music (8:00)

Early Risers Choir

Offertory Prayer

A.M.: You have given us so much more than our lives and our possessions, O God.
Cong.: Through Jesus' resurrection, you have given us a NEW BIRTH; You have given us a LIVING HOPE.
A.M.: What can we give in response to such a gift?
Cong.: We give our lives to you.
A.M.: Alleluia! Christ is risen...
Cong.: ...and so are we.
A.M.: Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray.
Cong.: Amen.

The sacred meal

* Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

* Lord's Prayer

Page 91

Cong.: **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 Distribution

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.
We celebrate the Real Presence of Christ
as he comes to us "in, with, and under" the bread and the wine.*

* Thanksgiving Canticle

Page 92

Cong: **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Going in mission

* Benediction

Page 95

* Sending Hymn

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

LBW #363

Cong.: **Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
In death his love shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now
And conquer ev'ry place and time.**

**Not throned afar, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior with the Father reigns.**

* Commissioning

Pastor: In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world – to fulfill our calling as the people of God, the Body of Christ. Go in peace!
A.M.: Serve the Lord!
Cong.: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

FLORAL OFFERING: By Eric Schubert in celebration of Diane's birthday.

ETERNAL LIGHT OFFERING: By Barbara Hackett & Chris Mathis in loving memory of "J".

Our Family Table Sunday, March 30, 2008

The sharing of news and information for
Congregational friends and family

Welcome to Salem!

Worship/Educational Opportunities

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education Hour
10:30 a.m.	Festival Worship

Dear Believers – Thank You!

Easter's Gospel was proclaimed! Thank you for the tremendous worship/fellowship experiences and through your loving efforts the Loving Lord "touched" the lives of many from near and far. Well done! (This Easter worship attendance was the 2nd highest in our 25 years of proclaiming the Risen Christ – **788**)

In Joy,
Pastors Wayne & Jeff

Young Adult Fellowship Planning Luncheon

Young adults of Salem, you and your families are invited to gather at **Moe's Mexican Grill** on Sand Lake Road **TODAY** at **12:30 p.m.** for food, fellowship and discussions about future events for the young adults of our congregation and community. Bring your appetites and your ideas. If you can't make it, but would like to share some ideas, please contact Andrew Meyer at kinganm@aol.com or Pastor Jeff at PastorJeff@SalemLC.net or 407-414-5261.

Mid-Week Bible Dinners

Starting **Wednesday, April 9th**, we will be continuing our weekly **Wednesday evening dinners (5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)** as we also provide more opportunities to meet our Discipleship goal of reading the New Testament this year. Starting at **6:00 p.m.**, we will read an entire book of the New Testament, followed by a question/answer/discussion time. Obviously, we will be only reading the shorter books of the New Testament, but by the end of this program, we will have read nine whole books of the New Testament. The schedule is as follows: April 9th-2 Timothy, April 16th-Titus, April 23rd-James, April 30th-1 Peter, May 7th-2 Peter, May 14th-1 John, May 21st-2 & 3 John, May 28th-Jude. Please sign-up if you plan to attend the dinners.

"7900 Club"

Our April meeting will begin at **11:30 a.m.** on **Wednesday, April 9th** with our usual potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring an entrée, dessert or salad to share. Coffee and tea are provided. Pastor Schmidt will be in charge of the program. Come and join in the fellowship and bring your friends and neighbors.

Got Grief?

Then participate in one of the following healing offerings:

- Grief and Support Group I. Open to all. Meeting in Pastor Schmidt's study at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, April 1st**.
- Grief and Support Group II. Designed and created for men. This inaugural gathering will be **Tuesday, April 15th** in Pastor Schmidt's study at 7:00 p.m.

Minister of Music Search

Two more candidate's resumes have been received. This week the Search Task Force will be interviewing one of those candidates this coming Thursday. Your prayers are critical to the process. Keep them coming!

Congregational Potluck

On **Sunday, April 13th**, immediately following the 10:30 service, we will hold a congregational potluck in the Fellowship Hall; share your favorite recipe with your Salem family. If anyone would like to provide some light-hearted "entertainment", please contact Tammy at jimntam@hotmail.com. Look for a sign-up sheet today in the foyer.

Women's Bible Study!

For April, we will be looking at "*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*" This session focuses on the story of Ruth as a peacemaker and as an important person in the genealogy of Jesus. All women are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.** Our study is found in the April issue of "*Lutheran Woman Today.*" A copy is available from the Church Office.

WORSHIP ATTENDANTS FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Acolytes:	Dillion Weitzel	Erica Barr
Assisting Ministers:	Paul Johnson	Keith Thompson
Ushers:	Tom & Candy Johnson	Fred & Jo Ann Hart
		Bob & Julie Garlitzke
Altar Guild:	Anne Lauer	Cindy Linnell
Greeters:	Ray & Aurora Lien	Maria Martins
		Aaron & Heather Kjosa
Supply Organist:		Lisa Testa
Sr. Pastor:		Wayne F. Schmidt
Assoc. Pastor:		Jefferson Cox

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER LIST

New Petitions

Healing:

For Paul Peery as he awaits gall bladder surgery at Dr. Phillips Hospital.

Presence:

For Lorraine Swanson as they wait for test results.

For Patti Hawn as she awaits upcoming surgery.

For Kathy Heenan upon the reoccurrence of cancer.

Continuing Petitions

Presence:

For Ron Bruchbocker upon being hospitalized in Pennsylvania and undergoing tests.

For Frank Kolb, Maria Martin's brother, as he continues chemo for colon cancer.

For Greg Pickrel, son-in-law of the Peery's, as he deals with seizures.

For Jim Ayotte, Sr., Jim Ayotte's father, as he recuperates from surgery.

For our congregation as we search for a person(s) to fulfill the positions of Organist, Sr. Choir Director and/or Contemporary Worship Leader.

For Kenneth Lee, father of Candy Johnson's sister-in-law, as he decides on a protocol for lung cancer.

For Ramon Johnson, brother of Tom Johnson as he undergoes treatment for liver cancer.

For David Weller, family member of Rebecca Morales, upon being diagnosed with AML leukemia and recuperating from a heart attack.

For Ronald Weller, family member of Rebecca Morales, as he awaits a liver transplant.

For James Macdonald, as he undergoes chemo treatments.

For Christine Zaloom, niece of Brian and Maria Blackmore, and her infant daughter, as she continues to grow stronger at home and they deal with the challenges ahead.

For Julie Hachmeister's mom, Patricia Blauert, upon being cared for at Westminster Towers.

For Scott Cline, friend of Peggy Bohart Baker, as he continues treatments.

Healing:

For Jennifer Thompson (not Keith & Marty's daughter) as she recuperates from throat surgery.

For Pastor Jeff & Jenny Cox's brother-in-law, Tim Stradling, as he continues to recuperate.

For Bruce Francisco, a friend of Maria Martin's family, as he recuperates at home.

For Merrill Francis, father of Priscilla Fitzgerald, as he recuperates from back surgery.

For the children of Bryan Hadley, friend of Desmond Taylor, who have been diagnosed with Niemann-Pick type C disease.

For Pam Saunders, teacher at Dr. Phillips Elementary, as she continues further testing and treatment for a degenerative brain disorder.

For Lurah Ann Taylor, niece of the Peery's, upon being diagnosed with advanced pancreatitis.

For Erin Masterson, Gina & Roger's daughter, as she battles chronic respiratory problems.

Safety:

For Jonathan Cretul, nephew of Scott and Audrey Fetterhoff upon being stationed in Afghanistan.

For Christopher and the 3rd Division out of Fort Stewart, GA, upon being stationed in Iraq. Christopher is the grandson of Barbara Hackett.

For Donna Johnson, niece of Ruth Owrey, upon being stationed in Iraq.