



# Salem Lutheran Church

## Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Assistant Minister: Judy N.  
Lay Reader: Jack S.

**February 23, 2025**

**9:30 am**

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

**A Amen.**

L Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L Merciful God,

**A you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

L God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**A Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*"Making Their Way"*

ACS 979

### GREETING

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

**A And also with you.**

### KYRIE

ACS pg. 31

### HYMN OF PRAISE

ACS pg. 31

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

**A And also with you.**

L Let us pray,

**A O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 45:3-11, 15**

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. <sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L The Word of the Lord.

**A Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50**

<sup>35</sup> But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” <sup>36</sup> Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. <sup>42</sup> So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. <sup>50</sup> What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

L The Word of the Lord.

**A Thanks be to God.**

L The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.

**A Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: LUKE 6:27-38**

[Jesus said:]<sup>27</sup> “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,<sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.<sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.<sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.<sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.<sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.<sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.<sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.<sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.<sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;<sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

**A Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

“Do Good”

Pastor Aaron Holmgren

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

ELW 729

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

L God has made us God’s people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**A I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION**

L God of grace,

**A hear our prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

A And also with you.

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## OFFERING

*“Now the Green Blade Rises”*

*Jubilee Ringers*

*(Offering baskets are located in back of the sanctuary)*

## DOXOLOGY

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

*ELW 885*

## OFFERING PRAYER

L Generous God,

A you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the means of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## LORD’S PRAYER

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.

## BLESSING

## SENDING HYMN

*“O God beyond All Praising”*

*ELW 880*

## DISMISSAL

L Go in Peace. Christ is with you.

A Thanks be to God!

Scan for Church Announcements



## Welcome Guests & Visitors!

*We hope you found the worship service meaningful. If you or someone you know would like information about Salem; program offerings, perhaps looking for a church home or some other need: Please contact the church office (651-457-6661) or Diane Hueller (651-451-0307)*