



# Second Sunday of Lent

**Sunday, March 1, 2026**

**9 a.m. Divine Service**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class**

**Rev. Jonah J. A. Schultz, Pastor**

Deaconess Linda Strubbe | Principal Joy Reitsma | Music Director Bruce Engebrecht

217-243-3419 | [salemjax.net](http://salemjax.net) | [salemjaxschool.net](http://salemjaxschool.net)

## **Lent 2a**

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John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” This is perhaps the most well-known and beloved verse in the New Testament, for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life, including our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.

## **The Sacrament of the Altar**

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In the Divine Service, we eat and drink the body and blood of Jesus, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and hell, and life everlasting. This meal is much more than a symbol or expression of faith. It’s the substantial Son of God giving Himself—His own body and blood—to His people. With deep thankfulness for Jesus Christ’s gifts to us here at Salem, we desire to celebrate the Holy Communion according to our heavenly Father’s Will. Because this includes oneness in the faith we confess (doctrine), guests who desire to commune and confess Christ’s Truth with us are asked to speak with Pastor before the service.

## **Small Catechism: Baptism**

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First

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19)

Second

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)

# Service Notes and Propers of the Day

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Order of Service	LSB 184, Divine Service, Setting Three
Hymn of Invocation	596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized
Hymn of the Day	708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart
Offering	819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good
Distribution Hymns	918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer 798 The God of Abraham Praise 601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized
Hymn to Depart	718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

Introit Psalm 105:4–7; antiphon: v. 8



He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.  
Seek the Lord | and his strength,\*  
seek his presence con- | tinually!  
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,\*  
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,  
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\*  
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!  
He is the | Lord our God;\*  
his judgments are in | all the earth.  
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.  
He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

## Collect of the Day

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

## Gradual

Hebrews 12:2



[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- |  
ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

## Epistle

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has

something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;

<sup>8</sup>blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” ...

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

## Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear

witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

## **News and Notes**

Mar. 1, 2026

- Salem School Chapel at 9:20 a.m. Join us to sing, pray, and hear Christ’s Word with our students.
- Wednesday morning Bible Study with Pastor Schultz at 10am. Join us in building upon the solid rock of Christ together.
- Join your Salem family at Wednesday Evening Lenten Meal – 5:30pm & Service - 6:30 p.m.
- LENTEN SUPPERS: We are planning on Lenten Suppers for the upcoming Lent season. The date for Lent starts on February 18th and runs through April 2nd. We have a sign sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway. There is still two dates left to fill, March 11<sup>th</sup> & March 25<sup>th</sup>. If you are able, please consider signing up to prepare a meal for that evening. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.
- Friendship Bible Study: is scheduled for Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm

- **Swaddling Clothes:** Our next shopping day will take place on March 10th. Please let me know if you're available to help. We are currently looking for someone who speaks French and can assist with translation during our shopping days. About one-third of our clients speak French, which makes communication challenging for us. We hope to better understand their physical and spiritual needs. If you know anyone who speaks French and is willing to help, please get in touch with me. Thank you for your ongoing support, Deaconess Linda Strubbe
- **Little Hoopers Basketball Academy** is open to children in 4K through 2nd grade! Join us for an exciting introduction to basketball where kids will learn the basics of dribbling, passing, and shooting—all while having a great time. Our program focuses on building skills in a fun, supportive environment that encourages teamwork and confidence. Join us Thursdays March 5th, 12th, & 19th at 5pm in the gym, and let your little one experience the joy of basketball!
- **LWML Meeting:** There will be an LWML meeting on Monday, March 16th at 3:00 pm here at Salem.
- **Leo's Pack the House Night:** March 19<sup>th</sup> is Pack the house at Leo's Dine in or carry out and help support Salem School! Make sure to mention Salem when ordering so we get credit. Your participation makes a difference, thank you for supporting our school community!

- Lay Men's Confessions Study: Join us for a joint study of the Book of Concord led by Rev. Kettner of St. John's, Beardstown and Rev. Schultz. We meet monthly at the Mathis house in Arenzville for study and beer at 6:30pm. Our next meeting is Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>. Join brothers from area congregations as we learn what it means to stand firm in the faith and live Christ's truth in our vocations each day.
- Salem's Annual Spring Dinner & Auction: Salem Lutheran School is currently accepting donations for its Annual Spring Dinner & Auction, scheduled for Saturday, March 21st. All donated items should be dropped off by March 8th. For further information or questions, please contact David Hannel at (217) 491-0722.
- PTL Meeting: is scheduled for Monday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm
- The LWML will be hosting a Prayer Breakfast March 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 11:00am
- EASTER BREAKFAST: Sunday, April 5th from 7:30 am to 9:00 am will be our Easter Breakfast. Serving Biscuits and Gravy, Egg Casserole, Sausage. Donation for sweets gratefully accepted, please bring your donation to the cafeteria on Saturday, April 4th from 4:30pm – 6:30 pm. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Thank you

# SPECIAL SERVICES FOR LENT/EASTER

- Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> Meal – 5:30 pm  
Lenten Evening Prayer – 6:30 pm / Pastor Kettner
- Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> Meal – 5:30 pm  
Lenten Evening Prayer – 6:30 pm / Pastor Dierks
- Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> Meal – 5:30 pm  
Lenten Evening Prayer – 6:30 pm / Pastor Heinze
- Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> Meal – 5:30 pm  
Lenten Evening Prayer – 6:30 pm / Pastor Lesemann
- Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday -- 9:00 am Divine Service
- Mar. 30<sup>th</sup> Prayer Service for St. Matthew's Passion – 12:00 pm
- Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> Prayer Service for St. Mark's Passion -- 12:00 pm
- Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer Service for St. Luke's Passion – 12:00 pm
- Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> Closing Holy Week Chapel – 12:00 pm  
Maundy Thursday – 6:30 pm
- Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday -- 6:30 pm
- Apr. 4<sup>th</sup> Cook Out, Fun, Fellowship --- 4:30 (starts)  
Easter Vigil -- 6:30 pm
- Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> The Resurrection of our Lord 9:00 am Divine Service
- Apr. 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Wednesday Divine Service – 6:00 pm

## Our 2026 Elders Officers

Chairman – John Tomhave  
Vice Chairman – Kevin Eckhoff  
Treasure – Paul Reither  
Secretary – David Hannel

### Elders

Chris Haschemeyer  
Steve Schaefer  
Bruce Engebrecht  
Wade Mathis  
Dennis Jarman  
Mike Krause  
Roger Ward  
Randy Lawson

**SALEM LUTHERAN**  
February 12nd



**CHURCH & SCHOOL**

**Week**

Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	
Attendance	65
Communion	61
Operating	\$ 620.00
Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	
Attendance	112
Communion	94
Operating	\$ 14,813.25
Leap	\$ 265.00
Restricted	\$ 4,980.22

Illinois Pro-Life March

# March 19, 2026 • Springfield, IL

- Matins at Trinity Lutheran at 11 AM (220 S Second St.)
- Lunch available between Matins and the Rally/March (at the Statehouse Inn). A donation will be collected to help cover the cost of the lunch.
- The Rally will be held at the Lincoln Statue in front of the Illinois Capitol Building at 1 PM
- The March begins following the Rally, at 2 PM, from the Lincoln Statue heading north on Second St.
- Attendees are encouraged to consider going to lobby their state legislator and senator following the march.
- Automobile parking is available in the west parking lot of the Statehouse Inn (101 E Adams)

## **Prayer List**

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Members and friends in need of prayer: Stephanie Bezler, Anne Chelet, Kimberly Hendricks, David Monroe, Roberta Mckee, Carole Holt, Dwayne Middendorf, Evengeline Martin, Phil Carl, Bob Morris, Ron Hudec, Steve Bahney, Arliss Wenzel, Benjamin Elmore, Donna Moody, Mary Acton, Ben Edwards, Rick and Kristen Halsey, Caroline Hadden.

Please contact the church office to be added/removed from the Prayer List.

Salem is a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. [lcms.org](http://lcms.org)

# 2026 March

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  Divine Service & Communion -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	2  Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm	3	4  School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am <b>Lent</b> Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	5  Little Hoopers Academy - 5:00pm	6	7
8  Divine Service & Communion -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	9	10  Swaddling Clothes Shopping Day - 12:30pm - 2:30pm	11  School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am <b>Lent</b> Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	12  Little Hoopers Academy - 5:00pm	13	14
15  Divine Service & Communion -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	16  Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm  LWML Meeting - 3:00pm	17	18  School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am <b>Lent</b> Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	19  Illinois Pro Life March Little Hoopers Academy - 5:00pm Leo's Pack the House Night	20  Lay Men's Confessions Study - 6:30pm	21  Salem's Annual Spring Dinner & Auction 4-6pm
22  Divine Service & Communion -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	23	24  PTL Meeting - 5:30pm	25  School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am <b>Lent</b> Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	26	27	28  LWML prayer breakfast - 9:00am-11:00am
29 <b>Palm Sunday</b> Divine Service & Communion -9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	30  Prayer Service - 12:00pm  Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm	31  Prayer Service - 12:00pm	1  Prayer Service - 12:00pm	2  Closing Holy Week Chapel - 12:00pm  Maundy Thursday - 6:30pm	3	4  Cook out, Fun, Fellowship - 4:30pm Easter Vigil - 6:30pm
5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> Easter Breakfast 7:30am-9:00am						