



Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 8, 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

Lent 3a

Exodus 17:3 – “But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?’” Even the Israelites, who saw miracles with their own eyes, fell into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

The Sacrament of the Altar

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

Third

How can water do such great things? Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: “*He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.*” (Titus 3:5–8)



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Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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

Exodus 17:1–7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵And the Lord said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

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 5:1–8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the

glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Holy Gospel

John 4:5–30, 39–42

⁵[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship

what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹“Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” ³⁰They went out of the town and were coming to him. . . .

³⁹Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

News and Notes

Mar. 8, 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.
- Committee Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday March 10th at 6:30pm
- LWML Meeting: There will be an LWML meeting on Monday, March 16th at 3:00 pm here at Salem.
- PTL Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday March 24th at 5:30pm
- Elders Meeting: is scheduled for Tuesday March 24th at 6:30pm

- 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. 20th. 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.
- Friendship Bible Study: is scheduled for Monday March 23rd at 6pm
- LENTEN SUPPERS: March 25th is still available, please consider signing up to prepare a meal for that evening. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.
- RENEWAL TIME: It is time to renew/subscribe to the Lutheran Witness. The June/July issue will be combined so there will only be 11 magazines mailed. The yearly price for 2026 is \$23.50 per year. If you would like to renew/subscribe, please let the office know. We will need payment and your mailing address by May 1st. Thank you!
- Leo's Pack the House Night: March 19th 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!
- 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.
- 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
- THANK YOU: To Brothers & Sisters in Christ at Salem, thank you for the prayers, cards, calls and acts of kindness shown to me during my recovery from surgery. Thankful prayers were answered and God gave the gift of healing. To God be the Glory! Carolyn Hadden and Family

- Salem Church: Thank you for allowing us to use the church for mom's service & for providing the food following the service. Mom would have been so pleased with the talented youth who sang. Wow! Thank you for making that happen. It was also good to see so many familiar faces that brought back so many fond memories. For all who were praying for mom over the past 30 years, thank you. Your prayers helped her when she needed them. - The Family of Lori Oldenettel & David Large.
- IN SYMPATHY: David Schumacher passed away Thursday, February 26th Chapin, IL. David is survived by his wife, Joyce Schumacher; three children: Timothy Schumacher of Chapin, Mark (Jennifer) Schumacher of Bonita Springs, FL, and Sara Schumacher of Orlando, FL; Two grandchildren, Lucas Schumacher and Aubrie Schumacher; one brother, Arthur (Jone) Schumacher, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Janet Schumacher. Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, March 4th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Chapin, IL. With burial at Grace Cemetery in Chapin, IL. May the Lord Bless all who mourn the Loss of this Loved One.
- IN SYMPATHY: David A. Monroe passed away Saturday, February 28th Jacksonville, IL. David is survived by his wife, Diana (Grob) Glaenzer; Children, Becky (Charlie) Grinkey of Jacksonville, Clint (Jennifer) Monroe of Jacksonville, David J. (Lora) Monroe of O'Fallon, IL, John Glaenzer of Woodridge, Michael (Brandi) Glaenzer of Jacksonville, Andy Glaenzer of Jacksonville, and Matthew (Rosa) Glaenzer of Jacksonville; thirteen grandchildren, Tabitha Smith, Michael Smith, Hanna Monroe, Sofia Monroe, Olivia Monroe, Alyssa Monroe, Kenlee Monroe, Kiley Glaenzer, Elijah Glaenzer, Naomi Glaenzer, Donna Harbaugh, Dominic Clark, and Aerowynn Clark; six great grandchildren, Jayden Smith, Arianna Smith, Marlei Smith, Westley Smith, Perseus White, and Joseph Harbaugh; two sisters, Mary Shipley of Roodhouse, and Joyce Barnes of Jerseyville; and two brothers, Fred (Cindy) Monroe of Jacksonville, and Rusty (Paula) Monroe of Pittsfield. He was preceded in death by his parents and by Mary Jane's parents, Charlie and Dicie Lash; and one granddaughter, Amelia. Funeral Services were held on Thursday, March 5th at Salem Lutheran Church, with burial at Fernwood Cemetery in Roodhouse, IL. May the Lord Bless all who mourn the Loss of this Loved One.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR LENT/EASTER

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

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 lobbying their state legislator and senator following the march.
- Automobile parking is available in the west parking lot of the Statehouse Inn (101 E Adams)

We Are Fearless With Jesus!

Vacation Bible School will be taking place on July 8-10 from 8-11 am each day and we need your help. If you are able to help in any of the following roles please talk to Joely Dolen or Mary Schultz

- Group leader (supervising children and taking them to each station)
- Game leader (materials and game instructions provided)
- Craft leader (materials and craft instructions provided)
- Signing children in and out
- Taking pictures

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CHURCH & SCHOOL

Week of March 1st

Feb 25 th	
Attendance	56
Operating	\$ 328.00
Mar 1 st	
Attendance	130
Communion	101
Operating	\$17,670.03
Leap	\$ 2,724.20
Restricted	\$ 470.00

Prayer List

Members and friends in need of prayer: David Vortman, Stephanie Bezler, Anne Chelet, Kimberly Hendricks, 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.

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



2026

March - February



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
March 8 Divine Service - 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	March 9	March 10 Committee Meeting - 6:30pm	March 11 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am Lent Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	March 12 Little Hoopers Academy - 5:30pm	March 13	March 14
March 15 Divine Service - 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	March 16 LWML Meeting - 3:00pm	March 17	March 18 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am Lent Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	March 19 Illinois Pro Life March Little Hoopers Academy - 5:30pm Leo's Pack the House Night	March 20 Lay Men's Confessions Study - 6:30pm	March 21 Salem's Annual Spring Dinner & Auction 4-6pm
March 22 Divine Service - 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am	March 23 Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm	March 24 PTL Meeting - 5:30pm Elders Meeting - 6:30pm	March 25 School Chapel - 9:20am Bible Study - 10:00am Lent Meal - 5:30pm Service - 6:30pm	March 26	March 27	March 28
March 29 Palm Sunday Divine Service - 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class - 10:30am PTL Easter Egg Hunt	March 30 Prayer Service for St. Matthew's Passion - 12:00pm Friendship Bible Study 6:00pm	March 31 Prayer Service for St. Mark's Passion - 12:00pm	April 1 Prayer Service for St. Luke's Passion - 12:00pm	April 2 Closing Holy Week Chapel - 12:00pm Maundy Thursday - 6:30pm	April 3 Good Friday - 6:30pm	April 4 Cook out, Fun, Fellowship - 4:30pm Easter Vigil - 6:30pm
April 5 Easter Sunday Easter Breakfast 7:30am-9:00am Divine Service - 9:00am	April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11