

# The SEER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2022



## SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

9:30AM

March 6- First Sunday in Lent  
March 13- Lent, ELW, setting 9  
March 20- Lent, ELW, setting 9  
March 27- Lent, ELW, setting 9

## ALTAR IN THE GARDEN

March 6 & 13 10AM

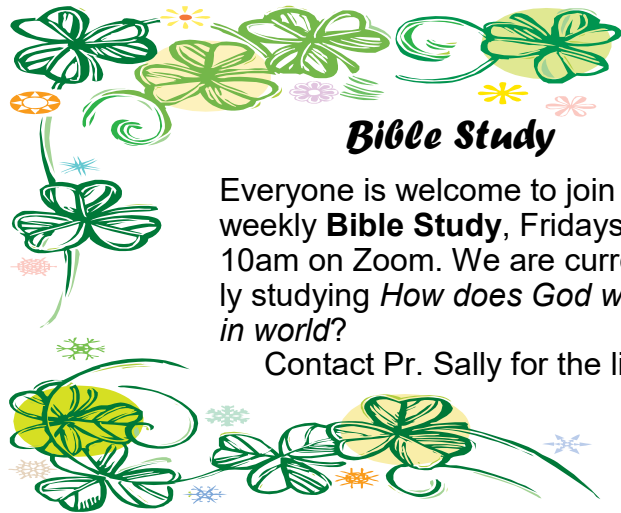
## SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

5:00PM

## MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS, 7PM

March 9, 16, 23, 30  
April 6



## **GRADUATION INFORMATION**

Every year we like to congratulate and celebrate all of our graduates from high school through PhD. If you, your son or daughter are a member of Salem and graduating this spring (or last December), please send us a paragraph with information on the degree and any future plans OR send a picture, with your full name, degree and anything else you'd like to share to [salemelc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salemelc@sbcglobal.net)





## From the Pastor

### "24 Hours: No Greater Love" Wednesdays in Lent

Our usual pattern for scripture during Holy Week at Salem is this:

\*Palm/Passion Sunday – we read most of the 'Passion' of Christ (from the Last Supper to his burial).

\*Maundy Thursday – we read the passage from John about foot-washing, and from Mark the one of Jesus praying in Gethsemane.

\*Good Friday – we hear 'the Seven Last Words of Christ' – words Jesus said from the cross, out of all four gospels.

Now with all of that scripture reading, the only passage that has any kind of sermon attention is the foot-washing story. That's all! Of course the story is so compelling as to not need extra words, but I thought that maybe this year it would do us some Lenten good to take a closer look at a portion of it.

So come with me on Wednesday evenings for a slow and intimate look at the 24 hours leading up to Jesus arrest. During these fraught and holy hours, Jesus

- \*shares his last meal and watches his betrayer slip away,
- \*listens to his disciples arguing about their status in the coming Kingdom,
- \*warns Peter that he will deny his Lord,
- \*cautions his disciples of the difficulties ahead, and
- \*prays in anguish on the Mt. of Olives.—

and yet all of it infused with urgent teaching and the most amazing love.

The messages will be a part of the 7pm Holden Evening Prayer, both in-person and live-streamed.

*Pastor Sally*

## Sunday Evening Service

Every Sunday, 5PM

A half-hour of devotional worship in an intimate setting at Salem: acoustic music, lyrical hymns, sacred story and candlelit prayer – the perfect way to end a weekend/prepare for the week. Currently the 'sacred stories' are being told by different storytellers each week, and are from lesser-known voices from scripture: Naaman, Rhoda, Melphibosheth, Lydia...join us as we let their witnesses speak to our hearts and lives. Come once in a while, come every Sunday – as the Spirit moves you.



## From Your President

Salem is buzzing with activity! On February 13<sup>th</sup> Altar in the Garden was launched and both children and adults that have been able to attend have been excited. Such a good way to worship God in creation. Thanks to Pastor Sally, Amie Haar, Annette Cowell, Shelley Schmidt and Pat Darlington for your creativity, your energy, your commitment and for the love you put into this new adventure.



**WE ARE HIS HOUSE.**

HEBREWS 3:6

Then on Sunday evening, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm the Sunday Evening Service was able to resume. A great opportunity for a meditative experience with live music, a sharing and prayer. It's a 30 minute service that is a good start to your busy week.

On Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> for the 9:30 service, the pew ropes were removed and open seating was available. Our good habits and precautions encouraged distancing and we do still wear our masks. Though Covid seems to be waning, it is still out there. This Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> we began full communion. Much excitement with our steps forward. BUT, on March 6<sup>th</sup> we will enjoy "not giving up coffee hour" for Lent and hopefully forever! Coffee will be available to anyone feeling comfortable removing their mask to enjoy the Lutheran beverage and maybe even a cookie. If you are not there with your comfort level, we understand. After 3 years of caution, masks and avoiding close contact it is hard to remove our safety nets.

With Lent starting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> I wish all of you a reflective 6 weeks as we painfully remember Christ's death and joyfully celebrate his Resurrection.

Be well, stay safe and stay in touch.

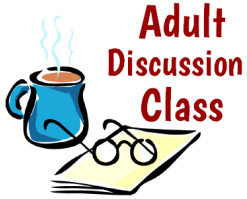
Hugs, *Judy Lewis*

### Campus Ministry Dinner & Dialogue

Thursday at 6pm.  
All college students are welcome  
for the home cooked dinner.  
(Cooks! To sign-up to provide dinner,  
see the bulletin board  
to the left of the kitchen opening.)



## CURRENT & UPCOMING EVENTS:



During March the **Adult Discussions Class** will continue its discussions of “Biblical Wisdom Literature” The discussions will continue their focus on the book of “Job” except for two discussions on a lecture by Rabbi Kurshner on “Why Bad Things Happen to Good People.” No prior knowledge required. The Class will continue as a Zoom meeting at 11 Sunday mornings following in-person worship at 9:30 AM.

If you would like a **free daily Lenten Bible study** go to the basket in the East hallway entry. If you would like **Our Daily Bread or Christ in Our Home**, they can be found on the center library table. If you plan to participate in the **Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays in Lent**, extra copies can be found next to the Ash Wednesday service and then in the Library.

Our new **March/April coffee hour list** has been posted by the kitchen pass-thru.

Just a reminder that **Sunday, March 13 will be the Spring-forward time change.**

**April's SEER** deadline for Articles and Volunteer lists is Monday, March 28. Please e-mail your articles and information to the office at [salemelc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salemelc@sbcglobal.net)

If you are receiving the **SEER by mail**, please turn in your \$12 per year mail fee. You can put your check in the collection, marked SEER mail, or mail it to the office.

Our **handicapped parking spots** by the Duck St door are a mixed bag. We have some marked “Handicapped, Sunday Only”, that can be used by anyone during the week- handicapped or not. They are also a great option if you are ever ‘temporarily’ disabled in any way – no need for a handicap tag. Two spots are reserved for members with handicapped parking tags.



“Faith is the first factor in a life devoted to service. Without it, nothing is possible. With it, nothing is impossible.” Mary McLeod Bethune

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.” Mother Teresa

### Complete serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what’s called “The Serenity Prayer,” attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. Did you know there was more to it?

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.”

Dear Pastor Sally, Krystal, Elizabeth and Congregation,

Wanted to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the beautiful funeral service that you prepared for Karl.

Your word and beautiful music (as well as the live streaming) perfectly honored his life and brought our family such comfort.



Also, the meal before the service as delicious and was so appreciated by the many family members.

With Sincere thanks,

Kevin & Lori Oltmanns & Family

Kay & Chris Headrick & Family

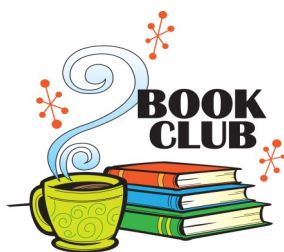
## Altar in the Garden

March 6 and 13 at 10AM  
OSU Botanical Garden

There are still two opportunities for outdoor worship in this first-ever session of Altar in the Garden (next session: June). This is a truly intergenerational activity, and adults are loving it as much as the children. Dress for the weather, bring along a lawn chair and join us at 10am Sundays March 6 and/or 13 at the Botanic Garden. Bible stories and conversations on faith take on new life as God speaks to us in the natural world.



The OSU Botanic Garden is located on the north side of Highway 51 between Sangre and Western in Stillwater. At the Garden, pull into the lane off of 6th (51 Hwy), park in the second parking lot and look to the west (near the Gazebo) for the group. For more information go to <https://saalemstillwaterok.org/announcements/> OR contact Pastor Sally ([pastorsally@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorsally@sbcglobal.net))



Meetings are the last Monday of each month at 7pm and are currently hosted on Zoom. March's book is The Lincoln Highway, by Amor Towles. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't finished the book! For more information, contact Priscilla Gerfen at 624-6235 or [priscilla@gerfen.com](mailto:priscilla@gerfen.com)

### A couple of announcements from some of our friends!

Stillwater History Museum at 702 S Duncan is hosting a **Family History Fair** on Saturday, March 12 from 1-4pm. A child-friendly activity will be available and admission is free.

Also on Saturday, March 12 from 9-11am the Stillwater Public Library is having a **Drive-Thru Shred Event** in the north parking lot.

**Caregivers Support Group** meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from noon to 1pm at the Life Adult Day Center, 411 W Matthews (First Christian Church).

**StillyArts** at 12th and Main, has beginner Piano Lessons, Wednesdays at 4:30pm, Embroidery Classes Wednesdays at 4:30, Homeschool Art Exploration on Tuesdays from 1-2pm, Drama on Mondays at 4:30. Call 547-0401 for more information.



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church (ELCA)  
101 S. Duck St.  
Stillwater OK 74074

**MINISTRY STAFF**

Pastor ~ Sally Houck  
Director of Music ~ Krystal Hennessey  
Choir Director ~ Elizabeth Albright  
Office Coordinator ~ Lisa Murray-Francis  
Parish Nurse ~ Cindy Pennie  
Media Specialists ~ Olie Weaver, Olen Weaver & Jeremy Hennessey

**CHURCH OFFICE**

**Hours:** Monday -Thursday 8-1pm,  
Friday 8-11am  
**Telephone number:** 405-372-3074  
(please leave a message)  
**Email Address:** salemelc@sbcglobal.net  
**Church Website:** [salemstillwaterok.org](http://salemstillwaterok.org)

# Puzzle!

Complete the Scripture verses (NIV, unless marked) using letters found in the words



**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY**



See! The winter is \_\_\_\_\_; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come. (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

“Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it \_\_\_\_\_, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you.” (Luke 11:36)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the \_\_\_\_\_, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them . . . ? (Psalm 8:3-4)

We all, like sheep, have gone \_\_\_\_\_, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the \_\_\_\_\_ and members of the household of God. (Ephesians 2:19, ESV)

Answer: past, dark, stars, astray, saints