



SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Living Out God's Love

An Open and Affirming Congregation

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the First Advent Candle Youth

Come and worship the God who heard the cry of our ancestors and brought hope to the living.

God of the ages, hear our shouts of praise and cries for compassion.

Come expectantly to worship God, whose own Son, Jesus Christ, comes to us bringing love and calling us to be signs of love in the world.

Open our eyes, O God; and open our ears to your Word; that we may see you going before us into the world and may hear your voice calling us to faithfulness.

On this first Sunday in Advent, come and worship God, by whose Spirit we are empowered to live as obedient disciples, doing Christ's work until he comes.

Hurry, Lord, come quickly, bringing love and hope and joy and peace.

Hymn: *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus* 122
(first verse only – please remain seated)

Some verses of Scripture: Romans 13: 11-12 p. 1036

The First Advent Candle is Lighted

A Prayer for Advent I (Unison) :

Lord God, we come to you with excited and grateful hearts as we begin a new church year and season. Thank you for this Advent time. It is exciting to be nearing Christmas! And it is good for us to slow down and enjoy each other more. Fill us with your peace. Make us better and better people. Teach us to more deeply appreciate one another. Help each of us to tell the others more

often how much they mean to us. Make us aware that you walk with us each day. Help us to be grateful and joyful. Make our hearts strong and brave and generous. We love you, Lord, and we rejoice that you love us. Amen.

Hymn: *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus* 122
(remaining verses – please remain seated)

*Prayer of Confession (Responsively):

O Lord, our God, out of full lives we call on you, from busy schedules we allot you some time. We grasp neither your vastness nor our smallness. How little we know of tomorrow, yet how much we presume.

Change our minds this Advent about what is important. Help our lives change and take new directions in step with the Holy Spirit. By your Word and Spirit, may we hear and live the truth: salvation does not come out of our experience; it must come into it.

Forgive us, Lord, for not having room for you by not having time.

Let times of refreshing come from you, and may Christ come fully into our lives this year. Amen.

*Silent, Personal Prayers of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):

From Jesus Christ we have received grace. Both the words of his lips and the light of his life transform us.

Change, O Lord, the outlook and the outcome of our living, through our Hope in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5 p. 618

Children's Choir: *Go, Tell It On the Mountain*

Reading from the Gospel: Matthew 24: 36-44 p. 905

Sermon: "Waiting and Watching and Wanting" Dr. Robinson

Offering

Offertory:

*Doxology: tune: 780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 112

Benediction

Postlude

An asterisk (*) where those who are able should stand as an act of worship.
Hearing-assistance devices are available in the entrance near the canopy.

STAFF and SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Interim Minister

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson
trobinson@salemchurchverona.org

Director of Music

Dawn Lingard
dawn.Lingard@landsend.com

Directors of Children's Choir

Kelli Malueg, Kari Westphal

Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry

Sarah Pundt
spundt@salemchurchverona.org

Office Administrator

Cara Bahr
cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

Scripture Reader

Kevin Booth

Fellowship

Provided by JoAnn & Gary Aebly
Served by Barb & Doug Smith

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Monday, November 28

Eve - Boy Scouts

Wednesday, November 30

6PM - BRC
6:30PM - Handbells
6:45PM - Chancel Choir

Saturday, December 3

11AM-1PM
Musical Christmas Bazaar & Raffle

Sunday, December 4

9AM - Sunday School
10:15AM - Worship

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND RAFFLE!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 3, 2022 for Salem's first **Musical Christmas Bazaar and Raffle!** Hosted by the Women's Guild, Salem's music department will join in the festivities by providing music from each of the four choirs, including the bell choir. The Bazaar will include a meal this year of barbecue sandwiches, salads, and pies, and a host of baked items for sale throughout the library and hallway. Songs from the choirs will add Christmas cheer to the atmosphere as people shop and dine with family and friends. This will take place from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon. From 12:00 noon until 1:00 the annual Raffle will take place. Tickets for the raffle have gone on sale, and will continue to be sold after church until December 3rd. \$1.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for a packet of 6.

We are still accepting prizes for the Raffle. See Cindy Remus for your donation of a prize. SCRIP cards are still available from Kelli Malueg or Lisa Hart. Think about that special Christmas cookie or bread or candy or other item that always makes a hit each year, and plan to donate some to the Bazaar Bake Sale.

Salem Women's Guild requests that each household brings a pie for the Bazaar and Raffle next Saturday, December 3rd. You can bring your pie to the church Friday morning between 9 am and 11 am or Saturday morning before the Bazaar.

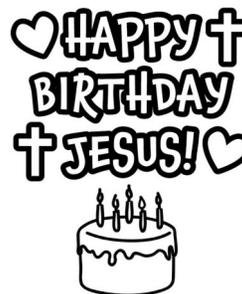
Celebrate Jesus' Birthday by Making a Child's Birthday Brighter

Many children in Dane County are in families that struggle with food insecurity. Birthday celebration items are a luxury that these families cannot afford. With your help these children can experience the anticipation and excitement of a birthday cake and party. Salem's advent mission project will be collecting items for Birthday Party Kits to be distributed to families when they visit Badger Prairie Needs Network.

Each Birthday Party Kit should include the following:

- 1 cake mix
- 1 prepared can frosting
- 1 9 x13 pan
- 1 package of birthday candles
- 10 disposable plates and napkins (age and gender neutral)

Items should be bagged in gift bags or plain paper bags and then placed under the Christmas trees on the altar. For those who choose to donate individual items rather than a complete kit there is a wrapped collection box by the trees.



Help Salem collect 50 bags to be distributed in the month of January. Questions can be directed to the Board of Christian Ed or the Mission Committee.