

Christmas and New Years Worship

We have a great slate of services planned for this holiday season. Join us to glory in His righteousness and wonder at His love! Christmas Eve candlelight services will be at 3 and 5 pm. On Christmas morning, we'll gather again to celebrate as the shepherds and angels did - with great rejoicing! We'll start with Christmas caroling at 9:45 am before worship begins at 10 am. Holy Communion will be offered at the Christmas Day service. We close the year on December 31st with a special vespers service at 4:30pm. Holy Communion will be offered at the New Year's Eve service as well.

Christmas Invitation Cards Available

According to a 2024 Lifeway survey, over half of un-churched people would attend a Christmas service if they were invited by a friend. To help you, we've printed business card-sized invitations that you can give to a friend or neighbor. If you invite a friend to Christmas service this year (whether they come or not), drop an email to outreach@salemlutheran.org to let us know. We'd love to hear your story of sharing your faith One by One!

Christmas Eve Luminaries

This Christmas Eve Salem will remember the lives of those who have passed away with a path of luminary memorials. Members are invited to write the name of your loved one in heaven on a bag and a message if you wish as well. Bags will be available in the church entry this weekend and next. If you prefer, you can send your name and message to Zuber & Sara Shah at sshah@salemlutheran.org or text/call 651-491-4684 and they can prepare a luminary for you.



This Week at Salem

Sun, 12/14	8:00 am Worship with Communion 9:15 am Bible Study and Sunday JAM 10:30 am Worship with Communion 11:45 am Youth Group Christmas Party
Mon, 12/15	6:00 pm Bible Basics 6:00 pm Grade School Band Concert at St. Croix Lutheran Academy
Tues, 12/16	6:30 pm Church Council
Wed, 12/17	9:30 am Women's Bible Study and Cookie Exchange 4:00 pm Midweek Advent Worship 5:00 pm Midweek Advent Meal 5:30 pm Catechism 5:45 pm Praise Ensemble 6:15 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm Spiritual Growth Committee 7:15 pm Handbell Practice
Thurs, 12/18	9:45 am Midweek Bible Study
Fri, 12/19	8:30 am Chapel 11:30 am Middle School Caroling
Sat, 12/20	5:00 pm Salem Christmas Concert
Sun, 12/21	8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study and Sunday JAM 10:30 am Worship

Teacher Calls Received

Dear Salem family, last Sunday (12/7), we received divine calls to serve at St. Lucas Lutheran Church and School in Kewaskum, WI. The calls consist of teaching grades K-1st and 4th and 5th, along with Music and Athletic Director. Please keep our family in your prayers as we deliberate our calls. God's blessings to you this week and always!

Luke and Allison Dorn

Midweek Worship

Salem school's last Christmas program is this Wednesday at 4pm with a fellowship meal served afterward. We invite you to celebrate the birth of our Savior with us with special songs and Scripture recitations.

Christmas Day Instrumental Carolers

Join us Christmas Day to play Christmas carols for the pre-service Christmas carol sing-a-long. A brief description of how we will organize the music is included in the front of the music book. Please sign the participation sheet when you pick up your music so that we will know what our instrumentation will be. If you have any questions, contact Roger Zolldan at 651-216-7462 (cell/text;) or at rzolldan@comcast.net.

Prayer Partner Letters are Ready!

Holiday letters are ready for you to pick up. Please note that the Prayer Partner's box has moved. You can pick up your envelope from the white mailbox located inside the church near the back door in the narthex. Please return your letter by Monday December 15th. Thank you.

2026 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelope boxes give our families an opportunity to consider our giving to the Lord for regular gifts and special occasions. Every member household of Salem should have a box on the tables in the entry. If you don't find a box for yourself, please let us know in the church office.

Snow Shoveling Fundraiser

Salem 7th and 8th graders are raising funds for the upcoming history class trip to Washington, D.C. by offering driveway and walkway shoveling for \$20 (\$10 additional fee for snow deeper than 5 inches). Every job is completed with care, reliability, and attention to detail. Hiring the team means a cleanly shoveled property while supporting an educational trip to the nation's capital. To schedule or ask questions, email brooklynshopbell938@gmail.com.

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$14,497.30 for Current Expenses and \$1,660.15 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

Contact Information

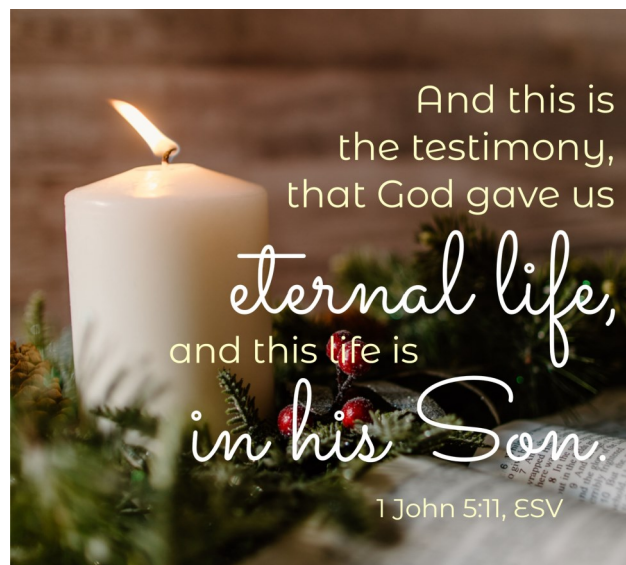
Church office (Abigail Ibsch): 651-439-7831 | church@salemlutheran.org
Pastor Ryan Wolfe: 701-989-9721 | rwolfe@salemlutheran.org
Pastor Jon Pedersen: 920-979-2476 | jpetersen@salemlutheran.org
Principal Ryan Klatt: 763-898-6273 | rklatt@salemlutheran.org
School Office: 651-439-7831 | school.office@salemlutheran.org
Parish Nurse (Kathy Smart): 651-383-5126 | nurse@salemlutheran.org

Parish Nurse Update

No in-person parish nurse hours this week. Kathy is available by phone, and office hours resume Tuesday, Dec. 30. Starting in January, office hours move to Thursdays from 11–4, with home visits available. Wishing you a safe, healthy, and blessed Christmas!

Blue Christmas Worship at New Life - Shoreview

It's supposed to be the most wonderful time of the year, but Christmas can be a difficult season for many – maybe for you or someone you know. There is support and comfort to be found even in times of darkness, grief, and separation. Come, join others to hear a message of light and hope. Our sister church, New Life Lutheran in Shoreview, will hold a candlelight prayer service of light and hope this Wednesday (December 17) at 7:00 pm. Join them for this unique worship experience. New Life's address is 180 County Rd F W, Shoreview, MN 55126.



In Our Prayers

- ✝ For moments of quietness and peace in worship and Bible study as we focus on the true Christmas season.
 - ✝ For faith that looks to Jesus in times of difficulty, times of joy, and every moment in between.
 - ✝ For blessing on all members and friends who look for healing, help, and mercy from God.
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