



*South Salem  
Presbyterian Church Est. 1752*

*Third Sunday of Advent  
December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Year B*

***This service is being live streamed and recorded. If you prefer not to be on camera, you may sit in the balcony (with the exception of communion). Thank you.***

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PRELUDE

The Prelude is a sacred curtain dropped between the World and the Sanctuary. We cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon from the profane to the Holy.

WELCOME

OPENING WORDS

\*THE PEACE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 146:5-10



\*HYMN 37

*Let All Things Now Living*

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### SCRIPTURE READING

#### Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about<sup>[a]</sup>: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet<sup>[b]</sup> did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,<sup>[c]</sup> because he will save his people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"<sup>[d]</sup> (which means "God with us").

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

#### SERMON

Transformed by a Babe

**\*HYMN 630**

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

THE OFFERING

DOXOLOGY 606

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Sacrament will be celebrated each week during worship so have your own bread and wine/juice with you before we begin the service if you are joining us by virtual.

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

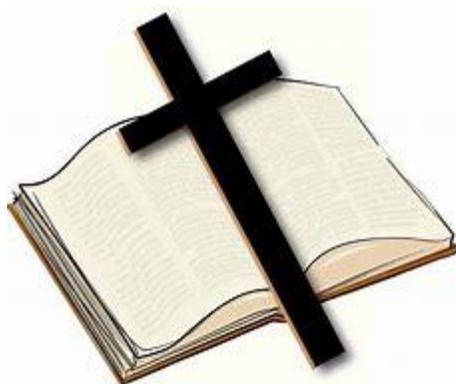
**\*HYMN 20**

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Today's liturgist is Rebekah Habinowski



## ❧ Upcoming Events ❧

### **Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm**

Holiday Concert: New Westchester Symphony Orchestra at South Salem Presbyterian Church, free admission.

### **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Nativity Night on the front lawn  
Annual Cookie Walk after Sunday Service

### **Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Choir rehearsal at 9:30am, before the service

### **Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Choir rehearsal at 3:30pm, before the service

Christmas Eve service at 4:00pm

The choir will be singing the service of Christmas Eve this year as in many years past. We will rehearse for 20-30 minutes this Sunday, the 15th, and next Sunday the 22nd after services.

We will be leading the carols, joining the congregation. We will also sing our traditional Christmas anthem, the "Christmas Lullaby". Don't worry, I'll have copies of the music for everyone.

There is a YouTube version if that would help you. "Christmas Lullaby", John Rutter.

**SERMON NOTES:** Today, the Church is in desperate need of recovering its confidence in the World of God. Special programs, popular music, and other things alone, as well-intentioned as they might be, are not the means by which God saves people. Christ builds His Church through the preaching of the Gospel, and so, we must make faithful preaching and teaching the Word of the Lord a clear priority at South Salem Presbyterian Church. Please use the back of the bulletin for making any sermon notes and consider joining Adult Sunday School at 9:15 to 9:45 prior to worship (starts September 15).

## Church Leaders

Pastor: Mark E Salmon

Minister of Music: Mary Jane Newman

Children's Ministry Director: Donna Ferrara

Clerk of Session: Eliza Fraser Travalino (Class of 2025)

Class of 2024: Chris Jessup, James M. Dodge III

Class of 2025: Deb Buscema

Class of 2026: Richard Cochran, Samantha Zaffiro

To contact Session email [Session@southsalempc.org](mailto:Session@southsalempc.org). Board of Deacons: Rebekah Habinowski, Donna Ferrara, Veronica Dodge, Brendan Mulligan, Kelly Kim, Brooke Habinowski (Youth Deacon), Anne Hill, Kaitie Watkins

To contact the Deacons email [Deacons@southsalempc.org](mailto:Deacons@southsalempc.org).

Nursery School Director: Pamela Leibman

**THE HAMMER THAT CHANGED THE WORLD** is a weekly radio program hosted by our minister, Mark, each Saturday night at 9 pm (Eastern) for 10 minutes. It is broadcast on the international radio station WRMI and can be heard on 9955 KHz shortwave, or on WRMI.net or even ASK ALEXA to turn on WRMI radio about a minute before 9 pm. Mark has also started another weekly radio program (only 5 minutes) on WRMI called YANKEE BASEBALL.

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