



*South Salem  
Presbyterian Church Est. 1752*

*December 14, 2025 Year C  
Third Sunday of Advent*

*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

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

OPENING WORDS

\*THE PEACE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 146:5-10



\*HYMN 83

*Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus*

**\*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

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2:1-20

**SERMON**

The Mystery of Christmas

**\*HYMN 100**

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout  
(Canticle of the Turning)*

**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 113**

*Angels We Have Heard On High*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Today's liturgist is Debbie Mulligan

## ❧ Upcoming Events ❧

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** Live nativity night on the church lawn

**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>** Annual deacons cookie walk immediately following service.

Special concert featuring Mary Jane and Anthony Newman, and David Glukh

**Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM** Christmas Eve candle service

**Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-6:30pm** Blood Drive hosted in fellowship room

### **SERMON NOTES:**

Who can fathom the mystery of Christmas? What we have here is not the story of a God who appeared on earth, and not the story of a man lifted up to godhead, but that God became a human, that the Eternal Word became flesh and dwelt among us. This is an amazing fact, the most overwhelming fact that can be presented to human intelligence. Even the great mind of Paul when he pondered it, exclaimed, "Great is the mystery of Godliness: God was manifest in the flesh."

## **Church Leaders**

Pastor: Mark E Salmon

Minister of Music: Mary Jane Newman

Children's Ministry Director: Samantha Zaffiro

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

Class of 2025: Deb Buscema

Class of 2026: Richard Cochran, Samantha Zaffiro

Class of 2027: Rebekah Habinowski, Chris Jessup, James (Sam) M. Dodge III

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

Board of Deacons: Veronica Dodge, Brendan Mulligan, Kelly Kim, Brooke Habinowski, Anne Hill, Katie Watkins, Robyn Musicant

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

Nursery School Interim Director: Katie Watkins

Mark's weekly radio program has come to an end after about 40 years or so (**THE HAMMER THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**) but the weekly **YANKEE BASEBALL** program remains.

South Salem Presbyterian Church  
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