**Salem United Church of Christ Moorestown**

**Church Office (610) 759-1652 – www.salemuccbathpa.org**

**Pastor Kaye Lentz, (610) 217-0041, email:SalemPastor2218@yahoo.com**

**Lisa Abruzzese, Organist/Choir Director, (610) 217-4234**

**Ministers of the Church – Every Member of Salem UCC**

**Singing the Hymns today – Diane Gebhard**

**21st Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 25, 2020**

***Please note that in order to protect ourselves and each other:***

* *Masks, covering our nose and mouth, will be worn during the entire service.*
* *There will be no congregational singing during hymns or responses. This is our opportunity to enjoy Lisa’s musical talents.*
* *During the passing of the peace, we will remain seated and share the peace of Christ by waving or sharing the peace sign.*
* *If restrooms are needed, please use the ones under the Sanctuary stairs.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

One: God has called us to be people of love.
**All: God didn’t mean the “syrupy” stuff of movies and novels.**One: Truly loving can sometimes be difficult,
**All: Yet we are called to reach beyond the difficulty with compassion.**One: In all of this, God is with us, guiding and helping us.
**All: Thanks be to God for God’s faithful presence. Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

 **All: Lord Jesus, you command us to remember that the first commandment is to love God with all that we are, our hearts, souls, minds and spirits. The second is equal to this in that this love is to be extended to our neighbors. We are to love as we wish to be loved. Help us to internalize these commandments so that when we encounter times of difficulty, we are again reminded of your everlasting love for us. Amen.**

**HYMN #27** *“God of Creation, All-Powerful”*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: Trusting in the assurance of God’s amazing grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Merciful and gracious God, we gather here this day, coming together seeking your healing wisdom. Our lives are filled with anxiety and fear. We turn our backs on people in need and close ourselves away from opportunities to serve. Confusion and anger abound in our nation and in our hearts. Forgive us when we have chosen the pathways of greed and fear instead of the high way of peace and hope. Bind up our sounds and calm our spirits. Teach us again to turn to you in love. Write the commandment to love our neighbor as we ourselves would want to be loved, as you have loved us. Hear now our silent confessions.** *(silence is kept)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: God’s love has been poured over us to heal and nourish our thirsting spirits. We have been forgiven. Now we are challenged to go forth in peace and hope to a hurting world.

**All: Thanks be to God for all God’s mercies shown continually to each one of us. Amen.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE!**

Leader: Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another *(stay in place, wave or make the*

 *peace sign)*

**PRAISE RESPONSE:**

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: The Lord’s name be praised!**

**TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

**Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18**

 **Matthew 22: 34-46**

**RESPONSE:**

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN #593** *“Lord, Speak to Me”*

**OFFERING** *(for those worshipping virtually)–*I invite you at this time to consider ways to express your thankfulness for all that God provides by giving of your time and talents in new ways in this time. I also ask you to consider how you will offer your tithes and offerings to support the ministry of our church at this time as well – some options are: on-line giving available through our website or your smartphone, mail check in weekly or set aside your offering each week and mail it in monthly. Thank you.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: As you have poured your healing love into our lives, O God, we now offer these gifts to you. Let them be used in ministries of love, peace and justice through the work of this church in your world. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER** (debts and debtors)

**HYMN #466** *“Take My Life and Let It Be”*

**BENEDICTION**

One: Let us continue the journey!

 Let us go from this place with the knowledge of God’s presence in our hearts.

 Let us love God and love our neighbors.

**All: Let us go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Amen.**

**\*THREE FOLD AMEN** *(played by Lisa)*

**\*POSTLUDE**

 *In order to keep everyone safe, please wait for an usher to lead you out of the sanctuary. Thank you!*

*\* Portions of this worship service were adapted from “ministrymatters”,*

*If restrooms are needed, please use the ones under the Sanctuary stairs.*

**Presented to the Glory of God: The FLOWERS in honor of Ethan Hahn’s birthday. The BULLETINS**

**by Wil and Pearl Hahn. The CANDLE in honor of the Wedding Anniversary of Ron and Joanne Hugo.**

**Members will be seated following social distancing guidelines. Masks covering your nose and mouth will be required at all times. We will be entering and exiting only using the red church doors. Virtual worship on Facebook Live and on our website will continue to be an option for at home worship.**

**We are looking for people who would like to help with recording the service or virtual worship. Please speak to Ed Taylor or Vicki Troxell, if you are interested.**

**The first 2 dates for Confirmation Class are Wednesday, October 28 at 7:00 PM and Sunday, November 1 at 6:30 PM. Any student in 7th grade or higher that has not been confirmed, and you want to register them, please contact the office,** salemoffice1@verizon.net**, or Pastor Kaye, salempastor2218@yahoo.com.**

**Sunday, November 1st as part of our Worship Service we will lift up the names of those who have passed away since All Saints Day last year.** If there are names of loved ones that you would like added to the list of those remembered, please contact Peggy Troxell or Pastor Kaye, no later than Wednesday, October 28th and we will add the name to the list.

**THE LADIES GUILD WILL BE MAKING AND SELLING FILLING.** The 2 lb. containers will be $7.00. Pick up will be Friday, Nov. 20th from 1 to 5. Please call Kathryn at 610-837-1182 or Pat at 610-759-5780 to place your order. Please tell your friends and neighbors who usually buy our filling at the Country Festival that we are having this sale.

**Sunday, November 8th we will celebrate Harvest Home.** If you will be worshipping “in person”, please bring your donations for the Bath Area Food Bank to worship with you that Sunday. If you are worshipping virtually, donations can be dropped off at the church and placed outside the Fellowship Hall doors from Monday, November 2nd thru Friday, November 6th, or your monetary donation for the food bank can be mailed in to the church or donated via “on line giving” on the church website.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GROUP BY PURCHASING GIANT GIFT CARDS.** The group receives 5 percent of the amount purchased. If you would like information about this activity, please speak to Wendi Myers or call the Church Office at 610-759-1652.

**THE ALTAR GUILD HAS THE YELLOW GARBAGE BAGS TO SELL, THE COST IS $10,00/ROLL.** If you are interested, please speak to Donna Schlegel or call the church office at 610-759-1652.

**SEARCHING FOR A TREASURER:** We are still looking for someone to be treasurer of Salem. Please speak to Vicki or any Consistory member, if you are interested in the position or if you have questions about the position.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, TURN CLOCKS BACK SATURDAY**

**EVENING. .**Listed incorrectly in “Dates to Remember” in the November newsletter.