**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 – Dianne Gebhard**

**23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**Harvest Home**

**November 8, 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 bathrooms are needed, please use the ones under the sanctuary stairs.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

One: How good it is to give thanks to God.  
**All: How great are God’s works!**One: It is good to give thanks for God’s steadfast love and faithfulness.  
**All: Let us, then, give thanks to God. Let us worship God with thanksgiving!**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**All: Gracious God, how good it is to gather to offer prayers of thanksgiving and songs of praise! You have been good to us. For sunshine and rain, for the labors of all who harvest the grain, we pour out our gratitude. You have dealt wondrously with us so that we have more than we need. Dwell within us. Fill us with your love so that we may not only be inspired to share, but also prompted to work for a more just world in which all your children have enough to eat and reasons for joy. Amen.**

**HYMN #721** *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Abiding God, there have been times when we have chosen the other gods, over full devotion to you. We have worshipped at the altars of progress, efficiency, competition, and acquisition. We have claimed to be your people while behaving in ways that do not bear this out. We have allowed the obsessions of the “world” and the scarcity mentality of our cultures to permeate our spirits and cause us to wander. We imagine we are ready to be in your presence, but in truth are often asleep to the true preparedness of constant vigilance in your grace. Forgive our shallow ways, and wake us up to what it means to be ready to follow wholeheartedly. Jostle us into alert commitment. Teach us to embrace the responsibilities that come with helping to bring about your realm on Earth. And help us to stay awake and prepared. Hear now our silent confessions.** *(silence is kept)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: The great good news is that though we may sleep and fall short, God is always awake to our needs, and provides abundantly. Though we may wander into the wilderness, God’s journey is one of focused and complete compassion.

**All: We are loved and forgiven. God will always embrace us, whether we are ready for such grace or not. In this, let us be assured.**

**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**

**Psalm 78:1-7**

**“Enough For All” *Gospel lesson adapted from Matthew 25:1-13***

**RESPONSE:**

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN #580** *“We Are Called To Be God’s People”*

**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: Generous God, this day we ask you to hear our prayer of dedication. We dedicate ourselves; our time, our talents and our treasures again to you. We dedicate these gifts gathered on this Harvest Home Sunday that will be donated to the foodbank. May they be a message of your love. We are ready to be in your presence and to be your people. Receive our worship, and our promises, as evidence of our commitments and love. And bless them all, we pray. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

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

**HYMN #37** *“God in His Love for Us”*

**BENEDICTION**

One: Go now, as the Spirit of God has called you:

To be a people of grace, To be a people of truth,

To be a people who pursue peace, To be a people who forgive,

To be a people who love. And may God lead and guide you.  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 “desperatepreacher.com”, “ministrymatters”, “seasons of the spirit”.*

**PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD: The FLOWERS by Scott and Kay Hahn in honor of all Veterans on Veteran’s Day. The BULLETINS in honor of the Phoebe Home Nursing staff by Deb Loch. The MEMORIAL CANDLE is burning in memory of Margaret and Raymond Hahn by the Al Thomas Family.**

**TODAY: Harvest Home.**

**THIS EVENING: Confirmation class at 6:30 PM.**

**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.**

**THE ALTAR GUILD is offering red or white poinsettia plants for Christmas. The cost is $10.00**

**per plant. Order deadline is Sunday, December 6. Order forms are available on the table at the back of the church or in your December Newsletter. 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.

**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.**

**Confirmation Class will be held this evening at 6:30 PM.**

**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. The deadline for orders is Saturday, November 14.

**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.