

Worship Participants

Pastor, Salem UMC:	Rev. Doug Williams
Pastor, South Asian Methodist Church:	Rev. Mushtaq Gulab
Youth Director:	Linda Ballard
Administrative Assistant:	Edi Normann
Liturgist:	Don Griffith
Head Usher:	Paul Hamm
Chancel Choir Director:	David Hartley
Organist:	David Hartley
Accompanist:	Yukiko Fujimura
Children's Choir Director:	Missy Hartley
Nursery Care Coordinator:	Sue Kudla
Missionaries:	Nkemba & Mbwizu Ndjungu, Cameroon, Africa

SUNDAY, December 17, 2017



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Those With Health Issues	Denise Patterson, Loraine Carlson, Patty Johnsen, Elaine Cox, Laurel & Jim Skomer, Amy Strong, Dan Pomeroy, Lois Larson, Leonard Kopecky, Tammy, Diane
Those With Long-Term Health Issues	Arthur & Brian Burgeson, Hannah, Michaela, Debbie Donner, Chuck Patterson, Loren Schrenk, Karen Griffith, Bic Simmons, Maureen Schuneman, Jon Mortensen-Perlin, Maja Bayerlein, Leo Schulz, Rev. Tommie Johnson, Tim Keating
Those With Special Needs	Ben Sadorf, Olivia, Pamela, McKinleigh, Craig, Allison Hansen, Lori, Darlene, the Lackowski Family
Those in the Armed Forces	Dustan Taylor, Bruce Johnson, Shad Mead, Jeff Walden, Curt Higdon, Hsienjan Huang, Freddy Aguilera, Ryan Charles
Those Affected by Hurricanes	Martha Walker, Ken & Lori Parquette, Belen Liboy, Luini Liboy

Welcome!

If you are a visitor to Salem UMC today, welcome! Please consider completing our visitor survey at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MWCYVY3>
 or scan the QR code to access the survey.



Salem United Methodist Church

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December 17, 2017

Prelude "In Dulci Jubilo" G. Young

Welcome & Announcements

* **Presentation of Christ Light**

* **Greeting Each Other in the Peace of Christ**

* **Call to Worship**

L: Come, continue on the journey. It is not far now.

P: But where are we going?

L: God is welcoming us to God's kingdom.

P: Can we see it from here?

L: We see it in the faces of those who know of God's love.

P: Will that same love be given to us?

L: It already has been given, and His name is Jesus! He is God's beloved Son, our Light and Hope.

P: Quickly, let us journey toward His light.

***Hymn** "Heralds of Christ" #567

Opening Prayer (please be seated)

God of mercy, light and love, we confess that we have not been people who are quick to pray. When an emergency befalls us, we turn to pleas and prayers which usually begin with the heart-wrenching cry, "Why?" Help us to remember that You are always ready to hear and respond to all our prayers. Remind us that even though we have often failed to witness to Your love and live as people of compassion and faith, You love us unconditionally. Forgive our stubbornness and willfulness. Cleanse our souls and spirits and make us truly ready to receive Your light. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Children's Message Pastor Doug

Bell Choir "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. B. Kinyon
"Song of the Angels" arr. A. L Page
"What Child is This" arr. R. Siebert

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (join in prayer)

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.
O come, O come, Emmanuel

Presentation of Offerings

Offertory "The First Noel" C. Webb

* **Doxology**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing of Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Intercession

Lord's Prayer UM Hymnal #895

Hymn

Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

* **Gospel Lesson** John 1:6-8, 19-28
This is the Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God!

Message "Joy Comes in the Morning" Pastor Doug

Choir Cantata "A Song is Born"

***Hymn**
Blessing and going forth to serve God in the world in which we live.

Postlude "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" arr. L. Smith

Annual Salem Christmas Concert TODAY!

This is a Sunday of music! All of the choirs will display their talents to help you enjoy the holiday season and prepare for Christmas! The Chancel Choir is presenting a special cantata, and the Bell Choir will also perform. After Worship, join us in Fellowship Hall for the Children’s Christmas Program and lunch, followed by the always popular Glover Game! If you haven’t joined us in the past, don’t miss this afternoon of fun and intrigue!

Church Activities - December 17 - December 30

THIS WEEK		
December 17	10:15 AM	Sustaining Prayer
	10:30 AM	Worship Service/Christmas Concert
	12:00 PM	Children’s Program, Lunch and Glover Game
December 19	7:00 PM	Trustees
	6:15 PM	Chancel Choir
December 22	6:00 PM	Babysitting Fundraiser
NEXT WEEK		
December 24	10:15 AM	Sustaining Prayer
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship Service
December 25		Christmas Day - Office Closed

⇒ Finance will NOT meet this month. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 18, at 6:00 pm.

⇒ Friday night Salem Kid’s Club and Salem Youth will NOT meet on December 22, December 29, or January 5. Activities will resume on January 12.



****** CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE ******



Sunday, December 24th

10:30 am - ‘Family Friendly’ worship in the sanctuary

6:00 pm - Traditional Christmas Eve service

One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don’t clean it up too quickly. ~Andy Rooney

Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White: Thoughts on Religion, Morality, and Politics, by Adam Hamilton

The adult Sunday school program, meeting in the Parlor every Sunday at 9:15 am, will begin a new study on January 7.

Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn’t yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analysis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward. The first class is in the Parlor at 9:15 am on January 7.