

## 9:00 am Worship Service

Prelude		
Welcome and Announcements		
*Call to Worship		
*Hymn	<i>A Mighty Fortress is Our God</i>	#110
Prayers for the People & Lord's Prayer		
Special Music		Erin Cervenansky
Impact of Your Generosity		
Offering Prayer		
*Doxology		#95
*Praise Song	<i>Promises</i>	
Scripture	<i>Acts 7:55-60</i>	
Sermon	<i>Fearless Because of Heaven</i>	
Hymn	<i>Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus</i>	#349
Holy Communion		
*Hymn	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>	#369
Blessing		
Postlude		
<i>*Please stand if you are able.</i>		

### Our Salem Church Family Prayer List

Doris Williams	Sue Shaub	Greg Steffy
Ronald Young	Jim & Gerri Messman	
Marlin Ruhl	Jean Daniels	Joan Summy
Gloria Wolf	Mary Lane	Anisa Candy
Peg Rettew-Cross's son & daughter		Mena Stoner
Mary Ann Thompson	Roxie Shenenberger	
Tom Nutter	Jeannie	

An assisted listening system is available from a smartphone application to help people to hear the service better. Download the WaveCAST Audio Receiver app and log in to the SalemGuest Wi-Fi – the password is MINISTRY. If you need assistance, please go to the sound booth.

## Welcome!

We hope our time together is a source of hope and peace.

**Nursery Care** is provided during worship for infants to age 4.

**Prayer Requests** can be written on the cards located in the lobby. Place your request in the prayer quilt near the sanctuary entrance.

**Friendship Pads** are in the pews. Please take the time to fill them out and pass them down the row. The information you provide helps us with attendance and to follow up with guests.

### Sunday School at 10:15 am

Children (K – 4<sup>th</sup> grades) – Room 204

Youth (5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Room 403

Wrestling with Grace (Adult Class) – Room 406

(Join us to go deeper reflecting on the sermon.)

Ages and Stages (Adult Class) – Room 404

**Children's Chapel** - The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade children can attend Children's Chapel after Children's Time during the morning service.

**Coffee Time** – Join us after the service in Fellowship Hall.

**Offering Collection Boxes** – If you would like to make a gift to support the mission and ministry of Salem, please place your gift in one of the offering boxes on the back walls of the Sanctuary. Offering envelopes are available in the pews for your convenience.

**E-Giving** Use the QR code to make a one-time gift or to set up recurring giving. Salem's e-giving provider is Nucleus Giving. If you want to support a monthly special offering, just make a note on the memo line.



### Building Community One Question at a Time

A good conversation comes down to being a good listener. Listen carefully and ask follow-up questions: Try asking:

*If you could make a dream house, what would it include?*

Share the question. Have fun while getting to know others a little better.

### Electronic Newsletter Sign Up!

Each Friday we distribute an electronic newsletter called *Friday Friendly*. Please use this QR code to sign up or notify the Office Manager to be included.



## Graduate Recognition – May 17



On Sunday, May 17, we will recognize and celebrate our graduates during worship. If you or someone in your family is graduating this year, please contact the church office with the following information: Name of graduate, High School Name and Future plans. We look forward to honoring this important milestone together as a church family!

**Gretna Glen Camp** offers more than just a fun summer experience—it's a place where children and youth create



lasting memories, build confidence, and form lifelong friendships, all while growing in their Christian faith. With a variety of exciting activities, including swimming, boating, archery, outdoor adventures, and

creative fun, every day at Gretna Glen is an opportunity for exploration, learning, and deepening faith. Salem UMC has funds to assist with payment. See the front office for assistance. [www.gretnaglen.org](http://www.gretnaglen.org)

**Pocono Plateau Camp and Retreat Center** hosts a variety of summer camps for kids of all ages. Camps vary,



but all of them include bible study, team building group activities like hiking, nature

exploration, low ropes course (on the ground team building activities), high ropes course (for older age groups), and a variety of waterfront activities like swimming, fishing, boating and more! Salem UMC has funds to assist with payment. See the front office for assistance. [www.poonoplateau.org](http://www.poonoplateau.org)

**Salem Mission Committee** is very grateful for the support from our church family – both financially and prayerfully.



In 2026-2027, we will contribute to the following:

*Manheim Fire Company, Samaritan's Purse, Christmas Shoeboxes, Weis Gift Cards for Angel Tree Families, Camper's Fees and Off the*

*Streets (monthly moves).* The *Missions Endowment Fund* is used to pay Conference billings for retired Clergy pension and health benefits.

New Missions will include:

~ *Faith and Finance Classes* – In collaboration with Love INC., this is a 10-12 week course providing knowledge and skills in basic financial practices. Open to the Manheim Community, classes will be held at Salem UMC.

~ *Friendship Community* – Provide funds to assist with material costs for new roofs on group homes.

On behalf of the committee, I will gladly answer any questions.

Gail Stouch - 717-279-1239 or [gdstouch@comcast.net](mailto:gdstouch@comcast.net)



**Salem Job Opportunity – Choral Director**  
Do you have interest in being our new choral director? See Pastor John or Karen Potter, if interested.

**Save the Date!**



**May 17- Graduate Recognition**  
(during 9am Service)



**June 7**  
**Strawberry Sundae Social & Talent Show**  
(4:00pm – 8:00pm)

**This Week at Salem**

**Today, May 3**

9:00 am – Worship service  
10:15 am – Sunday School

**Tuesday, May 5**

6:30 pm – Salem Softball v. Manheim BIC Orange at Pool Field

**Wednesday, May 6**

6:30 pm – Salem Singers Practice

**Friday, May 8**

9:15 pm – Salem Softball v. Crossway Mennonite at Pool Field



**It is time to --- PLAY BALL!**

Come out and cheer on our amazing softball players. The games are fun and exciting. The players love to hear their fans cheering them on to win.

Our entire worship service, including the Children's Message, is live-streamed and recorded. By entering the sanctuary or allowing your child to participate, you consent to being filmed. Those wishing to avoid the camera may sit in back half of the Sanctuary. Salem United Methodist Church of Manheim is not responsible for any unauthorized use of recordings by outside parties.

**Church Contact Information**

John Laughlin, ext. 3 ..... pastorjohn@salemmanheim.org  
Church Office , ext. 1 ..... officemanager@salemmanheim.org  
Keith Mitchell, ext. 2.....businessmanager@salemmanheim.org  
Natalie Abram ..... children@salemmanheim.org  
Alysa Merkey.....youth@salemmanheim.org

**Going Deeper in “Fearless Because of Heaven”**

**Read the following a few times:**

Acts 7:55–60; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18; Col 3:1–4; Heb 12:1–3

**Reflect on the following:**

1. Stephen is described as “full of the Holy Spirit.” What does that look like in this moment? How might that shape how he responds?
2. What do you notice about what Stephen sees (v.55–56)? Why is that vision significant? How does seeing Jesus standing (not sitting) at God’s right hand encourage you?
3. What fears would naturally arise in Stephen’s situation? What replaces those fears?
4. How does a clear view of heaven change how we face suffering or uncertainty?
5. Stephen echoes Jesus’ words from the cross. What does this reveal about his heart?
6. Why is forgiveness such a powerful (and difficult) response in moments of pain?
7. What does this passage teach us about the connection between faith and courage?
8. When have you experienced fear being replaced by peace or confidence in God?
9. What does it mean to “fix our eyes on Jesus” in everyday life?
10. How might focusing on eternity reshape your priorities this week?
11. Where might God be calling you to live more boldly right now?

**Challenges for the Week:**

1. Lift Your Eyes Daily - Set aside a few minutes each day to “look up”—read a passage about heaven or Christ’s reign and ask God to shape your perspective.
2. Practice Courage in One Area - Identify one place where fear has been holding you back (a conversation, a step of obedience, an act of forgiveness). Take one faithful step this week.  
Choose Forgiveness - Like Stephen, ask God to help you release one hurt or resentment. Pray for that person by name and entrust them to God. Ask for strength to let go of the hurt.



**May 3, 2026**



**Rev. Dr. John A. Laughlin, Sr., Pastor**

Frank Rittenhouse, Organist

Terri Briskie, Accompanist

Doug Winters, Bell Director & Interim Choir Director

140 N. Penn St., Manheim, PA 17545

salemmanheim.org

717-665-2331

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Wednesday 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm