

First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

March 9, 2025

10:30 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent



Worship will be live streamed on
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio,
You Tube: [www.youtube / FPCSALEM](http://www.youtube.com/FPCSALEM); and
our website, www.fpcsaalem.org.

“We are centered in Christ and powered by love.”

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Cindy Berry

Bourree 1 from Suite No. 4 in E-flat Major

J.S. Bach

Maria Fesz, Cello

*Let us silently turn our hearts, minds, and
bodies to the worship of God as the
light of Christ is brought forward.*

PRELUDE

In Christ Alone (Cello)

Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Attendance Pad.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Based on Psalm 91*)

Where is our home?

Our home is in the shelter and shadow of God.

How can this be our refuge?

**Because God's angels will guard your house and those in it
from evil and threat.**

How can we flourish?

Staying close to God's ways will bring our lives to abundance.

All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Scripture says, "No one who believes in Christ will be put to shame." Therefore, we do not approach God with shame but with life-giving expectation grounded in our trust of God. For when we confess with our mouth and trust in our heart, we will find healing for ourselves and for the world.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Father God, you know that temptation comes to us in many different places and ways. We know that you have also felt the pressures of temptation and the desire to give in as you walked in the wilderness for forty days. Remind us that you walk with us in all times, even through temptation and sin. Help us to cling to that truth and turn away from temptation. May the words of your mouth be written on our hearts so they may determine our decisions and actions. In Christ's holy name we pray: Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Having called upon the wide arms of our gracious God, know that you are forgiven.

**With joy, may we amplify God's grace into the whole world.
Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI (*Unison; Hymn 579*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Be, O Jesus in My Heart

Maria Fesz, Cello

Traditional Irish Melody,

arr. Ilse de Ziah

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

Author and source of our lives and of our redeemer, Jesus Christ, we know what is written can be used for evil or for good. Open our hearts to your Spirit that the words read and proclaimed would go beyond ink, paper, digital images and

sound. Despite the imperfect mediums, may this Scripture be the spiritual imparting of your deepest desires for the world into our hearts. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

I Surrender All

The Haviland Choir

arr. Steve Potts

Jan Cox, Mike Newman, Soloists

Maria Fesz, Cello

Hal Leonard Corporation, CCL#2595933

All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live.

All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at His feet I bow,
worldly pleasures all forsaken, take me, Jesus, take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender, make me, Savior wholly Thine;
May Thy Holy Spirit fill me, may I know Thy power divine.

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, let Thy blessing fall on me.

Where He leads me I will follow;
where He leads me I will follow,
I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at His feet I bow,
Worldly pleasures all forsaken, take me, Jesus, take me now,
take me, Jesus, take me now.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:1-13

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸

Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Joyful Sacrifice"

Rev. Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 260

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; Colossians 1:15-20*)

**The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis
in the life of humankind.**

**His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and
present hope for women and men when the gospel
is proclaimed and believed.**

**In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,
moves people to respond in faith, repentance,
and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Ray Cox

Property and Maintenance Committee Project Updates

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Near to the Heart of God

Martha Mier

*RESPONSE HYMN 592 (*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me. I bow before you and shall celebrate with everyone in our community, the bounty of all you have given to me and my household. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION / LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 83

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 2162, Sing the Faith, Grace Alone*)

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
every difference we will make is only by his grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,
every blessing left behind is only by his grace.
Grace alone which God supplies,
strength unknown he will provide.
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
we will go forth in grace alone.

*Please remain standing as the Light of Christ
is carried into the world.*

POSTLUDE

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

Dale Wood

*Please stand if you are able.

Questions for thought:

1. What does the word sacrifice make you think of?
2. Why is sacrifice important in the life of a believer?
3. When have you sacrificed and what was the outcome?

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Noelle Lathom

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins have been donated by The Melvin and Virginia Wilms Family in memory of Dorothy and Sue Wilms.

Open Dates for Bulletins – March 16, 23, May 11, 18, June 8, 15, 22.

Chancel Flowers have been given anonymously to show how much we appreciate Ed and the whole Tonkinson Family, and to thank Bob and Sue Merry and Tylor Bricker for all they do to make our services accessible online.

Environmental Team Meeting Today after Worship will meet today following Worship. will meet today following Worship.

Eastminster Presbytery Meeting will be held here at First Church this Tuesday, March 11 at 12 Noon. Our Session commissioners for this meeting are Ray Cox and Paul Fennema.

Easter Plant Orders will be taken on Sundays, March 16, 23, and 30 in Fellowship Hall. You can also order by calling the Church Office, 330-337-9555, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsalem.org.

Preschool Open House – Thursday, March 20
5:30-7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Soup Luncheon – Sunday, March 23

Bring your favorite soup to share.

Soup to Go – March 23

Vegetable Beef – the price of the soup is \$5.00, but with the rise in cost of the ingredients, we will not have as much money to donate to the local missions. If at all possible, please consider adding a small donation when you purchase your soup. Please return jars and lids. *Come join us on Saturday, March 22 to make the soup in the church kitchen.*

Troop 3 is seeking adult leaders and young persons ages 11-18. Qualifications are adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, a love of adventure, learning, and teamwork. Perks are a world-class team, adventure, and learning amazing things. For more information, see Mark Smith or Frank Lewis.

Support PDA's Response to California Wildfires – PDA affirms our commitment to accompany those affected by this disaster. As people of God, once again we are called to stand with our siblings in the **“GAP” – Give, Act and Pray**. God, our refuge and our strength, you are an ever-present help in trouble. Please make checks payable to the church and mark ‘California Wildfires’ in the memo line.

Per Capita Apportionment for 2023 is \$32.50 per Active Member. Per Capita is an assessment paid to General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery for each member of the congregation. Per Capita funding is how Presbyterians mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

Let's Gather – Join us to celebrate George Bell Jr.'s 90th Birthday on Sunday, April 6 at an Open House from 4-6 p.m. at the Aeonian Brewing Company, 120 West Chestnut Street in Alliance. Please RSVP by April 1 to 330-204-4663 (Abby Schroeder).

Sunday, March 9

6:00 Cub Scouts (Basement)

Monday, March 10

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 Troop 3 (Basement) / Troop 2003G (209)

7:00 Congregational Care (Library)

Tuesday, March 11

12:00 Eastminster Presbytery Meeting (Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, March 12

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 Lent Study (Library)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (S)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

7:00 Finance and Administration *via Zoom*

Thursday, March 13

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 Preschool Board of Trustees (Library)

Vision Statement

*To glorify God and share the Spirit and love of Christ
with our community and the world.*

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- Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884
pastorannie@fpcsalem.org
 - Clerk of Session.....Barbara Loudon, bloudon@neo.rr.com
 - Director of Music.....John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com
 - Organist Nancy McNeal
 - Dir. Handbells/Youth ChoirsCheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com
 - Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsalem.org
 - Financial Assistant Mary Banar, office@fpcsalem.org
 - Custodian..... Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net