

First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

March 2, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Transfiguration of the Lord



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

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
How Can I Keep from Singing*

*Cindy Berry
John Carter*

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

PRELUDE

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Virginia Halberg

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of the mountaintop, you call us to journey with you.

**Shine upon us; grant us sacred illumination;
dazzle us with your beauty and glory.**

In the midst of our weary souls and exhausted bodies;

**Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is
possible.**

In the face of unceasing violence and endless wars;

**Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is
possible.**

In the midst of crushing disasters, natural and human made.

**Transfigure our imaginations and reveal to us what is
possible.**

Move us from scarcity and cynicism and transfigure our lowly
visions to reveal the abundant life of your realm.

**Help us to keep watch so that we might leave the
mountaintop inspired to do your work of transformation in
the valley below. Amen.**

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Through transfiguration, on the holy mountain of God, we see Jesus as he truly is. But in confession we let Jesus see us as we truly are. We name our sins, our faults, and the things we've gotten wrong, and we do so in faith that Jesus wants to see us as we are. So let's tell the truth together.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Almighty God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. You know the ways we've fallen short. You know the work we've left undone, the mercy we've left ungiven, the love we've left unshared, the peace we've left unmade. You know the arrogance, pride and violence that we've chosen instead of your path of forgiveness and reconciliation. You know who we are. Help us to see who we might be. Forgive us, and transform us, that we might become who you imagine us to become, in your sight, and by your mercy. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, the Lord sees you and knows you. The Lord sees you and loves you. The Lord sees you and calls you. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia and 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.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

God who dazzles, just as you revealed yourself in Christ at the mount of transfiguration, you send your Spirit now to work in our midst. Show us this day the light of your presence. Reveal to us your power and glory. Illumine our hearts and lives with your brilliance, that we might envision a world transfigured in your image. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

A Jubilant Celebration

The Haviland Choir

Joseph Martin

Cheryl McDevitt, Flute

Harold Leonard Corporation, CCL#2595933

Glory to God in the highest.

Lift up your voices with jubilant praise.

Sing unto God a song of thanksgiving.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, in Your promise our hope is reborn.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, by Your Spirit our faith is restored.

Let every steeple ring. Let all the people sing.
Sing with joy evermore.

Glory to God in the Highest!
Lift up your voices with jubilant praise.
Sing unto God a song of thanksgiving.
This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us bring jubilant praise. Alleluia. Let us bring jubilant praise.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
From everlasting You are God, from age to age the same.
Lord, we come in gratitude, Your wonders to proclaim.

Glory, we sing in the highest!
Lord, You are holy in all of Your ways.
Lord, You are God, the King of creation.
Lord, You are worthy of all our praise.

Blessing and honor and power and glory
and worship and jubilant praise, jubilant praise;
let there be jubilant praise!

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in

Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah,” not realizing what he was saying. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Meeting with God”

Rev. Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 75

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; The Apostles’ Creed*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart Frederick Atkinson

Loose Cash Offering today will go to the Board of Deacons.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Living Christ, we offer these humble gifts as tokens of our thanks, and as signs of our hope in the world you are creating. In your hands and with our hands may these gifts be transformed: into bread for the hungry, comfort for the weak, shelter for the lost and peace for the world. Amen.

GOD'S WORD IS SEALED

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

*All who seek the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ
are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *including* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION /
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Then in the fullness of time,
out of your great love for the world,
you sent your only Son to be one of us,
to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice,
dedicated to your service.

According to his commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

**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

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Unison; Hymn 2130, The Summons*)

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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

POSTLUDE

Voluntary

G.F. Handel

*Please stand if you are able.

Questions for thought:

1. What is a Holy place you go to when you want to spend time with God?
2. How have you seen transformation in your life brought on by the hand of God?
3. How can you transform the world while following God's will?

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Barb Yonker

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins have been donated by Goldie Burrier in memory of loved ones. *Open Dates for Bulletins* – March 16, 23, May 4, 11, 18.

Chancel Flowers have been given by Steve and Kathy Stewart in loving memory of Kathy's parents, Rex and Dorie Mitchell and her sister, Karen Wilson; and by Goldie Burrier in memory of loved ones.

Soup to Go

There are some jars of Chili available in the Kitchen today for \$5.

Café Justo's great Organic Coffee we serve every Sunday during Coffee Hour is for sale today in Fellowship Hall! Cost is \$12.00 for a 1-pound bag of regular, decaf, or whole bean coffee. Cooperative members own the entire business from the growing through the roasting, and the coffee is famous for its smooth taste and low acidity. It is Organic certified and has a Fair Trade Plus certification.

Lent Study – Ash Wednesday, March 5 at 11 a.m.

The class will continue on Wednesdays throughout Lent at 11 a.m. in the Library. Led by Pastor Annie, discussion will be on the book "From Wilderness to Glory".

Daytimers – Wednesday, March 5 at Noon / Fellowship Hall

Bring covered dish to share. Program: *Health Insurance for Seniors*

Ash Wednesday Service – March 5 at 6 p.m. in Sanctuary

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.

Sunday, March 2

6:00 Cub Scouts (Basement)

Monday, March 3

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

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

7:00 Board of Deacons (Library)

Tuesday, March 4

1:00-9:00 United Quilt Guild (Fellowship Hall)

Ash Wednesday, March 5

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 Lent Study (Library)

12:00 Daytimers (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 6

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Christian Education (Library) / **Mission I and S** (Parlor)

7:00 Property (Library) / **Worship, Music, Arts** (Parlor)

Vision Statement

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

-
- 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
 - Director, Handbells/Youth Choirs Cheryl McDevitt, cheracd@aol.com
 - Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsalem.org
 - Financial Assistant Mary Banar, office@fpcsalem.org
 - Custodian..... Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net