

First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

May 4, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter



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](http://www.fpcsaalem.org).

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

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Today we celebrate God's work through history and through previous generations. As we worship, may the sounds of the bagpipes and drums remind us of how God's Spirit works through history. Similarly, may the tartans remind us not only of the Scottish families that asked God's blessing centuries ago, but also of our opportunity to live for God in ways that may impact our own families and communities for generations to come.*

### BAGPIPES

#### PRELUDE

*Morning Has Broken*

*Gilbert Martin*

*Voluntary and Fugue*

*William Boyce*

*Simple Gifts (Bagpipes)*

*Kim Meek*

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

#### PRELUDE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Bagpipes)*

*Kim Meek*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us call upon the one who knows every thread in the fabric of our lives.

**God of every seam and stitch, gather and mend us.**

Let us call upon the one who embroiders new designs, who weaves new textiles with patience and delight.

**God of every seam and stitch, gather and mend us.**

Let us call upon the one who patches worn places with compassion.

**God of every seam and stitch, gather and mend us.**

We are the tapestry of God, each strand important to the pattern, each frayed end worth the mending, every thread a treasure.

**May we hope in these words, may harmony be our mending.**

Let us worship our God!

\*HYMN 469

*Morning Has Broken*

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sins to God.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**We confess our sins to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Compassionate God of life, your kindly pardon give: for our careless talk, our broken oath, our empty speech; for all that we have left undone, for all that we have done amiss. As we receive the word and knowledge of your forgiveness, enshield us, encircle us, each day and each night. Uphold us, be our treasure, our triumph everlasting; strong Son of God most high. Amen.** (*from Book of Common Order, Church of Scotland*)

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us;

**O Lord, make haste to help us. 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

*Dawning of the Day (Bagpipes)*

*Kim Meek*

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

**Father God, we thank you for your Holy Word, read and proclaimed today. We thank you for the long life of your word, that it survived through tragedies and triumphs and is here, living and breathing into us today. We thank you for the ways in which your word nurtured and taught generations long before us, and for those who faithfully brought us up according to your word. Be in our reading and our understanding so we can faithfully carry your word into the world today and always. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

*Acts 9:1-20*

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*Brother James's Air*

*The Haviland Choir*

*arr. Gordon Jacob*

Oxford University Press, CCL#2595933

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want,  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green, He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.  
He leadeth me, He leadeth me,  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the Paths of Blessedness,  
E'en for His own Name's sake.  
Within the Paths of Blessedness,  
E'en for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I pass thro shadowed vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill.  
For Thou art with me,  
And Thy Rod and Staff me comfort still.  
Thy Rod and Staff me comfort still,  
me comfort still.

My Table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head with oil Thou dost anoint,  
And my cup overflows.  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my days  
Will surely follow me;  
And in my Father's heart always  
My dwelling place shall be.  
And in my heart for ever-more  
Thy dwelling place shall be.

#### THE GOSPEL READING

*John 21:1-19*

<sup>1</sup>After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> (He

said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON     *"Going Where You Are Sent"*     Pastor Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 339

*Be Thou My Vision*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

**As we believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, so we firmly believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk, that is to say, one company and multitude of [persons] chosen by God, who rightly worship and embrace him by true faith in Christ Jesus, who is the only Head of the Kirk, even as it is the body and spouse of Christ Jesus. This Kirk is catholic, that is, universal, because it contains the chosen of all ages, of all realms, nations, and tongues, be they of the Jews or be they of the Gentiles, who have communion and society with God the Father, and with his Son, Christ Jesus, through the sanctification of his Holy Spirit.**

*(from The Scots Confession, 1560)*

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

*Jesus, Our Divine Companion*

*Robert Hebble*

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Including Scottish Prayers of Thanksgiving*)

**For blessings great and kindness fair, O Lord, we thank you in our prayer. For food, for love, for every grace, we thank you, Lord, in every place. With humble thanks, we bow our heads,**



**for all the ways your grace has spread. From simple joys to blessings bright, we thank you, Lord, with all our might. Your blessings vast, your mercy wide, keep us in your love and guide. Receive now our gifts from your bounty and bless them as they work to build your kingdom in the world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (*Sins*)

O Lord, bless the tartans we have presented today and bless the people of the clans which they signify. May we strive to live up to the very highest ideals they represent.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

We thank you, God, for your Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors: from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to David, so onward to the incarnation of Jesus, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere. Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a joy to be shared.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

Thank you, O God, for the blessings of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared with kin and stranger.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

We praise you, O God, for those who have lived and died in Christ that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith. Never let us forget the sacrifices made for us.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, we stand before God in gratitude for our heritage, and we pray God's blessings on all beloved children in all lands.

**We proclaim that we are united in the covenant of Jesus, the Christ, for there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all.**

And let us continue to pray as Christ taught us saying:

**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

*O Sing a New Song (Highland Cathedral) arr. Richard Dixon  
Robert Barnett, Drum; Kim Meek, Bagpipes;  
Cheryl McDevitt, Flute, Choir and Congregation*

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
Sing, all the earth and bless His name;  
From day to day God's praises to record,  
The Lord's redeeming grace proclaim.

Tell all the world of God's wondrous ways;  
Tell all the nations far and near;  
Great is the Lord, and great God's praise;  
The Lord alone let nations fear.

Heathen gods are idols vain,  
the shining heav'ns the Lord supports;  
Both light and honor lead us on,  
While beauty fills His court.

**Let every tongue and every tribe  
Give to the Lord due praise and song;  
All glory unto God ascribe,  
Come, to His House and offerings bring.**

\*KIRKIN' ROLL CALL

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (2166, *Sing the Faith*)

Christ beside me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me – King of my heart;

Christ within me, Christ below me,  
Christ above me – never to part.

*Bagpipes play one verse of “Amazing Grace”  
as an introduction at the front of the church.*

*Congregation and choir sing verse one,  
as pipes walk to back of church.*

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.**

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

POSTLUDE

*Jubilation*

*Douglas Wagner*

\*Please stand if you are able.

**Prayers for the Week:**

You are the peace of all things calm. You are the place to hide from harm. You are the light that shines in dark. You are the heart's eternal spark. You are the door that's open wide. You are the guest who waits inside. You are the stranger at the door. You are the calling of the poor. You are my Lord and with me still. You are my love, keep me from ill. You are the light, the truth, the way. You are my Saviour this very day.

**Choir Recognition** in Fellowship Hall today during Coffee Hour and following Worship.

**Head Ushers:** Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

**Liturgist:** Sue Skiba

**Light-Bearer:** Joseph Seefeldt

**Bulletins and Flowers** have been given by Ellen Maticcik in memory of Alan Knizat.

**Flowers** have been given to appreciate all of God's gifts including the gift of humor. "May the Fourth be with you."

**Clan Names** – Alcorn, Auld, Barnett, Boggs, Boyd, Brisban, Campbell, Cartwright, Donald, Gordon, Graham, Gunn, MacCulloch, MacDonald, Mackintosh, MacLeod, MacNeal, Marshall, Mary Queen of Scots, McCleod, McClure, McCormick, McKenzie, Moffett, Murdock, Riggs, Scottish Heritage, Smith, Stewart, Turner

**Café Justo's great Organic Coffee** is what we serve every Sunday during Coffee Hour. Cost is \$12 for a 1-pound bag of Regular, Decaf, or Whole Bean Coffee and can be purchased today in Fellowship Hall.

**Daytimers – Wednesday, May 7 at Noon**

Come join us for a covered dish luncheon in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Steve Gifford speaking about "The Jail Ministry".

**Nature Walk – Saturday, May 10**

The Environmental Team is planning an outing to the Huston Brumbaugh Nature Center of Mount Union University on May 10 from 1:00 to 2:00. Participants will go out into the center with nets and collecting jars to gather up any little critters you might find. We will then gather back together and learn about our findings.

**Limited Deacon Scholarship Funds** are available for students from our church who are enrolled in College or University and who have not previously received Deacon assistance. Requests should be sent to the Church Office stating the name of the college or university attending. The deadline is June 30.

**Chime Project** – Contributions have reached the goal of \$3,100!  
Thank you for your support of this project.

**Pollinator Garden** – As part of the requirements for becoming an Eagle Scout, a scout must plan, develop, and lead a significant service project that benefits the community. Sydney Thompson has chosen to create a beautiful and vital pollinator garden to be housed on our church property. This pollinator garden will serve as a crucial habitat for bees, butterflies, and other essential pollinators

that play a vital role in our ecosystem and food production. To bring this important project to fruition, Sydney is seeking financial donations from our church members to support the purchase of essential materials for the pollinator garden. Please make any checks out to the church, and in the Memo Line add Pollinator's Garden so that they can go towards Sydney's garden.

### Vision Statement

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

### Kirkin' of the Tartans

**A Brief History:** The Christian Faith first came to Scotland in 563 when St. Columba established a monastic community on the island of Iona. Decades later, in the 16th century, the Protestant Reformation swept western Europe. One branch of Protestantism was given its name by Queen Elizabeth I, who observed, "the Swiss are more reforming than the Lutherans." More broadly the word "Reformed" referred to a Church "reformed, always reforming according to the Word of God and the call of the Spirit." It was John Knox who brought this Reformed Church to Scotland in 1547. Here Reformed Christians were for the first time referred to in terms of the polity of the church as taught by John Calvin in Geneva and implemented by Knox: "Presbyterians." So, while "Reformed" refers to our theology, Presbyterian refers to our polity, declaring that we are a church governed by "presbyters" ("elders"). The Kirkin' of the Tartans ("Blessing of the families of the "Kirk" or "Church") is a service that was begun in the U. S. in 1941 by the Reverend Peter Marshall, chaplain of the U. S. Senate and Pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D. C. It was Marshall's intention to assist the British War relief and the Scottish Clans Evacuation Plan for impoverished families of Scotland. Eventually, the service came to be celebrated across the United States in witness to the rich heritage of Scottish Christianity where "Presbyterianism" was born. We recognize our Scottish heritage as families and as Presbyterians when we celebrate Scots Heritage Day. Here are some of the special elements of our service today: Background: Kirk is the Scottish word

for church. The tartans, with their distinctive plaids, represent specific Scottish clans, families, regions, and regiments. The Kirkin' O' the Tartans is the presentation of a Scottish family's symbol, its tartan, at church for a blessing.

**The Beadle:** During the Middle Ages and through the Reformation, Bibles were rare among the common people. The Bible of the Kirk (the church) was a treasured possession. The value of the sacred scriptures and the danger of theft led to the establishment of a special lay office within the Kirk known as The Beadle. The Beadle begins the worship service by carrying the Bible ceremoniously into the sanctuary.

**Bagpipes:** The bagpipe is a musical instrument now regarded as the national instrument of Scotland. Each clan had its own bagpiper and its fame was based to some extent on the bagpiper's ability.

**The Flags:** The official flag of Scotland is the Saltire, a white diagonal cross on a dark blue field. It represents Andrew, Scotland's patron saint. A red lion, on a yellow field, has been the Royal Arms of Scotland since the days of King Alexander II (1198-1249).

**Tartans and Plaid:** Perhaps no symbol is more associated with Scotland traditions than the colorful traditions associated with highland dress. The tradition of the Tartan is an old one, and there are many references to it in early Scottish literature. The ancient Tartan was described as "Chequered or striped or sundrie coloured". For many centuries Tartans formed part of the everyday dress of the Highland people, and it was there its use continued and developed until it became recognized as a symbol of clan kinship.

**Psalm Singing:** Perhaps the most traditional Scottish custom still preserved in Presbyterian churches today is the addition of Psalm singing. Originally, Scottish Presbyterians believed that only scriptural material should be used in praise of God. From this tradition developed metrical versions of the Psalms. It is important to know that the metrical versions of the Psalms were never intended to be Bible translations. Words and phrases are frequently moved around to arrange for the proper meter.

**The Scots Confession:** The Scots Confession is the first reformed confession in the English language. It has been labeled the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism. The Scottish Parliament, at the conclusion of a civil war, invited John Knox and five colleagues to prepare a confession of faith for the church and the nation. They did their work in four days. On August 17, 1560, Knox and his colleagues had written a confession designed to solidify Scotland politically and ecclesiastically. The nation would henceforth fly a Protestant flag, emblazoned with the cross of St. Andrew.

Sunday, May 4

Choir Recognition during Coffee Hour and after Worship (FH)

6:00 Cub Scouts (Basement)

Monday, May 5

10:00 Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)

Preschool Family Fun Night

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

**7:00 Board of Deacons** (Library)

Tuesday, May 6

9:00 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

5:00 United Quilt Guild (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 7

10:00 Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)

**12:00 Daytimers** (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (Sanctuary)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

**7:00 Finance Committee** *via Zoom*

Thursday, May 8

9:00 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, May 11

9:00 Youth / Adult Classes

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 Service of Worship

Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884

[pastorannie@fpcsalem.org](mailto:pastorannie@fpcsalem.org)

Clerk of Session.....Barbara Loudon, [bloudon@neo.rr.com](mailto:bloudon@neo.rr.com)

Director of Music.....John Krauss, [wjohnkrauss@gmail.com](mailto:wjohnkrauss@gmail.com)

Organist ..... Nancy McNeal

Dir. Handbells/Youth Choirs ..... Cheryl McDevitt, [cheracd@aol.com](mailto:cheracd@aol.com)

Administrative Secretary ..... Phyllis Garlock, [phyllis@fpcsalem.org](mailto:phyllis@fpcsalem.org)

Financial Assistant ..... Mary Banar, [office@fpcsalem.org](mailto:office@fpcsalem.org)

Custodian..... Ed Tonkinson, [mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net)