

First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

September 18, 2022

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Andante Semplice
O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go
Cortège

Nancy McNeal, Organist
Edvard Grieg
Robert Hebble
Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – *Please take a moment to sign and pass the Attendance Pad.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God the Creator, Christ the Messiah and the Holy Spirit are the One True God.

From time immemorial, God offers fulness of life.

In Christ we live and move and have our being.

Let us be open to the Holy Spirit,

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of all compassion, You created the heavens and the earth by Your loving power. Your glory shows in infinity wonders. We confess that we turn from You to follow our small pursuits. Our selfishness distracts us from caring for the needs of others, and from caring for Your earth. Our sins grieve You; You surely are justified in Your anger. In Your mercy, help us to repent. Forgive our sins. Make us wise enough to obey the commands of Christ Jesus, whom You sent to save us. It is in his name, and by his grace that we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.” (*1 Timothy 1:15*)

Believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

*THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

God of all science and wisdom, we ask that the Helper, the Holy Spirit, guide our listening, our understanding and our actions, so that we grow in faithful obedience to Christ the Lord. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

¹⁸ My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick. ¹⁹ Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land: “Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?” (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?”) ²⁰ “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” ²¹ For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken, I mourn, and horror has seized me. ²² Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored? **9** O that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all — this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Summons by John Bell

The Haviland Choir

GIA Publications / CCL#2595933

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me.

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. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:1-13

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Smart Hearts Join God"

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 357

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; from The Belhar Confession, 1986*)

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

Lynn Zocolo

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Two Variations: O God of Abraham Praise

Robert Powell

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Almighty God, we return to You a portion of what You share with us from Your creation. We offer it with our thanksgiving for the wonder of Your love. We dedicate these offerings and ourselves to the joyful service of Christ our Lord. 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 282

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Unison, Hymn 535*)

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in Your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to You.

*POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Charles Callahan

*Please stand if you are able.

Questions for Thought:

1. The rock star "Madonna" once sang that "we live in a material world." How should Christians, who also live in a world of things, manage those things? What does it mean to be spiritual?
2. Both the prophet Jeremiah, God's mouthpiece, and Jesus Christ, God's Son, wept because of the sins of the people. What does God weep for today?

Liturgist: Mike Newman

Flowers: Given by Nancy McNeal remembering Marshall Price Bailey, a marvelous teacher, and Boyd and Ethel Helm for the support for our music program and wonderful piano.

Rev. Trina Lewis is delighted to call on shut-ins of First Presbyterian Church. Also, she will provide communion to those who desire it. If you or a loved one would like a visit, please let Trina know or call Phyllis at the church Office.

A Tai Chi Class will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays starting this week from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall led by Rev. Frank Lewis.

An Adult Sunday School Class led by Rev. Frank Lewis began today using the book, "The Four Loves" by C.S. Lewis.

Soup to Go – It's that time of year again! Days and nights will be cooler and soup will be a welcomed addition to our daily meals. We are scheduling "Soup Teams" for the coming months. If you have a great soup recipe and are interested in heading up a soup team, please call the Church Office and get on the soup calendar! Months taken already are October (Stuffed Pepper, Carol Ricciardi), November (Chicken Noodle, Brenda Bradley), and February (LOGOS Youth).

The Presbyterian Preschool has openings for the 2022-2023 school year and can work with you to determine your family's need for preschool/childcare. We have an early childhood degreed teacher, small classes, and flexible scheduling. We also participate in Step Up To Quality and Publicly Funded Child Care through ODJFS. OPENINGS for fall available. Enrollment packets can be picked up at the church. Call 330-332-8620 for details.

Sunday, September 18

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement/Fellowship Hall)

Monday, September 19

9:00-2:00 Church Office Hours – Monday through Friday

10:30-11:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Troop 2003 G (209) / Troop 3 (Basement)

7:00 Finance and Administration via Zoom

Wednesday, September 21

10:30-11:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 Haviland Choir Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, September 22

7:00 Regular Session Meeting via Zoom

Sunday, September 25

9:15 Sunday School for Youth

9:15 Adult Sunday School Class (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall; Mission I and S)

10:30 Lord’s Day Worship – *Western Reserve Brass*

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, September 26

9:00-2:00 Church Office Hours – Monday through Friday

10:30-11:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Troop 2003 G (209) / Troop 3 (Basement)

Temporary Pastoral Leadership	Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis, 304-266-8154 Rev. Trina Lewis, 304-266-8214
Temporary Head of Staff and Administrator	Alice Jackson, awilson14@neo.rr.com
Clerk of Session	Alice Jackson, awilson14@neo.rr.com
Director of Christian Education.....	Kim Double, thecenter@neo.rr.com
Director of Music	John Krauss, jkrauss@neo.rr.com
Organist.....	Nancy McNeal
Director, Handbells/Youth Choirs	Cheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com
Assistant Midweek	Sue Skiba, susabell32@aol.com
Administrative Secretary	Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsaalem.org
Financial Assistant.....	Mary Banar, office@fpcsaalem.org
Custodian	Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net

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Worship will be live streamed on **Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio,
You Tube: www.youtube.com/FPCSALEM; and our **Website,** www.fpcsaalem.org.