

First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

November 24, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Christ the King / Reign of Christ



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

O God, O Lord, a King Remaining (Organ) John Innes
You Raise Me Up (Brass) Groban, Graham, and Lovland

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

PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze (Brass) J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Unison)

The God who made the stars, the seas and sky calls us here to worship.

Created in God's image and called to God's service we come with our whole selves to worship.

The God who makes the plants grow good fruit, who shelters us and protects us calls us here to worship.

Here we answer the call, full of God's providence and covered in Holy Generosity.

God has brought us here and given us every good thing.

Let us use our gifts faithfully, loving our neighbor as we love ourselves.

*HYMN 428

We Give Thee but Thine Own

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God has welcomed us here and delights to have us draw near. Let us cast off anything that would keep us from drawing close to God, our fears, doubts and those things we are ashamed to

share. Let us set them all at the feet of Christ, confident that we will be given grace and made whole.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

Holy and good God, you are the God of creation, the God who made each good thing. You made all that we can see and those things that we cannot see as well. We thank you for the goodness of creation, for the ways in which you made sure that life was sustained and the systems you built that support life on all levels. We confess that we have not always thought abundantly about creation, that we longed to own it, to hold it for our own and not to share it. We thought of how to contain it and use it for our good and did not always consider the good of creation and life. Forgive us, Holy God, it is easier for us to hoard than it is for us to be generous, we allow fear to speak in our hearts instead of your promises of peace and hope. Help us to be generous and giving like you, to have hearts full of abundance and to be unselfish with the gifts you have given us. In this moment of silence Lord, hear our prayers. (Moment of Silent Prayer) Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Now return to the Lord with joy and gladness.

Sing a song of redemption!

Let sorrow and sighing be no more.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***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 PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

God we thank you for your word, as you have always spoken, from the beginning when you spoke all things to existence to now when you still speak in words of love and generosity from neighbors and friends. Speak to us now, in your word that was faithfully recorded, quiet our fears and worries so we may hear your word for us today. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Hornpipe" from Water Music (Brass)

G.F. Handel

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 2:4b-9; 15-23

⁴ In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, ⁶ but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷ then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. ⁸ And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹ So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but

for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:34-40

³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

ANTHEM

The Haviland Choir, Piano, Brass, Timpani

Our Grateful Praise!

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Lorenz Publishing Company, CCL#2595933

Lord of all, to Thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise!

Come, ye thankful, people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, does provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
His praise to yield,
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrows grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear,
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You,
we bless Your great name, our glad praises we sing.

With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise,
our grateful hymn of praise, grateful praise!

THE THIRD READING

1 Timothy 6:11-19

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who

gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share,¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON *“Understanding Generosity”* Rev. Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 422

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

*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

O God, Thou Faithful God (Organ)

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Creator God, you open your generous hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. We thank you for providing all that we need and more. As we give our gifts, our offerings and our pledges, we pray that they will be used to provide for those in need and bring your love to the world. We thank you for giving us every good thing and caring for us in your providence. We return a portion of your blessings with gratitude and generosity. Use these offerings to expand your church, strengthen our community, and share your love with the world. Let our pledges today be our commitment to being a light on the hill and a place of refuge and hope for all in our community. 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.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

The bread and the cup will be received by coming forward and given a piece of bread, taking the cup, and returning the cup to a tray. If you cannot come forward, you will be served in the pew.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Gracious God, you have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. Transfigure us by your Spirit, and let your love shine in all we do and say, so that the world may see the light of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN 414**

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

ACT OF CONSECRATION

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE (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

Organ, Brass, Timpani

Now Thank We All Our God

J.S. Bach

*Please stand if you are able.

Questions for thought:

1. In what ways is God generous with you?
2. In what ways might you be more generous with others?
3. In what ways will our congregation be generous in the coming year?

Today's appearance of the Western Reserve Brass is underwritten by the many donors to our Music Fund.

Terry Gale, Trumpet
John Veneskey, Trumpet
Rob Cole, Horn
Jonathan Willis, Trombone
Benjamin Ammon, Tuba
Robert Barnett, Timpani

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Mark Smith

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins and Flowers have been given to the Glory of God by Wanda and Stephen Navoyosky in honor of their 46th Wedding Anniversary.

Flowers have been given in memory of Rose Marie Crookston, and by Margaret Winch in honor of Elizabeth's birthday.

Blessings Jars benefit Presbyterian Hurricane Relief

Please take a jar home with you (at Sanctuary entrances) and drop your pocket change in the jar to show gratitude for your many blessings. Return the jars to church on December 22 or 24.

Order Red Poinsettias in Fellowship Hall, through the Church Office during the week, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsaalem.org by Monday, November 25. The cost is \$10.00.

Fall Soup Luncheon Today

Fellowship Hall following Worship / Anyone wishing to bring soup to share would be appreciated. Sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

2025 Offering Envelopes will be available soon. If you do not have envelopes, but would like a box, please call the Church Office.

Articles for the December 3 newsletter are due in the Church Office by Wednesday, November 27.

The Church Office will be closed this Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Nancy McNeal will be playing an 18th Century piece on the harpsichord accompanied by Cheryl McDevitt on flute next Sunday, December 1 during the morning service.

Daytimers – Wednesday, December 4

12 Noon in Fellowship Hall / Bring a covered dish to share.

Program: The Keller Family Singers will sing Christmas songs.

Christmas Sing Along – Sunday, December 8

Join Salem Preservation Society at 3:00 p.m. showcasing Salem's Historic Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, 870 E State Street in Salem. A free will offering will be taken for the preservation of the church. Light refreshments provided. Organ music with Vince Anderson.

Advent Music Program – Sunday, December 15 at 10:30 a.m.

Haviland Choir, guest musicians, and vocalists will present "Love is Born", a cantata by Lloyd Larson, celebrating the Mystery and Wonder of Christmas.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is part of a large and dedicated community of disaster response organizations assisting with needs and resources from Hurricane Helene. In these difficult times, we are called to respond through generosity, action and prayer – continually standing in the "gap" to uplift our neighbors and offer hope in their journey toward recovery. Make checks payable to the church and mark 'Hurricane Helene' on the memo line. Please continue to pray for survivors, those who have experienced loss of loved ones, and responders.

Vision Statement

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

Sunday, November 24

Soup Luncheon following Worship

6:00 Cub Scout Pack Meeting (B)

Monday, November 25

Preschool Friendship Feast (FH)

6:30 Troops 3 and 2003G (B / 209)

Tuesday, November 26

3:00-5:00 Staff Evaluations (Parlor)

Thursday, November 28 – *Happy Thanksgiving!*

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 29 – Church Office Closed

First Sunday of Advent, December 1

9:00 Adult Church School Class (Library) / Confirmation Class

10:00 Coffee Hour

10:30 Service of Worship

Monday, December 2

10:00-11:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

6:30 Troops 3 and 2003G (B/209)

7:00 Board of Deacons (Library)

PastorRev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884

Office Hours: M-W., 9:30 am-4 pm; Th., 9:30 am-12:30 pm

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