

First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

November 19, 2023

10:30 a.m.

25th Sunday after Pentecost



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.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Trumpet Hornpipe
Siciliano
Processional

Christopher Tambling
J.S. Bach
Theodore Dubois

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 147:1, 7, 11*)

"Praise the LORD!

How good it is to sing praises to our God,

For he is gracious and a song of praise is fitting...

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving,

Make melody to our God on the lyre...

The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,

In those who hope in his steadfast love."

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 554

Let All Things Now Living

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Almighty God, Creator of all that is; Source of life in every form. You made the world a bountiful dwelling place for untold numbers of creatures, and You made us in Your image and likeness to care for the earth's abundance. We confess that we have not obeyed Your demand to love what You love. We have acted as if we could decide for ourselves what is good and evil, giving ourselves the benefit of the doubt, while denying others a merciful justice or a just mercy. It is only because You reveal Your love through Jesus Christ that we dare to ask for forgiveness. Help us sincerely to repent of our wrong-doing.

Teach our hearts to sing with thanksgiving for Your grace, and make us useful in the mission of our Lord. It is in his name that we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.” *(Psalm 145:13b, 14)*

Believe the Good News!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

***THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** *(Unison)*

Open Your Word to us, O God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with such gratitude for Your love that we forevermore commit ourselves to the way of Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

I Surrender All

Carillon Ringers

Arranged by Sandra Eithun

THE FIRST READING

Ephesians 2:12-22

¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to

God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Grace Alone

The Haviland Choir

Arranged by Tom Fetteke

Alfred Music Publishing, CCL#2595933

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.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach;
everywhere we share His peace 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.
We will go forth, we will go forth,
we will go forth in grace alone. Amazing grace, amazing grace.

THE SECOND READING (*Responsively*)

Psalm 136:1-9, 26

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

² O give thanks to the God of gods,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

³ O give thanks to the Lord of lords,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁴ who alone does great wonders,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁵ who by understanding made the heavens,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁶ who spread out the earth on the waters,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁷ who made the great lights,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁸ the sun to rule over the day,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

⁹ the moon and stars to rule over the night,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

²⁶ O give thanks to the God of heaven,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“God’s Peace Is Our Thanksgiving”

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 343

Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

Carillon Ringers accompanying Hymn.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; Book of Order, W-1.0204*)

The offering of material gifts in worship is an expression of our self-offering, as an act of gratitude for God’s grace. We give our lives to God through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us.

The practice of offering also reflects our stewardship of God's good creation. Mindful that the earth and everything in it belong to God, we present tithes and offerings for use in Christ's ministry and mission.

We offer creative gifts in worship as well, including music, art, drama, movement, media, banners, vestments, vessels, furnishings, and architecture. When such gifts only call attention to themselves, they are idolatrous; when, in their simplicity of form and function, they give glory to God, they are appropriate for worship.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dale Wood

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Your Son, Jesus Christ promised peace beyond worldly understanding to all who trust in Him. Thank You for the Spirit dwelling in us, granting us faith, renewing our hope, and filling us with Christ's love. May our offerings serve Your purposes and honor You in the name of Christ. 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 553 (*Tune #544*)

For the Fruit of All Creation

***ACT OF CONSECRATION AND PRAYER** (*Unison*)

Eternal God, Creator of time and space, and all that fills them, You alone know the future, for You alone hold it and us in Your sovereign love. We present these estimates of giving to the work of this church as signs of our commitment to share in the ministry of this community of faith. They represent our hope and our trust that You will use our offerings and us to the greater glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (*Unison; Hymn 535*) *Go with Us, Lord*

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

Allegro from Suite Gothique

L. Boëllmann

*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought:

How do you share the peace of Christ with others?

Liturgist: Mark Smith

Acolyte: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins: Open Bulletin dates are November 26 and December 24. The cost is \$15.00 for a Sunday.

Flowers: Given by Jody Karmazin grateful for blessings; and by Marilyn Loudon in honor of the Haviland Choir for their dedication and loyalty for music shared with the congregation.

Order Red Poinsettias Today in Fellowship Hall, through the Church Office during the week, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsaalem.org by Thursday, November 30. The cost is \$10.00.

Blessings Jars

In this season of Thanksgiving, the Congregational Care Committee would like the members of our church family to stop and think about just how Blessed we all are. Unfortunately, there are many in our community who are struggling. Our committee would like to do something to help them so we have decorated Blessings jars that you will find in the sanctuary. We would like you take a jar home with you and drop your pocket change in the jar each night or a couple of dollars each time you go to the bank or ATM. Return the jars to church on Sundays, December 17th or 24th. The money will be donated to the Salem Community Pantry to help those who are in need. Please take this opportunity to show gratitude for your many blessings by sharing with others and showing God's love.

Christmas Angel Tags

We are helping The Salvation Army by sponsoring 30 children in which children's genders, ages, needs, and Christmas wish lists are on tags on a table in Fellowship Hall. **Please sign the sheet with numbered tags listed.** Please purchase 1 outfit and 1 toy from the tag and return it to Fellowship Hall or the Church Office. Do not wrap gifts, but place in garbage bag or large shopping bag with the tag affixed to the outside. Do not include gift receipt. *All gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 10.*

Fall Soup Luncheon Today

Come join us in Fellowship Hall following worship. Anyone wishing to bring soup to share would be appreciated. Sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

The Church Office will be closed this Thursday and Friday, November 23-24, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. (Note – The Church Office will close at 2:30 this Wednesday.)

Soup to Go – Sunday, December 3

Chili by Paul Fennema, \$5 a quart. Please return jars and lids. Come join Paul on Saturday, December 2 at 9 a.m. to help make Chili.

“A Journey to Joy” – Sunday, December 17 – 10:30 a.m.

Take the journey to Christmas with this cantata by Joseph M. Martin that is filled with music of hope and promise. The prophecy and acclamation of Christ’s birth is wonderfully conveyed through treasured carols with scripture narration by the Haviland Choir, guest musicians and vocalists.

Empty Egg Cartons for Salem Community Pantry

Place them in the collection bin at the side door at
794 East 3rd Street (corner of 3rd and Vine).

The Christian Education Committee has responsibility for Coffee Hours and some Sunday Service-related efforts during the month of December. We would like to enlist the help of the youth of the Church and their families. Please identify below any event your child and/or family are willing to help with and what date(s) you are available. Please leave a note in Judy Herron’s mailbox or call Bill Penfold, 330-831-2673.

December 3 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20)

Worship: Liturgist / Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 10 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20)

Worship: Liturgist / Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 17 – Worship:

Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 24 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20)

Worship: Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 7:30 p.m.:

Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 31 – Worship: Liturgist / Ushers / Offering

Sunday, November 19

Soup Luncheon following Worship (FH)

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

Monday, November 20

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

6:00 Scouts Troop 3 and 2003G (Scout Room/209)

Tuesday, November 21

Preschool Friendship Feast

Wednesday, November 22

9:00-2:30 Church Office Hours

Thursday, November 23 – *Happy Thanksgiving!*

Friday, November 24 – *Church Office Closed*

Sunday, November 26 – *The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper*

9:00 Adult Church School (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)

10:30 Service of Worship – *Brass*

Monday, November 27

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

6:00 Scouts Troop 3 and 2003G (Scout Room/209)

Temporary Pastoral Leadership Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis, 304-266-8154

Rev. Trina Lewis, 304-266-8214

Temporary Head of Staff & Administrator.... Alice Jackson, 330-257-8798

Clerk of Session Alice Jackson, awilson14@neo.rr.com

Director of Music John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com

Organist..... Nancy McNeal

Director, Handbells/Youth Choirs Cheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com

Administrative Secretary..... Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsaalem.org

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Custodian Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net