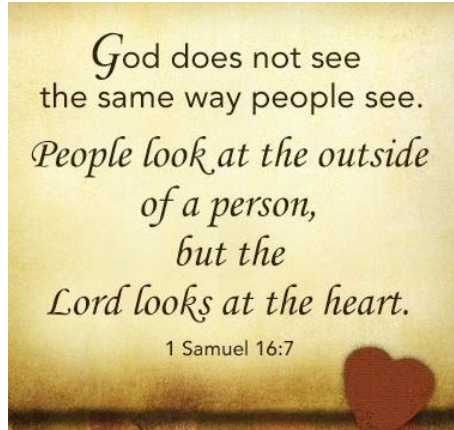


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

March 19, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent



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 GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Cindy Berry

Jesus Loves Me

Fred Bock

The Old Rugged Cross

Cindy Berry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 23:1, 4abc, 6b, paraphrased*)

The LORD is our watchful keeper;

We have everything we need.

Even though we walk through a deathly land,

We fear no evil; for God is with us.

We shall live in the LORD's house forever.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of all wisdom and knowledge, there is nothing beyond the scope of Your understanding. There are no thoughts of the human heart that escape Your notice; no actions that are secrets from You. We confess that we have tried to hide from Your watchfulness. Sometimes we seek to deceive others; sometimes we only deceive ourselves. But You are nobody's fool. Forgive our sin. Help us to admit that we fail as Your people. Help us to open our eyes and our spirits to the light of Your grace given in Your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“For if while we were enemies (of God), we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, we will be saved by his life.” (*Romans 5:10*)

Believe the Good News!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

***THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Your glory, O God, is like a refining fire, like a lightening flash without shadow, revealing Your justice and mercy. Send the Holy Spirit to us as we listen to Your word read and spoken so that our darkness is made bright by the light of Christ. We pray in his name. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:7

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Footsteps

The Haviland Choir

Craig Courtney

Beckenhorst Press, Inc., CCL#2595933

I see His footsteps in the way,
And follow them through darkest night,
Unafraid, I stumble not,
In the glow of perfect light, I see.

I walk in footsteps of His love,
And find His light leads on before, Oh
Softly whispers, “trust Me more.”
I walk, I walk.

Then as I follow in His way,
My path ahead will brightly shine,
For in His path of guiding light,
I find His footsteps first,
I find His footsteps first, then mine.

THE GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-7

¹As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned: he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which

means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

“See What God Sees”

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 425

Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

God wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.

God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind.

God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows, and blocks the path of the ungodly.

God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right.

The church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, witnessing and striving against any form of injustice.

(from The Belhar Confession, 1986)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Mickey Buck

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Dale Wood

One Great Hour of Sharing offering envelopes are in the Pew Racks and at Sanctuary entrances.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

God our Savior, Creator of the heavens and the earth, You withhold nothing good from us, even providing Your beloved Son, the means of our eternal salvation. We give these offerings as signs of our gratitude and a means of serving You through the work of this congregation. Bless them and us to faithful ministry in the name of Jesus Christ the 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 411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 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.

*POSTLUDE

Voluntary

G.F. Handel

*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought:

1. How does Jesus Christ change how you “look at things”?

Liturgist: Mike Newman

Ushers: Tim and Melissa Costa, Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Bulletins: Open dates are March 26, April 23, 30, June 11, 18, July 23, 30. Cost is \$15.00 a Sunday.

Flowers: Given in memory of loved ones

The **Rosebuds** on the Communion table are in honor of Atlas Richard Karmazin, son of Joe and Jennah Karmazin, and grandson of Michael and Jody Karmazin; and Bodee Alan Praznik, son of Dan and Linda Praznik, and great grandson of Fred and Phyllis Denton.

Order Easter Plants Today in Fellowship Hall

Daffodils – \$10.00

Tulips – \$10.00 (Colors: Lavender, Orange, Pink, Purple, Red, White)

Lilies – \$12.00

During the week, call the Church Office, 330-337-9555, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsaalem.org. Orders due next Sunday, March 26.

New Membership Directories and **2022 Annual Reports** are at Sanctuary entrances and through the Church Office.

Are You Interested in Uniting with FPC of Salem?

If so, Pastor Frank would like to organize a new-member orientation class for you. His schedule is flexible enough to accommodate most weekdays or a Sunday morning. The Lenten-Easter season is a traditional time when people have joined a church (Though, of course, we are not limited to that.). If you would like to become an active part of the faith community and ministry that is FPCS or just want to know more details, please speak to Frank, or call the church office at 330-337-9555.

Soup and Bread Luncheon Today following Worship

Come share your favorite recipe of soup in Fellowship Hall. Event sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

Bottle Cap Party – Monday, March 20

Come join us at 6:00 p.m. as we help the Scouts sort, wash, and weigh the bottle caps we have been collecting for our bench. We need to see how many pounds of caps we have before we make the final decision on what bench to purchase. We hope to have this project completed by Earth Sunday, April 23.

Environmental Team – Sunday, March 26

Meeting in the library after worship.

Soup to Go – Sunday, March 26 - *Vegetable Beef*

The Congregational Care Committee has chosen to keep the price of the soup at \$5.00 but with the rise in cost of the ingredients, we will not have as much money to donate to the local missions. If at all possible, please consider adding a small donation when you purchase your soup next week.

Soup to Go folks are looking for **red, blue, or green plastic jar lids** like those from peanut butter jars. These fit mason jars too and are easier to use for sealing soup in mason jars than the lids and rims. You can drop them off in the kitchen.

Blue Bins in the Kitchen are for Recycling ONLY.

Sunday, March 19

Soup and Bread Luncheon following worship (FH)

4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)

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

Monday, March 20

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Bottle Cap Party – *Come help Scouts sort, wash, and weigh!*

Wednesday, March 22

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Saturday, March 25

9:00 Making Vegetable Beef Soup for Soup to Go on March 26

Sunday, March 26

9:15-10:00 Lent Sunday School for Youth and Adults (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour

10:30 Service of Worship – *Brass Musicians*

11:30 Environmental Team (Library)

Soup to Go – *Vegetable Beef*

4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)

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

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

Rev. Trina Lewis, 304-266-8214

Temporary Head of Staff and Administrator Alice Jackson

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

Director of Christian Education..... Kim Double, thecenter@neo.rr.com

Director of Music John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.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