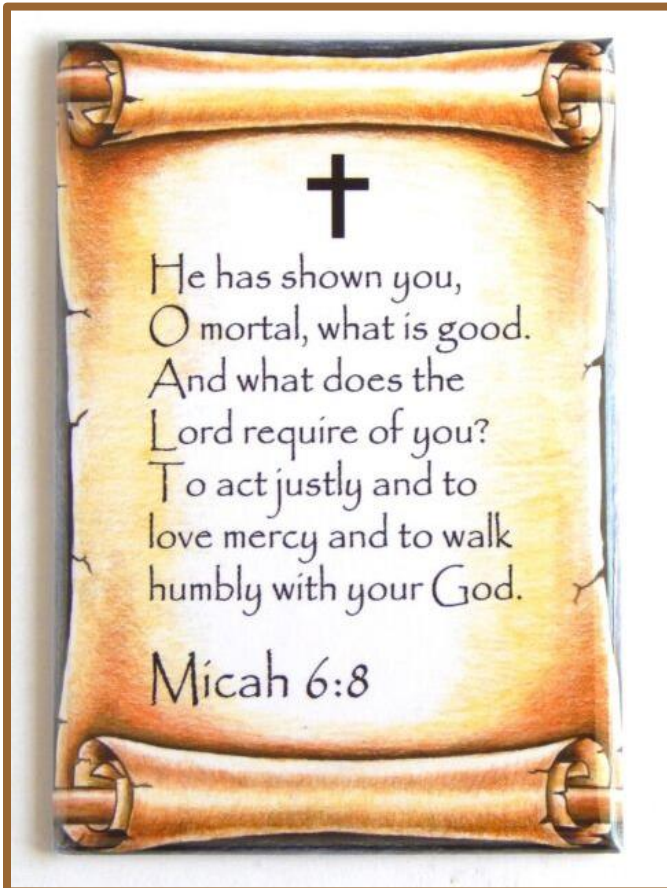


First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

January 29, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



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

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### PRELUDE

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine (Nancy McNeal)*

*Robert Hebble*

*Die Bänkelsängerlieder (Brass)*

*Anonymous*

*Basse Dance Bergeret (Brass, Percussion)*

*Tylman Sustao*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Micah 6:8 and 1 Corinthians 1:17-18*)

What does the Holy One require of us?

**To be just, kind, and humble before God.**

We proclaim the message of the cross:

**this is the wisdom and power of God.**

**Let us worship God.**

### \*HYMN 455 (*vss. 1, 5, 6*)

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

### \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**Almighty God, Your love is perfect justice; Your mercy creates space for life to thrive. We confess that we have often taken justice into our own hands and have often neglected to be merciful. We have held others to standards neither they nor we can keep. Forgive us, O God. May the Holy Spirit teach us what true righteousness is, what holy wisdom means and how to live the blessings of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said, "Child, your sins are forgiven."

(Mark 2:5; Matthew 9:2)

Believe the Good News!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

\*THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**O God, some seek understanding of mysterious things; others seek knowledge of the ways of the natural world. We ask that the Holy Spirit lead us more deeply into the love of Christ, through whom all things were made. Help us to follow his way of justice and blessing. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Canzona per sonare No. 2*

*Brass*

*Giovanni Gabrieli*

THE FIRST READING

*Micah 6:8*

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:18-19, 25-31*

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. <sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the

wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;  
<sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that  
are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one  
might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> He is the source of your  
life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and  
righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order  
that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*The Haviland Choir, Piano, Brass, Timpani*

*Celebrate the Day*

*Pepper Choplin*

Beckenhorst Press, CCL#2595933

Celebrate the day, celebrate the life.  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.  
Celebrate the day, celebrate the life,  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.

Remember all the blessings, the blessings of the day.  
Be thankful for the very gift of breath and life.  
Remember all the goodness, and mercies of the Lord  
and fill the morning with the sounds of praise and joy!

Celebrate the day, celebrate the life.  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.  
Celebrate the day, celebrate the life,  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.

We'll bless your name forever, for great are You, Lord.  
And every generation will declare Your mighty works.  
We sing of Your great goodness, Your holy righteousness  
Your glory of Your Kingdom reigns forever, forevermore.

We come to celebrate the day, celebrate the life.  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.

Celebrate the day, celebrate the life.  
Celebrate the joy of our faith in Christ.  
Celebrate the joy of our life in Christ.

THE GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 5:1-12*

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON     *“God’s Wisdom and Blessing”*     *Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 422

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)**

**God created all the worlds that are and upholds and rules everything. We affirm that the universe exists by the power of God's Word and Spirit. God has chosen to give it reality out of the love we have come to know in Christ. We acknowledge God's care and control in the regularity of the universe as well as in apparently random happenings. There is no event from which God is absent and God's ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving. The Creator works in all things toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.**

*(from "A Declaration of Faith," 1977)*

**CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY**

*Chorale: O How Blessed are Ye*

*J.S. Bach*

*Choral Prelude: O How Blessed are Ye*

*Johannes Brahms*

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)**

**Almighty God, creator of the heavens and earth, You alone are the giver of life. By Your provident care You sustain our life until You gather us into life everlasting. We present our offerings with praise and thanksgiving. We dedicate them and ourselves to Your mission to be a blessing through Jesus 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 428 (vss. 1, 3-5)

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 2130, The Summons*)

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.

\*POSTLUDE

*Psalms XVIII*

*Organ, Brass, Timpani*

*Benedetto Marcello*

\*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought:

1. How are Jesus' Beatitudes in Matthew a commentary on God's word in Micah "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God," and the wisdom of the cross in 1 Corinthians?

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

**Musicians:** Terry Gale, John Veneskey – Trumpets;  
James Scanga – Horn; Jonathan Willis, Trombone;  
Benjamin Ammon, Tuba; Robert Barnett, Timpani

**Liturgist:** Rev. Trina Lewis

**Ushers:** Tim and Melissa Costa, Wanda Navoyosky, Sandra Quinn

**Bulletins:** Available dates are February 19, 26, March 5, 19, 26, April 9, 23, 30, May 21, June 11, 18. Cost is \$15.00 a Sunday.

**Flowers:** Given by Lois Dunn in memory of Wendell's Birthday. Available dates are February 19 (1), March 12, May 7 (1). Cost is \$10.00 a vase.

### **Adult Sunday School Class – Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.**

We will be reading and discussing the book, *Stretch Out Your Hand: Exploring Healing Prayer* by Tilda Norberg and Robert D. Webber. The class meets in the library.

### **Environmental Team Today following Worship**

Come join us for an organizational meeting in the Library.

### **Daytimers – Wednesday, February 1**

12 Noon in Fellowship Hall / Bring covered dish to share.  
Program – Water Painting Demonstration by Erma Eaton

### **Committee Night – Thursday, February 2**

6:00 – Christian Education (Library)  
6:00 – Mission Interpretation and Stewardship (Parlor)  
7:00 – Devotions (Sanctuary)  
7:15 – Property and Maintenance (Library)  
7:15 – Worship, Music, and the Arts (Parlor)

### **Coming Soon: 2023 Directory**

To update our membership directory (no pictures) and to enhance communications, please let the Church Office know if you no longer have a landline phone and are using a cell phone number and wish to receive the weekly Worship Bulletin and the bi-weekly newsletter, *The Presbyterian Messenger*, via e-mail.

**Per Capita Apportionment for 2023** is \$32.50 per Active Member. Per Capita is an assessment paid to General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery for each member of the congregation. Per Capita funding is how Presbyterians mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future. It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better elders and ministers. It is how Presbyterians discern God's call in their lives. The Per Capita Apportionment due for the year 2023 for First Presbyterian Church of Salem is based upon reported active membership at the end of the year 2021, which was 238 and is \$7,735.00.



Sunday, January 29

**11:30 Environmental Team** (Library)

4:30 LOGOS (Library)

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 Pinewood Derby (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, January 30

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Troop 3 Scouts (Fellowship Hall); Troop 3G Scouts (209)

Wednesday, February 1

12:00 Daytimers (FH) – *Water Painting Demonstration, Erma Eaton*

**6:00 Moderators Meeting** *via Zoom*

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 2 – Committee Night

**6:00 Christian Education** (Library) / **Mission I and S** (Parlor)

**7:00 Devotions** (Sanctuary)

**7:15 Property and Maintenance** (L) / **Worship, Music, and Arts** (P)

Scout Sunday, February 5

9:15 Sunday School / Adult Sunday School (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour / *Bake Sale by Scout Troop 3G*

10:30 Service of Worship

4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)

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

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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](mailto:awilson14@neo.rr.com)

Director of Christian Education..... Kim Double, [thecenter@neo.rr.com](mailto:thecenter@neo.rr.com)

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

Organist..... Nancy McNeal

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

Assistant Midweek ..... Sue Skiba, [susabell32@aol.com](mailto:susabell32@aol.com)

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

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

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