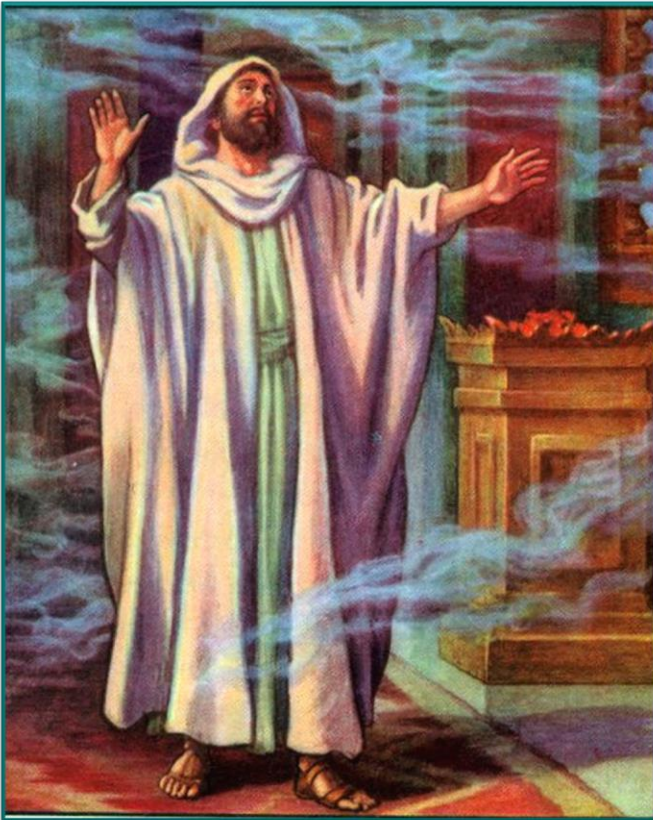


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

February 4, 2024

10:30 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



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

March
Grand Chorus

G.F. Handel
Théodore Dubois

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

PRELUDE

Preludio

Arcangelo Corelli

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 40:10a, 11a*)

“See, the Lord God comes with might,

His right arm rules for him...

He will feed his flock like a shepherd...”

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 394

There Is a Balm in Gilead

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**LORD, sole Creator of all that is, only giver of life in all its forms:
You made all things good by the power of Your love. We
confess that we have not honored Your work. We take
possession of the earth as if You did not exist; we have wasted
what we did not make and cannot replace. We have
disrespected Your children while claiming our own rights. We
do not deserve to ask for Your forgiveness, except that *You* call
us to repentance. You bid us turn from evil and follow Your**

Son. Grant us power through the Holy Spirit to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, whom You sent to make us new creatures. We pray in His name. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search out my sheep, and will seek them out... I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak...” *(Ezekiel 34:11 and 15-16a-d)*

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

***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 WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(Unison)*

O God, Whose Holy Spirit is the breath of life, grant us such understanding of Christ’s teaching and such refreshing of our spirits by His healing word that we are strengthened to act as Your love commands. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³ who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶ If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win

those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

In the Garden

The Haviland Choir

Miles/Wagner

Theodore Presser Company, CCL#2595933

I come to the garden alone,
while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.

Refrain

And He walks with me, And He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His, I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

He speaks and the sound of His voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gave to me
within my heart is ringing. *Refrain*

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Though the night around me be falling.
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling. *Refrain*

THE GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

"Sharing Is Winning"

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 404

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; "A Declaration of Faith," 1977*)

We believe that at the Lord's Supper the community of believers is renewed by the memory of Christ's life and death, by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the promise of his coming again.

Christ makes himself known to us in the breaking of bread.

He offers us his body broken for our sake and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

We accept his promises and gifts and depend on his life to sustain ours.

In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving to the risen Lord who has conquered death.

Reunited around one loaf and cup, we receive strength and courage to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world.

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

But the Lord Is Mindful of His Own

F. Mendelssohn

Cash Offering will go to our Board of Deacons.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Holy One, we live and move and have our being only by Your provident care. We present our offerings so that we can work together to make known Your redeeming love through Jesus Christ, and so glorify Your name as Father, Son and Holy Spirit – One God forever. 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...

You gave us a vision of your holy kingdom
that we might hunger after righteousness
and thirst for justice,

and long for the day when peace will triumph
over the pride and greed of nations.

Therefore, we praise you,

joining our voices with the servants around heaven's throne
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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus.

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come 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, may we who have received this sacrament live
in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your
gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 420 (vss. 1, 2, 4, 5)

God of Grace and God of Glory

*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.

*Please remain standing as the Light of Christ
is carried into the world.*

POSTLUDE

How Firm a Foundation

Jason Payne

*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought: How does God renew your strength?

Liturgist: Rev. Trina Lewis

Acolyte/Light-Bearer: Tyson Jackson

Bulletins have been given anonymously in appreciation of Alice, Marilyn, and Judy for keeping us organized, financially and legally.

Flowers have been given by Mary Bryan in memory of loved ones; by Paul and Barbara Fennema in honor of Sarah Fennema's birthday and grandsons Braydon and Damian; and by Art and Gladys Votaw in honor of 72nd Wedding Anniversary on February 8.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be convened today immediately after morning worship for the purposes of receiving reports and electing officers.

February 7 Daytimers program will be looking forward to spring. The program will inform and educate the attendees of the 'Need and Status of our Honeybees and Pollinators'. Abby Prieur from "Pheasants Forever" will join us for lunch at 12 Noon this Wednesday in Fellowship Hall, then offer the afternoon's program.

The 2024 FPC Directory (without pictures) is available today at Sanctuary entrances.

*The Congregational Care Committee, working with the Presbyterian Preschool, is Celebrating Valentine's Day with a special **Family Night this Wednesday, February 7th from 5:30 to 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall.*** A covered dish dinner is planned with Valentine crafts to be made following dinner. This will be a great chance for our church members and the Preschool families to get to know each other. Dinner is planned for 5:30 with time for making the crafts to follow. Church members, please feel free to bring the special little people in your lives so they can make some crafts as well. It would be helpful if you would call the church office and let us know you are bringing them so that we can have enough supplies available for the crafts. I know some of you will be enjoying a covered dish lunch that day for Daytimers. Somehow, we double booked the day with Covered dish meals. But, what could be better than 2 covered dish meals in one day with lots of good food to enjoy. We look forward to seeing you!

HELP! Salem Mobile Meals really needs drivers. If you can help in any way, please call 330-332-2160. ~ *Geoff Goll, President*

Sunday, February 4

Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting following Worship

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

Monday, February 5

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

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

7:00 Board of Deacons (L)

Tuesday, February 6

1:00-9:00 United Quilt Guild (FH)

Wednesday, February 7

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

12:00 Daytimers (FH) – Need & Status of Honeybees & Pollinators

5:30-7:00 Family Night Covered Dish (FH)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

7:00 Finance and Administration Committee via Zoom

Thursday, February 8

5:30 Preschool Board of Trustees (L)

Saturday, February 10

2:00 Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Zachary Gillis (S/FH)

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 Barbara Loudon, bloudon@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

Financial Assistant.....Mary Banar, office@fpcsaalem.org

Custodian Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net