

First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

March 12, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent



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

*Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness*  
(Chorale and Chorale Prelude)

*Johannes Brahms*

*Arioso*

*Raymond Haan*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 95:1, 7)

“O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

For he is our God,

**and we are the people of his pasture,**

and the sheep of his hand.”

**Let us worship God.**

### \*HYMN 376

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

### \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**God of freedom and justice, You hear the cries of the oppressed and set at liberty those who are bowed down. You freed Your people from slavery in Egypt and journeyed with them in the wilderness. We confess that we are like them, complaining that You do not provide for us. We try Your patience and put You to the test. Have mercy on us; forgive our sin. Let the waters of life well up within us, restoring our faith and giving us renewed strength to follow our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray in his name. Amen.**

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“The Lord said: I will give you a new heart and a new mind; I will take away your stubborn heart of stone and give you an obedient heart.” (*Ezekiel 36:26*)

Believe the Good News!

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

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

**\*THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**You reveal Yourself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Who is and was and will forever be One God. Grant us the light of Your truth so that we can live more fully and faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ the Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

*Exodus 17:1-7*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.<sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?”<sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”<sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”<sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go.<sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.<sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND READING

*Romans 5:1-11*

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*The Haviland Choir*

*There Is a Green Hill Far Away*

*arr. Joseph Martin*

*Cheryl McDevitt, Flute*

Shawnee Press Inc., CCL#2595933

There is a green hill far away without a city wall;  
where Christ, the Lord was crucified, Who died to save us all.

For God so loved, so loved the world, He gave His only Son,  
and on a green hill far away He shed his precious blood.

We may not know, we cannot tell what pains He had to bear.  
but we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.  
For God so loved, so loved the world, He gave his only Son,  
and on a green hill far away He shed his precious blood.  
There is a green hill far away.

THE GOSPEL READING

*John 4:4-14*

<sup>4</sup>But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON

*"The Water of Life in a Thirsty World"*

*Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 261

*God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

**In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks,  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

*(from "A Brief Statement of Faith," 1991)*

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*

*Ryan Gillis*

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

*Interpretation on Amazing Grace*

*David Chewien*

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

*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*)

**Merciful One, You provided water in the wilderness to sustain  
Your wondering people. In the fullness of time, You provide  
the Son, the living water, to all who thirst for the Spirit from**

above. We present these offerings in thanksgiving for the outpouring of Your love, and we offer ourselves to the joyful service of Your coming kingdom in Jesus' name. 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...**

**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*)

**Thank you, gracious God, for giving us bread for the journey of these forty days. As we travel on through the wilderness, help us to share your grace with others and draw us ever closer to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*HYMN 404

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

\*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

*Song of Joy*

*Christopher Boode*

\*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought:

1. How are we like the Samaritan woman at the well?

**Liturgist:** Rev. Trina Lewis

**Ushers:** Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn, Mark and Grace Smith

**Bulletins:** Given by The Melvin and Virginia Wilms Family in memory of Dorothy and Sue Wilms



**Flowers:** Given by Wanda and Steve Navoyosky in honor of The Haviland Choir, and by Bob Bortz in honor of Sharon's birthday.

**Order Easter Plants Today in Fellowship Hall**

Daffodils - \$10.00 / Tulips - \$10.00 (Select color: 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](mailto:phyllis@fpcsaalem.org).

**New Membership Directories** are at Sanctuary entrances.

**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 – Sunday, March 19**

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

**Bottle Cap Project – Monday, March 20**

Come join us from 6:00-7:30 p.m. as we help the Scouts sort, wash, and weigh the bottle caps we have been collecting for our bench.

**Environmental Team – Sunday, March 26**

Meeting in the library after worship.

**Soup to Go – Sunday, March 26**

Vegetable Beef / \$5 a quart / Please return jar and lid.

**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 12

4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)

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

Monday, March 13

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Troop 3 Scouts (Basement); Troop 2003G Scouts (209)

**7:00 Congregational Care Committee** (Library)

Wednesday, March 15

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 16

**7:00 Regular Session Meeting** *via Zoom*

Sunday, March 19

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

10:00 Coffee Hour

10:30 Service of Worship

**Soup and Bread Luncheon** following worship (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, March 20

10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00-7:30 Sort, Wash, Weigh Bottle Caps with the Scouts

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)

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