

First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

January 19, 2025

10:30 a.m.

## Second Sunday after Epiphany



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](http://www.fpcsaalem.org).

*“We are centered in Christ and powered by love.”*

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### PRELUDE

*In December Bleak and Cold*

*Michael Bedford*

*Catalonian Carol*

*Face to Face*

*John Innes*

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

### PRELUDE

*Bright and Glorious is the Sky*

*G.W. Cassler*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 36:5-10*)

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your judgments are like the great deep;**

You save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

**They feast on the abundance of your house,**

And you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

### \*HYMN 356

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

### \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God calls us to a spirit of rejoicing and peace, not to one of fear  
and hopelessness. Let us lay down anything that grows doubt

and fear in our midst by the feet of Jesus. Trusting Him to forgive us, redeem us and make us a new creation.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**Holy God, you long for us to trust you, to come running to you with joy and celebration in our hearts; but we doubt your goodness and fear that our brokenness is too great for you to heal. You long for us to trust you and to listen for you in the quiet after the whirlwind, but we long for you to make grand gestures and to show your power and might before us and everyone else. You long for us to follow you, but we find other people and institutions that are easier to trust and put our hope in. As you rejoice over us teach us to rejoice in you always. As you are steadfast and faithful to us, teach us to have faith in you and to trust you always. As you show great love for us, teach us to love one another in big and small ways. Redeem us Lord, we are your people and we long to be like you. Amen.**

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ we are one, we are adopted into God's family, each of us with a special gift, a special way to share God's good news. Friends, remember and share the good news of the gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**

\*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*)

**Father God, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our Lord. Speak to us through these ancient words, that your living word may thrive in this sanctuary and be carried out by us into the world. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

*Isaiah 62:1-5*

<sup>1</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. <sup>4</sup> You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. <sup>5</sup> For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*The Haviland Choir*

*Footsteps*

*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 2:1-11*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup> Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*"Seeing is Believing"*

*Rev. Annie Parker*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 263

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

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

**We believe in God**

**who loved us before we were born,  
who has high hopes for us  
and who provides for all our needs.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ**

**in whom we know God most clearly  
and see the person God means us to be.**

**We believe in the Holy Presence**

**and dare to claim the fullness of joy,  
the peace that passes all understanding,  
and the fellowship of all those who trust in God.**

**MOMENT FOR CELEBRATION**

*Lynn Zocolo*

**CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY**

*Long, Long Ago*

*Joyce Jones*

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

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

**For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you,  
gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also  
our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us.  
Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us.  
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 276

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Unison; 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

*Majestic Trumpet*

*Robert Hebble*

\*Please stand if you are able.

### **Questions for thought:**

1. Where have you seen God in your life?
2. Where do you struggle to see God?
3. What is proof to you that God exists?

**Star Cards** are in a basket at the west entrance if you missed getting a random card last Sunday.

**Head Ushers:** Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

**Liturgist:** Lynn Zocolo

**Light-Bearer:** Joseph Seefeldt

**Bulletins** have been donated by Steve and Wanda Navoyosky.

*Open Dates for Bulletins* – March 2, 16, 23, April 6, 13, May 4, 11, 18.

**Chancel Flowers** have been donated anonymously to the Glory of God. *Open Dates for Flowers* are January 26 (2 vases), February 23 (1 vase), March 9 (2 vases), March 23 (1 vase), March 30 (1 vase), April 27 (1 vase), May 4 (1 vase). Cost is \$10.00 a vase.

**Session Packets** are in hallway mailboxes today in time for the Regular Session Meeting this Thursday, January 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library and Hybrid.

**The Environmental Team** will meet next Sunday, January 26 at 12:00 p.m. in the Library.

### **Soup to Go – Next Sunday – Chicken Noodle**

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. Please return jars and lids.

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be convened on Sunday, February 2 immediately after morning worship for the purposes of receiving reports and electing officers. 2024 Annual Reports will be available next Sunday, January 26.

### **Daytimers – Wednesday, February 5**

12 Noon in Fellowship Hall / Bring covered dish to share.  
Program – Jennifer Zamarelli will speak about “Hospice” and possibly volunteer opportunities.

### **Coming Soon: 2025 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, 330-337-9555, or send an e-mail to [phyllis@fpcsaalem.org](mailto:phyllis@fpcsaalem.org).



**Per Capita Apportionment for 2025** is \$33.00 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 2025 for First Presbyterian Church of Salem is based upon reported active membership at the end of the year 2023.

### **Support PDA's Response to California Wildfires**

**Give** – Please make checks payable to the church and mark 'California Wildfires' in the memo line.

**Pray** – God, our refuge and our strength, you are an ever-present help in trouble.

The beginning of this year has brought unprecedented challenges for our neighbors in California, who are now facing a devastating disaster. The harrowing images of wildfires consuming parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties have deeply impacted us all, stirring our hearts with sorrow and compassion. Authorities are reporting this as a historic and deadly wildfire event. More than 40,000 acres have burned, with over 12,300 structures destroyed, entire communities wiped out, and tens of thousands of residents displaced. Currently, 92,000 residents are under evacuation orders, and 89,000 more remain in evacuation warning zones, meaning they may need to leave their homes at a moment's notice. Tragically, at least 24 lives have been lost, and the numbers continue to rise as fires remain uncontained. This is an ongoing disaster, and the extent of damage and loss continues to evolve, with figures expected to change as the situation develops.

As part of the ongoing response and in consultation with the Presbyteries of the Pacific, San Fernando and San Gabriel, as well as the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii and its leadership,

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been in communication with faith leaders in the affected communities. In addition to providing emotional and spiritual care, PDA has already released emergency grants to meet the urgent needs of the communities and to provide immediate assistance. Though the final outcomes of these fires are yet to be known, we are clear that the magnitude of the event will require the development of long-term projects and assistance, both for the physical and emotional long-lasting effects. Presbyterians in the region are participating in coordination calls with nonprofit and faith-based disaster organizations to ensure that no one is forgotten.

PDA affirms our commitment to accompany those affected by this disaster. As people of God, once again we are called to stand with our siblings in the “GAP” – Give, Act and Pray.

#### Vision Statement

*To glorify God and share the Spirit and love of Christ  
with our community and the world.*

Monday, January 20

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, January 22

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, January 23

7:00 Regular Session Meeting (Library and Hybrid)

Sunday, January 26

9:00 Adult Church School (Library); Youth Church School

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 Service of Worship

6:30 Cub Scout Pack Meeting (Basement)

Monday, January 27

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 Troops 3 and 2003G (Basement/209)

Wednesday, January 29

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884

[pastorannie@fpcsalem.org](mailto:pastorannie@fpcsalem.org)

Clerk of Session.....Barbara Loudon, [bloudon@neo.rr.com](mailto:bloudon@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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