

First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

January 28, 2024

10:30 a.m.

The 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

*Chant (Organ)*

*Wilbur Held*

*Die Bänkelsängerlieder (Brass)*

*Anonymous*

*Basse Dance Bergeret (Brass and Percussion)*

*Tylman Sustao*

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

### PRELUDE

*Canzona per sonare No. 2 (Brass)*

*Giovanni Gabrieli*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 111:10*)

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;*

**All those who practice it have a good understanding.**

*His praise endures forever."*

**Let us worship God.**

### \*HYMN 155

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

### \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

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

**Almighty God, Your Word is Truth, Your justice is the measure of all righteousness, and Your love is the standard by which all judgments are to be rendered. We confess that we have turned from You and the community Your covenant creates. We have sought to make ourselves the measure of all things. We have broken faith with creation, one another and You. In Your mercy, forgive us. By the Holy Spirit, help us to reverse**

**course, answer Your calling with faith, and follow Your Son, Jesus Christ, whom You sent to redeem us. We pray in His name. Amen.**

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“[E]ach of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it is written, ‘When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.’”

*(Ephesians 4:7)*

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)*

**Jesus spoke with Your authority, O God. It is foolish for us to listen to any other teaching than His. Grant us the Holy Spirit’s presence so that we take Your Word to heart, and so, live as true disciples of our Lord. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

<sup>15</sup> The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup> This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” <sup>17</sup> Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the

prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.<sup>19</sup> Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.<sup>20</sup> But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 8:1-13*

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.<sup>2</sup> Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge;<sup>3</sup> but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup> Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.”<sup>5</sup> Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords —<sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup> It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.<sup>8</sup> “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.<sup>9</sup> But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.<sup>10</sup> For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?<sup>11</sup> So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.<sup>12</sup> But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin

against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM *The Haviland Choir, Piano, Brass and Timpani*  
*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* *arr. Eric Nelson*  
MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., CCL#2595933

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease,  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free;  
his blood can make the foulest clean,  
his blood availed for me.

Hear him, ye deaf! His praise, ye dumb,  
your loosened tongues employ!  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come,  
and leap, ye lame; and leap, ye lame;  
and leap, ye lame, for joy! O leap and sing for joy!

<sup>21</sup>They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON

*"Free to Do Right"*

*Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis*

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 150

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

\*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)*

MOMENT FOR CELEBRATION

*Lynn Zocolo*

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

*O Faithful Heart*

*J.S. Bach*

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

**Fill us with such gratitude for Your love, O God, that every moment of our life is lifted up in thanksgiving. We make our offerings within this community of faith so that together we can show the wonder of Your grace, revealed in our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray in His name. 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 386 (*vss. 1, 2, 3, 5; Tune 466*)

*O for a World*

\*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  
*Psalm XVIII*

*Organ, Brass and Timpani*  
*Benedetto Marcello*

\*Please stand if you are able.

**Question for thought:**

Who are the weak among us and how can we serve them?

“When he (or she – the preacher) turns to his hearers and desires to be heard by them, his concern will not be that they should hear himself, but that they should hear Him whose witness the human speaker is. The aim of his discourse will be that others together with him should hear God speak, that they should, as it were, be his fellow pupils in the school of God, or more exactly, the school of the Holy Scripture.” K. Barth, Church Dogmatics, “The Doctrine of the Word of God,” section 22, p. 763.

**Today's appearance of the Instrumentalists** is underwritten by the many donors to our Music Fund.

**Instrumentalists:**

Terry Gale, John Veneskey – Trumpets

James Scanga, Horn

Jonathan Willis, Trombone

Benjamin Ammon, Tuba

Ken Alexander, Timpani

**Liturgist:** Mickey Buck

**Acolyte/Light-Bearer:** Tegan Jackson



**Bulletins** have been given anonymously in appreciation of Mary Banar for keeping up with our financial transactions.

**Flowers** have been given by Lois Dunn in memory of Wendell Dunn's birthday, and anonymously in appreciation of Mary for keeping up with our financial transactions.

### **Soup to Go Today – Chicken Noodle**

Our 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 today. Please return jars and lids.

### **Moderators Meeting – Wednesday, January 31**

6:00 p.m. *via Zoom*

### **Committee Night – Thursday, February 1**

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)

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be convened on Sunday, February 4 immediately after morning worship for the purposes of receiving reports and electing officers.

### **Daytimers – Wednesday, February 7**

12 Noon in Fellowship Hall / Bring covered dish to share.

Program – Looking Forward to Spring with Abby Prieur from “Pheasants Forever”.

### **Coming Soon: 2024 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.

The Congregational Care Committee, working with the Presbyterian Preschool, is Celebrating Valentine's Day with a special Family Night on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 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, January 28

#### **Soup to Go – Chicken Noodle**

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 Pinewood Derby (FH)

### Monday, January 29

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

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

### Wednesday, January 31

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

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

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

Thursday, February 1 – Committee Night

**6:00 Christian Education (L) / Mission I & S (P)**

**7:00 Devotions (S)**

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

Sunday, February 4

9:00 Church School for Grades 6-12 (209)

9:00 Adult Church School (L)

10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)

10:30 Service of Worship – *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

**Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting following Worship**

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

---

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](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)

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

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

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