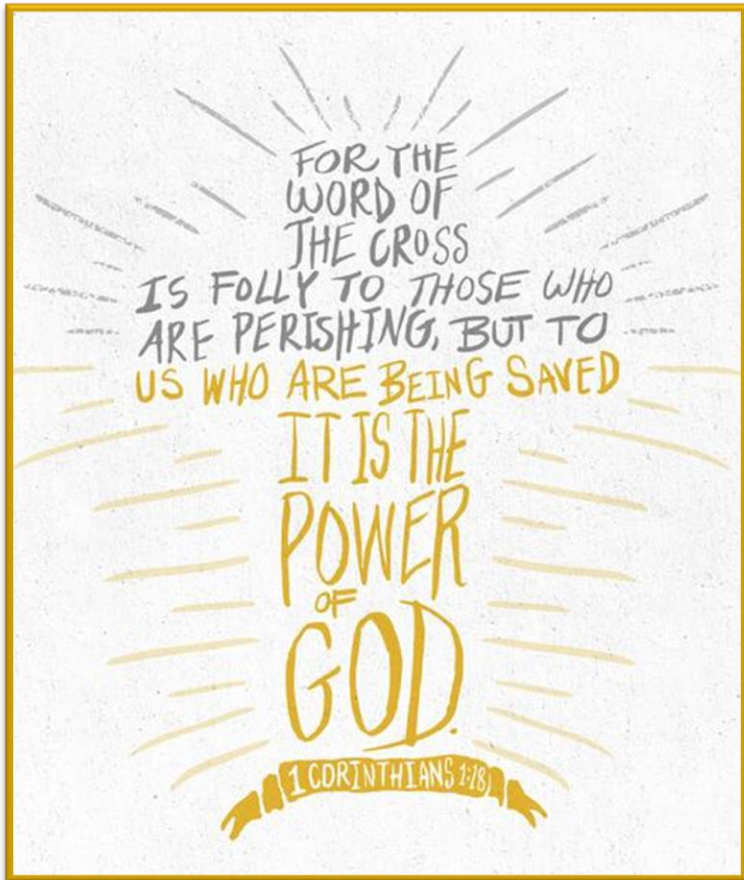


First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

March 3, 2024

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; and
our website, www.fpcsaalem.org.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us
His Eye Is On the Sparrow

Fred Bock
Fred Bock

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

PRELUDE

Cheryl McDevitt, Flute; Nancy McNeal, Piano
Minuet from Dance of the Blessed Spirits

C.W. Gluck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 19:1, 7*)

"The heavens are telling the glory of God;

And the firmament proclaims his handiwork...

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;

The decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple..."

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 324

Open My Eyes That I May See

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Eternal Mercy, Holy Justice: You created the heavens and the earth by Your love. Your will is that all creation live in the peace/wholeness that Your word calls *SHALOM*. We confess that we do not show mercy to those who threaten us; we do not act justly towards the vulnerable among us; and, we are not at peace with ourselves, others nor You. Judge us according to Your mercy, and show us mercy as a sign of Your justice that forgives sinners, raises the dead and gives new life

through the resurrection of Your Beloved Son. Make of us living signs of Your compassion and use us to show the way to eternal life through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.” *(Psalm 13:5-6)*

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)*

**“May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.”
Amen. *(Psalm 19:14)***

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful

use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Haviland Choir

Lord of the Dance

Don Hart

Hope Publishing Company, CCL#2595933

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came to me and the dance went on.

Refrain:

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame,
the holy people said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;
and they left me there on a cross to die. *Refrain.*

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *Refrain.*

THE GOSPEL READING

John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

"Pointing to God"

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 371

Lift High the Cross

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison, The Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Aria from Dance of the Blessed Spirits

C.W. Gluck

Cheryl McDevitt, Flute; Nancy McNeal, Piano

Cash offerings will go to the Board of Deacons.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Through the cross of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You call us Your children, O God. Hear our praise and thanksgiving, offered in His 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...

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*)

O God, we give you thanks and praise, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 92

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

*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.

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

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Major

G.F. Handel

*Please stand if you are able.

Question for thought: How do you point to God?

Liturgist: Rev. Trina Lewis

Acolyte/Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins have been given anonymously in appreciation of the Haviland Choir and Carillon Ringers for their beautiful musical offerings.

Flowers have been given by Steve and Kathy Stewart in loving memory of Kathy's parents, Rex and Dorie Mitchell, and her sister, Karen Wilson.

Order Easter Plants Today in Fellowship Hall. Tulips are \$10 (Red, Orange, Purple); Daffodils are \$10; and Lilies are \$13. Orders can be placed during the week through the Church Office.

Annual Church Garage Sale – Saturday, April 27 (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.)

Please help by looking for clean, usable items you no longer need. There will be tables for Kitchen, Music, Holiday, Working Lamps, Linens, Garage, Jewelry, Kids and Toys, Small Furniture, Bikes etc., Antiques, Books, and Pictures. PLEASE: No Clothing, No Shoes, No Electronics, No TVs, No Computers, No Upholstered Furniture, No Food, No Open Toiletries or Makeup. Place all donation items on the stage in Fellowship Hall no later than Sunday, April 21. Need pick-up? Call Melissa at 330-853-1955. Proceeds to LOGOS/Sunday School Mission.

Preschool Scholarship Fund

The First Presbyterian Preschool has started an initiative to provide financial assistance to preschool aged children whose parents may need some monetary help in attending preschool this fall. A separate church fund has been established as a means for church members, community members as well as organizations to contribute to this fund to support this project. The fund is called "Preschool Scholarship Fund". The Preschool Board is also discussing ways to support the funding through fundraisers, etc.

If church members wish to help in this effort to assist parents who need some financial support to send their child to our preschool this fall, you may do so by contributing through your church contributions. Putting the words "Preschool Scholarship Fund" on your check would indicate that you are supporting this fund. Money in church envelopes could also be designated on the envelope with the words "Preschool Scholarship Fund". The Preschool Board thanks you in advance for your consideration in supporting this important preschool scholarship initiative.

Sunday, March 3

6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

Monday, March 4

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

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

7:00 Board of Deacons (L)

Tuesday, March 5

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

Wednesday, March 6

10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)

12:00 Daytimers (FH) – *The History of Life* with John Barnett

6:00 Moderators Meeting *via Zoom*

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

Thursday, March 7

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

7:00 Devotions (S)

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

Saturday, March 9

Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour

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@fpcsalem.org

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

Custodian Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net