

First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

July 27, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



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.fpcsalem.org.

"We are centered in Christ and powered by love."

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth
The Old Rugged Cross

Victor Labenske
Cindy Berry

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

PRELUDE

Kim Meek, Bagpipes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Creator God, we believe in you because you are all around us:

We hear your joy in the laughter of friends and neighbors.

We find your creativity in the wild creatures we share our world with.

We sense your power in gusts of winds shaking the trees.

We feel your tenderness in the softness of a clover against our feet.

We taste your goodness in the rich burst of summer fruit.

We see your beauty in skies painted in streaks of gold and blue.

Creator God, we believe because we know

That all we see and hear and touch and taste is made by you,

Our Almighty Father, Lord of heaven and earth. Amen.

*HYMN 455

All Creatures of Our God and King

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

As we come before our maker and sustainer, we bring our whole selves. All that we have done to build up and secure and that which we have done to tear down and destroy. Let us confess

our sin against the creator as we are filled with hope that our sin will be forgiven and wiped from the earth forever.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Almighty God, forgive us for how large the chasm is between what we mean to do and what we actually do; between what we believe and how we live. Give us the integrity, Lord, to walk the walk, and to glorify you in all we say and do. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God, the great creator made all things seen and unseen through his Holy Voice.

God breathed life into us after forming us from the clay.

We trust that God can create us anew, and take away our sin and brokenness.

Hallelujah! 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*)

Creator of all wisdom and knowledge, let us be open to hear you in this world and in the world all around us. Speak your wisdom to our souls and your grace to our hearts. Amen.

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Kim Meek, Bagpipes

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-33

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and

tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

“GOD”

Pastor Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 333

Seek Ye First

*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.**

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Dale Wood

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

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

God, who has made all things and given us all that we need, grant that we would adopt your spirit of abundance and generosity. Take our gifts of time, talents and treasure and bless and multiply them to touch every corner of the earth. 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 293**

This Is My Father's World

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 432; Song of Hope*)**

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

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

POSTLUDE

Allegro

Domenico Zipoli, 1688-1726

*Please stand if you are able.

Questions for thought:

1. How do you understand God as your creator and sustainer?
2. How does this understanding impact your faith and the fears of everyday life?
3. How can you care for creation and neighbors as God has cared for you?

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Ruth Newman

Flowers have been given by Lois Dunn in memory of mother Leila Weirick's birthday; and anonymously in appreciation for all our wonderful church family friends who plan and attend Denise's Big Backyard.

Carillon Schedule – 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 6 p.m. Each chime starts with 3 bells, then 1 minute later, a random hymn plays.

Denise's Big Back Yard

Come join us under the large tent at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays for our weekly picnics. Sign-up sheets for side dish and dessert donations are posted in Fellowship Hall. Programs are listed below. **Any and all help is appreciated!**

- **July 30** – Historian John Barnett on 'Chief Logan's War'
- **August 6** – Learn about our Scout Troops
- **August 13** – Reptile Rescue

Board of Deacons – Monday, August 4

Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library

Committee Night – Thursday, August 7

Christian Education (L) and Mission I and S (P) at 6 p.m.

Property/Maintenance (L) and Worship, Music, Arts (P) at 7 p.m.

The First Presbyterian Church Preschool is accepting students for the 2025-2026 school year. The five day a week program combines the very best elements of a Preschool for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children. The Preschool staff is dedicated to maintaining a positive, nurturing environment promoting creativity, curiosity, and kindness. Our Preschool follows a Christian theme and participates in Ohio's "Step Up to Quality" system. We have an Early Childhood degreed teacher and experienced staff. Financial assistance is available through Job and Family Services for those qualifying. Children will develop skills needed for kindergarten readiness. Call 330-332-8620 for more information.

The First Presbyterian Preschool is continuing 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. If you have any questions concerning this initiative, contact any member of the Preschool Board – Chelsey Hovanic, Alice Jackson, Jean McCool, Wanda Navoyosky, Ruth Newman, Carol Ricciardi, Annie Parker, Cara Stephens.

Do You Have Old, Unused and Unwanted Electronics Lying around the House and Taking Up Space? I know we all probably have drawers with unused electronics. You don't have to throw it away and have it add one more item to the local garbage dump. Instead, you can do something good for the earth and help a local, small business. Summit e-Waste Recycling Solutions at the Walborn Reservoir located at 11324 Price St NE in Alliance has a dumpster where you can bring electronics for recycling. Call them at 330-800-6657. They take computers, modems, routers, servers, DVD players, VCRs, game consoles, stereos, cell phones, small printers, cables, wires, power adaptors, and computer monitors.

Recycling News: John Repella is looking for any metal he can recycle. Give him a call to arrange a pickup, 234-320-1144. Mention you are from First Presbyterian Church.

Troop 3 is seeking adult leaders and young persons ages 11-18. Qualifications are adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, a love of adventure, learning, and teamwork. Perks are a world-class team, adventure, and learning amazing things. For more information, see Mark Smith or Frank Lewis.

Vision Statement

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

Wednesday, July 30

6:00 Denise’s Big Back Yard – *Historian John Barnett*

Thursday, July 31

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, August 3

9:00 Adult Bible Study (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 Service of Worship

Monday, August 4

7:00 Board of Deacons (Library)

Tuesday, August 5

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

1:00 United Quilt Guild (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, August 6

6:00 Denise’s Big Back Yard – *Learn about Our Scout Troops*

Thursday, August 7

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 Christian Education (Library) / **Mission I and S** (Parlor)

7:00 **Property** (Library) / **Worship, Music, Arts** (Parlor)

Sunday, August 10

9:00 Adult Bible Study (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 Service of Worship – *Communion*

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

pastorannie@fpcsalem.org

Clerk of Session..... Barbara Loudon, bloudon@neo.rr.com

Director of Music..... John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com

Organist Nancy McNeal, 330-332-5053

Dir. 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