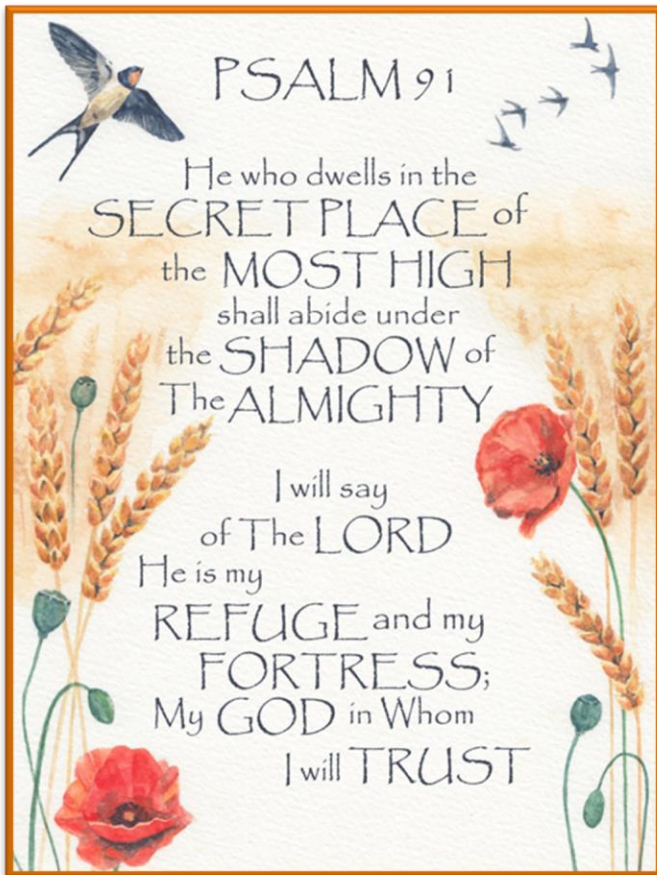


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

September 28, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Sixteenth 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.fpcsaalem.org.

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

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Italian Hymn (Organ)

Albert Travis

Galliard Battaglia (Brass, Percussion)

Samuel Scheidt

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

PRELUDE

Courant Dolorosa (Brass)

Samuel Scheidt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come! Praise the Lord!

**Praise God for the heavens and the earth and all that is in
them!**

Come! Praise the Lord!

**Praise God who feeds the hungry and uplifts the
downtrodden!**

Come, Praise the Lord!

**Praise God who gives sight to the blind and sets prisoners
free!**

Come, Praise the Lord!

The Lord will reign forever! Praise the Lord!

*HYMN 469

Morning Has Broken

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Perhaps we fear that if we admit the flaws of our lives, we will find ourselves too far away, unreachable by God's grace. But no chasm is too wide for God. In the act of confession, we begin

the work of reconciliation, reaching out so God can take our hand once again. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

Almighty God, you call us to lives of service, but we confess that we ignore our neighbors in need right outside our door. You call us to share our abundance, but we confess that we choose our own comfort over generosity to others. You call us to build community, but we confess that we are too often gatekeepers, letting in only the ones that make us comfortable. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to be content with enough and inspire us to share what we have – our prosperity, our power and our love – until all your children have life and dignity in beloved community. Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ prays for us. Christ reaches out with endless love and mercy.

Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made ready to love and serve. Alleluia. Amen.

***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*)

God of wonder, as we hear your Word for us today, fill us with holy imagination. Help us hear your holy invitation and ignite within us a passion to live your truth and follow your way. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

- ¹ You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
² will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."
³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence;
⁴ he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and defense.
⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night
or the arrow that flies by day
⁶ or the pestilence that stalks in darkness
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.
¹⁴ Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
¹⁵ When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble;
I will rescue them and honor them.
¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy them
and show them my salvation.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Haviland Choir, Piano, Brass, Timpani

He Leadeth Me

Arranged by Earlene Rentz

Alliance Music Publications, Inc., CCL#2595933

He leadeth me! O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, wheree'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,
By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be,

For by His hand He leadeth me.

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters still, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
and never murmur nor repine,
Content, whatever lot may be,
Since 'tis Thy hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,
By His own hand He leadeth me.
His faithful follower I would be,
For by His hand, His mighty hand,
For by His hand my God leadeth me. Amen.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to

my father's house — ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

"The Messenger"

Pastor Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 408

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

("A New Creed," The United Church of Canada, 1968)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Mark Smith

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

O Faithful Heart (Organ)

J.S. Bach

Peace and Global Witness Offering envelopes in pew racks.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

All that we have is a gift from you. Lord, bless these gifts and inspire us to use them in ways that transform and enliven your people. May they be a blessing to those who need them most. 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 403

What a Friend We Have in 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

Rigaudon (Organ, Brass, Timpani)

Andre Campra

*Please stand if you are able.

*Some of Today's Liturgy comes from or is inspired by
Liturgy provided in *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

Instrumentalists

Terry Gale, John Veneskey, Trumpets;
Rob Cole, Horn; Jonathan Willis, Trombone;
Benjamin Ammon, Tuba; Robert Barnett, Percussion

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Barb Yonker

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Flowers have been given by Melvin and Jenny Wilms in memory of Marie and Harry Kelly.

Sunday School started today for children Pre-K to 12th grade and will continue at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Parents are welcome to our adult class or to stay and enjoy coffee in Fellowship Hall.

Peace and Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Through the Peace and Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world. *Envelopes are in the Pew Racks.*

Preschool Fundraiser – Heggy's Confectionery

Order today and next Sunday in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour, or call the Preschool, 330-332-8620, or Church Office, 330-337-9555; Milk Chocolate Covered Oreos, Milk and Dark Chocolate Buckeyes, Milk and Dark Chocolate Cashews, Milk and Dark Chocolate Pecans, Frog Mints. Completed forms and cash/checks must be turned in by this Friday, October 3.

Daytimers – Wednesday, October 1 at Noon

Mike McCulloch will be the guest speaker talking about how to get a tax break on your 2025 income tax returns while benefiting First Presbyterian Church. / Bring a covered dish or dessert or just bring yourself and a friend. The public is welcome.

Free E-Waste Goodwill Event – Saturday, October 4

Got old tech? Don't toss it – recycle it by safely dropping off your used electronic items from Noon to 5 p.m. Acceptable items include desktops, laptops, tablets, cell phones, and VCR/DVD players. Goodwill locations are Austintown, Boardman, Calcutta, Hermitage PA, Liberty, Niles, Salem, Warren, Youngstown. *Other collections will be held on Saturdays, November 1 and December 6.*

SOCK-TOBER:

The Congregational Care Committee is asking church members to bring socks to church during the Sundays in October for The Salvation Army. Any kind of socks are welcome. Baskets for your donations will be at Sanctuary entrances each Sunday during October.

A New Members Class will be held on Sundays, October 12, 19, and 26 after Worship, and joining the church on Sunday, November 2. If you are interested in this class, please call Pastor Annie at 330-720-5884.

Preschool Request for Donations

If you are able, we would greatly appreciate donations of Kleenex, Paper Towels, Clorox Wipes, Play-Doh, Crayola Washable Markers,

Glue Sticks, Applesauce Pouches, Fruit Cups, Goldfish Crackers, Granola Bars. Every Contribution, big or small, makes a huge difference in our preschool. Thank you for blessing our children with your kindness and generosity! ~ *First Presbyterian Preschool*

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

Vision Statement

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

Sunday, September 28

2:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement)

Monday, September 29

6:30 Troop 3 Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, September 30

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, October 1

12:00 Daytimers (Fellowship Hall) – *Program: Mike McCulloch*

6:15 Carillon Rings (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 2

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

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

7:00 Property & Maintenance (L) / Worship, Music, & Arts (P)

Sunday, October 5 – World Communion Sunday

9:00 Sunday School for Pre-K to 12th Grade

9:00 Adult Bible Study (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 Service of Worship
2:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement)

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 ChoirsCheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com
Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsalem.org
Financial Assistant Mary Banar, office@fpcsalem.org
Custodian..... Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net