

First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

November 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Christ the King / Reign of Christ



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

*Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove
I Will Give Thanks Unto Thee*

*John B. Dykes
Van Denman*

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

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

George Job Elvey

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

Blessed be the Lord God who looks with kindness on us.

**We are the inheritors of the promises
made long ago to our ancestors.**

Blessed be the Lord God who gathers us here in this place.

**From across the street, from halfway around the world,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.**

Blessed be the Lord God who has remembered us.

**Scoffers and singers, watchers and wigglers,
we are those redeemed by God.**

*HYMN 151

Crown Him with Many Crowns

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us come with our prayers of confession and need to the One who prepares the way for our words.

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

In these moments, Remembering God, we bring to you all the ways we have not lived as your people:

we stand by watching

while those in need struggle to survive;

we cast our lots with those

who worship power and success;

we offer insults rather than words of grace

to those who care for us;

we scoff at your words

which call us to a different lifestyle.

Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves. Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior, who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion. God remembers us - and redeems us!

God prepares the way for us - the way to grace, to hope, to new life. Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Come, Thou Almighty

Carillon Ringers

arr. Sandra Eithun

Jan Cox, Piano

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

Christ our King today and always, rule our minds and hearts with justice born of righteousness. Guide us, through these words and the Holy Spirit to participate in your kingdom. Let us hear your wisdom anew today so we may learn all that we need to from it. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Haviland Choir

Unto the Hills I Will Lift My Eyes

Lloyd Larson

Mike Newman, Trumpet

Lorenz Publishing Company, CCL#2595933

Unto the hills I will lift my eyes;
from where shall come my aid?
My strength, my help is from God above

who heaven and earth has made.
The Lord will not let my foot be moved,
my Guardian never sleeps.
God's watchful eye and faithful care
protects and safely keeps.

Unto the hills I lift my eyes;
From where shall come my aid?
My strength, my help is from God alone
who heaven and earth has made.
My faithful keeper is the Lord,
my shelter and my shade.
Beneath the sun or moon, by night or day,
I shall not be afraid.

From evil God will keep me safe,
provide my every need.
my going out, my coming in,
my God will ever lead!
Unto the hills I will lift my eyes;
from where shall come my aid?
My strength, my help is from God above
who heaven and earth has made.

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
My strength, my help is from God above
who heaven and earth has made.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who

hate us. ⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days. ⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

"Paving the Pathway"

Pastor Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 361

How Firm a Foundation

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

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Just As I Am

William B. Bradbury

*Pledge Cards can be placed in the offering plates.
Loose Cash Offering today will go to our Board of Deacons.*

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

As we offer our gifts to you, Holy God, may we remember those who are forgotten by us too many times – the hungry, the lonely, the homeless, the vulnerable – yet are important citizens in your kingdom of grace, justice, and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

OPENING PRAYER

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Deacons, Class of 2026: Brenda Bradley, Lu Ann Cole

Deacons, Class of 2028:

Jan Cox, Barb Fennema, Ellen Maticcik, Sandy Quinn

Elders, Class of 2028:

Fred Denton, Geoff Goll, Bill Penfold, Mark Smith

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CLOSING PRAYER

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...

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen,

Christ will come again...

Until that day, we lift our prayer to you,
using the words recited by all generations, saying:

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.

BREAKING OF BREAD AND SHARING OF 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*)

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 555

Now Thank We All Our God

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (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

Fantasia on "Nun by Danket"

Hugh S. Livingston

*Please stand if you are able.

*Some of the Liturgy from today's worship came from or was
inspired by Liturgy written for The Lectionary Liturgies Website.

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Paul Fennema

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Flowers have been given anonymously to the Glory of God.

Order Red Poinsettias today in Fellowship Hall, call Church Office during the week, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsalem.org. The cost is \$10.00. Deadline to order is next Sunday, November 30.

Christmas Angel Tags: We are helping The Salvation Army by sponsoring 30 children in which children's genders, ages, needs, and Christmas wish lists are on tags on a table in Fellowship Hall. **Please sign the sheet with numbered tags listed.** Please purchase 1 outfit

and 1 toy from the tag and return it to Fellowship Hall or the Church Office. Do not wrap gifts, but place in garbage bag or large shopping bag with the tag affixed to the outside. Do not include gift receipt. All gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 14.

The Festival of Choirs – Sunday, November 30 at 3 p.m.

The Haviland Choir will be participating at the First United Methodist Church on South Broadway.

Experiencing Christmas Bible Study at 5 p.m.

Tuesdays, December 2, 9, 16, and 23 in the Library led by Pastor Annie.

Daytimers – Wednesday, December 3 at 11:30 a.m.

The Presbyterian Preschool will present a program in Fellowship Hall BEFORE we eat. Please bring covered dish to share.

BBWR Concert on Saturday, December 6 at 7 p.m.

The Brass Band of the Western Reserve will be performing a free concert, open to the public in the Sanctuary. A free will offering will be taken during the concert to help defray the expenses for the performance. Sponsorships or donations for this performance are also welcome. Donations can be sent to First Presbyterian Church, 436 East Second Street, Salem, Ohio 44460 – Attention: Music Fund.

Non-Perishable Food Drive – Scout Troop 2003G of this church is having a food drive through December 14 to benefit Salem Community Pantry and Harvesting for Hope serving Beloit and Sebring. Items should be placed in marked boxes on the stage.

Advent Music Program – Sunday, December 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Haviland Choir, guest musicians, and vocalists will present “Fantasia Noel”, Songs of the Season, arranged and orchestrated by Joshua Spacht.

Blessings Jars – Blessing Jars are available today for you to take and collect your pocket change. Jars should be returned on December 21 or 24.

Vision Statement

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

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 107:1

You may begin to notice blank paper hearts displayed around the church sanctuary and building. We invite you to join with our preschoolers in a special activity of gratitude. Please take a moment to write something or someone you are thankful for on a heart. You can pass it along to that person as a token of appreciation and love or tape it to their door as a cheerful reminder of all of God's blessings. Our preschoolers have been learning to give thanks and share in God's love, and we would love for the whole church family to join in expressing gratitude and joy together. Let's fill the church and its halls with hearts of thanksgiving and reminders of God's goodness all around us!

Sunday, November 23

2:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement)

Monday, November 24

6:30 Troop 3 Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, November 25

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, November 27 – Happy Thanksgiving!

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 28 – Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 30

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

Monday, December 1

6:00 Board of Deacons (Library)

6:30 Troop 3 Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, December 2

- 9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 Congregational Care Committee making angels (FH)
1:00 United Quilt Guild (Fellowship Hall)
5:00 Experiencing Christmas Bible Study (Library)
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PastorRev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884
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