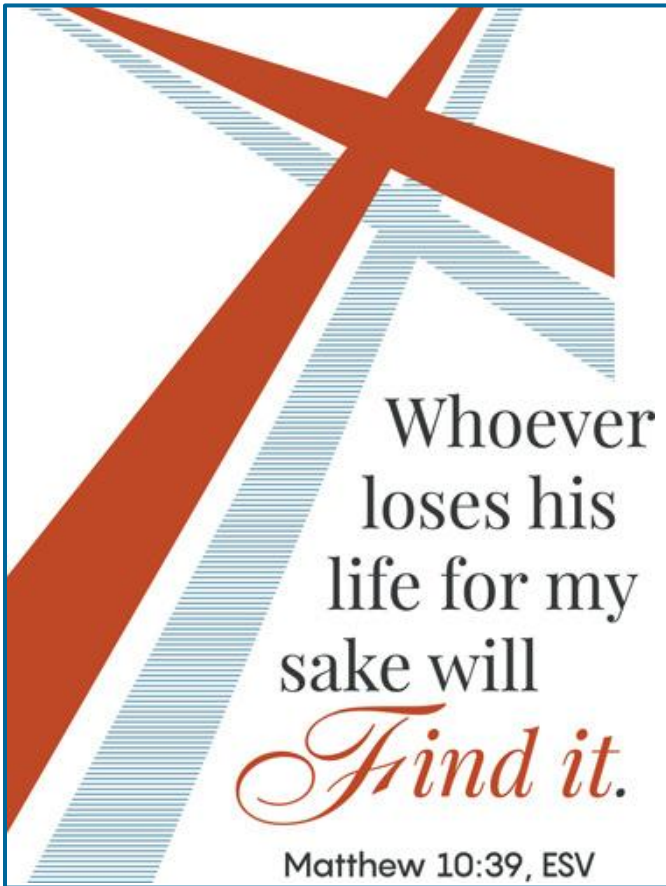


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

June 21, 2026

10:30 a.m.

4th Sunday after Pentecost



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 are centered in Christ and powered by love."

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Please stand if you are able.

PRELUDE

Adagio
Sweet Hour of Prayer

Handel-Best
William B. Bradbury

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

PRELUDE

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

There is no hope like you, O God!

Hope for those who cry out from the deserts of their lives.

There is no grace like you, O God!

Grace for those rejected, ignored, and cast aside by the world.

There is no love like you, O God!

Love for those who have known days of trouble and nights of loneliness.

There is no one like you, O God!

We join our voices in worship for the one true God!

*HYMN 492

Baptized in Water

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

When we would keep our faults and failings in the shadows, you call us to bring them into the light of your grace and forgiveness. With such a promise, with such a hope, how can we not confess to the One who loves us so much? Join me as we pray together, saying,

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Father God, it is never easy to confess our brokenness to you. When we have a chance to speak up for the outsider, we too often join in sending them away into the wilderness of hopelessness. When we could shout good news to a needy world, our voices drop to a whisper. When we could abound in grace, we continue to wallow in wrongdoing.

Forgive us, Hearer of our hearts, and have mercy on us. You lean over to listen to our words, and then to cast them into your sea of forgetfulness. You show us your signs of hope, that we might point others to you. You help us when we are weakest and, in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, you save us when we cannot save ourselves. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. 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*)

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and your way. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 21:8-21

⁸The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son

of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” ¹¹ The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹² But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³ As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” ¹⁴ So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶ Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷ And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸ Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. ²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND READING

Romans 6:1-11

¹ What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died

to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Can Only Imagine

Mike Newman, Vocal

Bart Millard

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:24-39

²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your

head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

“Found by God”

Rev. Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

**The Risen Christ lives today,
present to us and the source of our hope.**

**We sing of a church
seeking to continue the story of Jesus
by embodying Christ’s presence in the world.**

**We are called together by Christ
as a community of broken but hopeful believers,
loving what he loved,**

**living what he taught,
striving to be faithful servants of God
in our time and place.**

(from "A Song of Faith," The United Church of Canada, 2006)

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Wesley

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(Unison)*

Take our hearts, our hands, our gifts, Holy God. Mold us, shape us, send us, so that we might be your body in the world you so love. 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 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *(Unison; 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

The God of Abraham Praise

Meyer Lyon

A BIG "Thank You!" to Genevieve and Judson Smith, owners of the Brimfield Bread Oven, for providing our Fathers' Day treats. If you are ever in their neighborhood, be sure to stop in, say, "Hello!" and try some of their other great foods. ~ *Congregational Care Committee*

Liturgist: Alice Jackson

Light-Bearer: Geoff Goll

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Bulletins Donors are needed for July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. Cost is \$15.00 per Sunday.

Flowers have been given by Paul and Barb Fennema in memory of Joseph Edward Woods and Ruurd Gabes Fennema, and by Alice Jackson in honor of Allison Bodnar's birthday. Flower donors are needed for August 9 (1 vase), August 16 (1 vase), August 23 (1 vase), and August 30 (2 vases). Cost is \$10.00 per vase.

Office Hours for Rev. Annie Parker: Tues./Weds., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Summer Concert Series – Today at 6 p.m. at Waterworth Park

The Chardon Polka Band – *Most feared and powerful polka band in the industry*

Limited Deacon Scholarship Funds are available for students from our church who are enrolled in College or University and who have not previously received Deacon assistance. [Scholarship](#)

Applications are available in the Church Office and need to be returned to the Church Office by Tuesday, June 30.

Denise's Big Back Yard starts Wednesday, July 8:

Looking for something fun to do this summer? Want to spend time with your church friends and make some new friends at the same time? Denise's Big Back Yard is the place for you then. We will begin gathering on Wednesday, July 8 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The idea is to use our generously sized "park" and parking lot to provide fellowship between members of our congregation and our neighbors in the community. In addition to the large tent for use for our weekly gatherings, there will be picnic tables! There will also be the addition of an Ice Cream Cart provided after the program each week about 7:15 p.m. Come join us for food, fun, and fellowship! Wednesday Dates and Programs are listed below. ~ Mark Smith, *Mission I and S*

- July 8** Vacation Bible School (*Christian Education*)
- July 15** Bike/Scooter Safety (*Mission I and S*)
- July 22** Jan Cox and Friends (*Worship, Music, and Arts*)
- July 29** Magician (*Preschool Board*)
- August 5** Salem Library – STEM (*Property and Maintenance*)
- August 12** COH, Skits, Games (*Scouts*)

Vision Statement

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

Compassion Has No Bounds

JEEWAN RAKSHA KENDRA (LIFE SAVING CENTER)

Sita's Story:

Sita lives in a remote village in Far Western Nepal. She became pregnant as a teenager, her lack of protein and health knowledge put her baby's life at risk. Now because of *Jeewan Raksha Kendra*, her family now uses better seeds to grow more potatoes, providing more food and extra income. A new greenhouse in her village ensures they have fresh vegetables all year long. Soon, her child will eat healthy meals and eggs at school to stay strong and focused in class. This will help Sita's child to learn better in school, her family to have a better income, and for her children to have a brighter future.

The Problem:

In Sudurpashchim Nepal, the statistics tell a devastating story. The region currently records the highest child mortality rates in Nepal: In Dadeldhura and Baitadi, inadequate nutrition and low crop yields lead to chronic hunger, creating barriers to children's growth and development. Geographic isolation with a nearby clinic, often being a several-hour trek, as well as low maternal literacy and adolescent pregnancy can result in illness and death of infants and young children.

How You Can Help:

Your support allows them to expand their greenhouse initiatives, provide more protein-rich meals, and reach the most isolated families in Far Western Nepal. This is your opportunity to share God's love with a broken world! Make checks out to First Presbyterian Church and write 'Nepal' on memo line.

"By improving nutrition today, we are securing the leadership and health of the community tomorrow."

Sunday, June 21

9:00 Church School for Adults (Library)
10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall) – *Christian Education*
10:30 Service of Worship (S)

Tuesday, June 23

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, June 25

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, June 26

Church Office Closed

Saturday, June 27

3:00-6:00 Shafer Graduation Party (FH)

Sunday, June 28

9:00 Church School for Adults (Library)
10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall) – *Christian Education*
10:30 Service of Worship (S)

Tuesday, June 30

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, July 2

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884
pastorannie@fpcsaalem.org; Office Hours: Tues./Weds., 10-3
Clerk of Session..... Barbara Loudon, bloudon@neo.rr.com
Director of Music John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com
Dir. Handbells/Youth Choirs Cheryl McDevitt, cherxcd@aol.com
Organist Jan Cox, Jansalem1@yahoo.com
Audio/Video Tylor Bricker, Bob and Susan Merry
Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsaalem.org
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Custodian Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net