

**Salem Presbyterian Church
5th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 13, 2014**

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery
Hymnal: Great Hymns of the Faith

Organist: Bob Melford

Order of Worship

Prelude
Lighting of the Candles Katie McClure
Pastoral Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship **Psalm 119:105-112** 557
*Hymn **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee** 38

*Prayer of Confession **Merciful God, You plant each of us like seeds in the same field, and together we are nourished and nurtured by the sun. We sway in the wind and are refreshed by the rain. We are blessed by the knowledge that You want us to grow towards what You call us to be. When we deprive others of that same opportunity, forgive us. When we want to uproot those whom we believe do not belong in our part of the field, forgive us. When we label others as good or bad rather than accept them for who they are, forgive us. When we are afraid to look into the fields of our own lives to see what is growing there, forgive us. So, we pray that You will help us to reach out to the uprooted and rejected, the lonely and the outcast, and to develop and grow the good in ourselves, in others, and in the world. This we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen. (Take a moment for silent confession)**

*Assurance of Pardon
*Response **Glory Be to the Father** Inside Front Cover

Joys & Concerns of the Church
Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response **Hear Our Prayer, O Lord** 535
Special Music "Work In Progress"

Epistle Lesson **Romans 8:1-11** 1029
Gospel Lesson **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23** 889

A Time with the Children

*Hymn **In the Garden** 264
Sermon **"Fertile Ground"** Reverend Thomas Emery

*Apostle's 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 Spirit, 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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offertory
Ushers will receive God's tithes and our offerings
*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover
*Prayer of Dedication
*Hymn **Amazing Grace** 236

*Taking the Light into the World
*Charge and Benediction
*Congregational Response **Three Fold Amen** Inside Back Cover
*Those who are able are invited to stand.

The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God by the Evans Family.

This Week:

Sunday:

07-13-14

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Denise Pugh)
10:45 AM Sunday School
3:00 PM Celebrate Recovery
6:30 PM Trustee Meeting

Sunday:

07-20-14

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Chad & Sara Pugh)
 Communion
10:45 AM Sunday School
3:00 PM Celebrate Recovery
4:00 PM Session Meeting
6:30 PM Youth Group

Announcements:

The **Ice Cream Social**, 4:30 – 7:00 pm on **Friday July 25th** at the Lions Club, will feature Sycamore ice cream and have meal items. Please sign-up at the table in the north-east entrance to make desserts or to staff a shift.

Pastor Tom **is looking for volunteers** to do group or individual intercessory prayer for the Venedocia area and the Salem Church and its members. See Pastor Tom if willing to commit to this ministry.

We will have **Sunday School** in the upstairs back room continuing with the series set on location in Israel of places where Jesus walked.

Financial Update:

Needed Weekly:	\$2,067.00	Needed to Date:	\$55,809.00
Rec'd 07-06-14:	\$1,054.00	Rec'd to Date:	\$41,140.79



Rooted in our heritage and called into God's future, we proclaim in new ways the unchanging Good News of Jesus Christ in a changing world.

Salem Presbyterian Church
Venedocia, Ohio

Established 1848, Built 1898

Prayer Concerns:

Gretchen Baut (friend of the Silers – cancer and kidney problems)
Jim Beougher (advanced cancer – uncle of Tony Lawrence)
Audrey Burnett
Leona Browning (mother of Denise Pugh)
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)
Bob Drewyore (son of Bette Richards)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit’s niece)
Cassy Emery (juvenile rheumatoid arthritis)
Jeannie Etzler (daughter of Warren Summersett)
Vernon Hobbs
Margaret Keltner (mother of Jan Jones)
Amanda Owens Lamb (granddaughter of Dave & Jean Owens)
Betty Lloyd
James Marshall (mysterious ailment)
Audrey McCollow (cancer)
Tim Morris (son of Hilda Morris)
Ione Owens
Nicolas Poling (grandson of Charlie & Barb Good)
Aimee Schulte (friend of Sarah Kimmet)
Jesse (mother with drug addictions, needs God’s strength)
Joyce Profit (heart problems)
Evelyn Pugh (healing of her pelvis break)
Linda Howell (Jeff Coil’s sister – back and heart healing)
Paula Klein (friend of Evelyn Martz – cancer)
Mildred Giesler (friend of Evelyn Martz – cancer)
Jennifer Pugh

Serving our Country:

Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Pete McCollow (U.S. Marine Corps)

Updated Address:

Evelyn Pugh
11300 Circle Drive, Room 403
St. Marys, OH 45885

Rev. Thomas Emery
“Fertile Ground” Matthew 13:1-9, 25-30
Salem Presbyterian Church
Sunday, July 13, 2014

Have you ever wondered, “Why don’t most people who hear the gospel become a Christian? Why don’t most people read the Bible, believe it, and have it change their lives? Why don’t most people believe in Jesus?” Now, thankfully, Jesus told a parable to answer all of those questions. In fact, it is one of the most well-known parables in the entire Bible. It is known as the Parable of the Sower, but it could just as easily be called the parable of the soils of the heart.

TEACHING POINTS

Teaching Point One: *The Stubborn Heart is the one who does not understand the Word of the Kingdom.* The evil one comes and snatches away even the little bit of seed that is sown in the heart.

Teaching Point Two: *Shallow Hearts hear the Word and receive it with joy, but because this group has no root, the Word only endures awhile.* When tribulation comes, the members of this group immediately stumble.

Teaching Point Three: *The Strangled Heart is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the faithfulness to the Word.*

Teaching Point Four: *Surrendered Hearts are the good and fertile ground who hears the Word and understands it.*

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

“But as for the seed sown on good soil, this is the person who hears the word and understands. He bears fruit, yielding a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown” (Matthew 13:23 NET).

ACTION POINT

Four kinds of soil, says Jesus, are four kinds of people who have been culturally conditioned to resist the message of God’s grace: two who have heard the message, but have never given themselves completely to it; those who have heard it, but have too many other concerns to focus on God, and finally those who hear the Word, apply it to their lives, and become fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Which kind are you? What changes do you need to make for the rest of your life? Certainly, we need to read God’s Holy Word and pray over it. Further, we need to be open to God’s surprises and new insights that He has in store for us as we grow and stretch beyond our present level of understanding.