

Salem Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 6, 2015
2nd Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: LaDonna Allenbaugh



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Catie Emery

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship

Luke 1:68-79

932

*Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

92

Advent Candle – Peace

The Lloyds

Prayer of Confession: **Holy and loving God, we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light; we have been proud of our accomplishments, and despaired over our shortcomings. Smooth down the mountains of our pride, and lift up the valleys of our doubts. Open a path in the wilderness of our lives, that we might find our way to You again. Refine us, and prepare us once again for life in Your Kingdom. Hear our prayer, O Lord. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.** *(Let us now have a moment of silence to offer our personal prayers of confession).*

Assurance of Pardon

Response

Glory Be to the Father

Inside Front Cover

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

Prayer Response

The Lord’s Prayer

Special Music

Heather McClure

Scripture Readings

Philippians 1:3-11

1068

Luke 3:2-6, 10-14

934

A Time with the Children

*Hymn

The First Noel

91

Sermon

“Less of Me, More of Him”

Rev. 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

Angels We Have Heard on High

89

*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 given to the glory of God by the David and Carla Breese Family.

Financial Update:

Needed Weekly:	\$2,067.00	Needed to Date:	\$101,283.00
Rec’d 11-29-15:	\$17,029.30	Rec’d to Date:	\$94,764.30



December 6, 2015

- Today:** 12-06-15
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Ross & Alyssa Evans)
10:30 AM Advent Breakfast / No Sunday School
- Sunday:** 12-13-15
9:30 AM Christmas Program (nursery with Toby and Elizabeth Adkins)
No Sunday School
- Sunday:** 12-20-15
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Dave & Carla Breese)
10:45 PM Sunday School
- Thursday:** 12-24-15
10:00 PM Christmas Eve Service / Communion

Announcements:

The **Salvation Army** has requested our church to collect **450 boxes of brownie mix** which you can place on the table by the elevators. To date, we have collected **256 brownie mixes** for the Salvation Army. Next week, is the end of the collection. Thank you, for your generosity this Christmas season.

An **Advent Breakfast** will follow the morning service today.

Senior Choir practice is on Sunday, **December 13 at 8:30 am.**

Communion will be served at the Christmas Eve service.

We still have **Salem Church Christmas ornaments**. They are \$12.00. See Ann Rees to obtain one.

Once again, we are decorating the church with **poinsettias**. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia(s), see Carla or Lisa. They are **\$5.00 each**.



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

www.SalemChurch.cc | 419-667-4142 | P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894

Rev. Thomas Emery
“Less of Me, More of Him” Luke 3:2-14
Salem Presbyterian Church
December 6, 2015

John the Baptist was accused by the Jewish leaders of his day of tearing down the establishment teachings of the religious leaders. John shifted the chief requirements from legalistic observances to moral duties. He required his followers to repent of their sins and do deeds of love and mercy to the poor. He declared that the evidence of right relations with God would be the act of sharing extra possessions with the needy and bread with the hungry. “If you have two shirts, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry.” Do we have extra possessions that others need? Do we see the hungry around us? John’s change of spiritual values gained the fatal hatred of those in high places.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *John’s message was to prepare yourself, because soon the Messiah is coming.* That was the heart of his message. One is coming after John who was before John. One is coming who is superior to John.

POINT TWO – *Prepare the way by repenting.* We need to look at our own behavior.

POINT THREE – *When you have truly repented and become baptized, you are ready for the Messiah.* God entered the manger of Bethlehem in order to save God’s people from their sins. When we receive that love, that grace, and that peace, we are empowered to live new lives.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

¹⁶ *John answered their questions by saying, “I baptize you with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I’m not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire...” (Luke 3:16 NLT).*

ACTION POINT

John called for "fruits," - deeds and actions in our daily life that show we have repented. Examine your own sharing; it is a chief sign of being in right relations with God and in right relations with your brother. "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise" (Luke 3:11). This shows the kind of character God wants in His followers and what the true requirements of obedience are. Are you showing fruits that show you have truly repented; are you sharing with others or holding tight to all you own?

Prayer Concerns:

Norma Adams (diabetic issues)
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)
Ralph Du Cheney (father of Stacia Profit)
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit’s niece)
Hope Eutsler (leukemia)
Eric Fancher (chemotherapy – son of Rev. Jon & Mary Fancher)
Bev Hefner (aunt of Jenny Pugh)
Melanie Huddleston (cancer – sister of Kim Coil)
Jesse (seeking help from heroin addiction)
Betty Lloyd (broken hip)
Eileen Lucier (cancer treatment)
James Marshall (mysterious ailment)
Evelyn Pugh
Marjorie Rhoades (leg pains)
Mike Rowland (diagnosed with brain tumor)
Dave Slygh (organ transplant problems)
John Smith (house lost to fire)
John Stutz
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren Summersett)
Kevin Thatcher (ALS)
Steve West (son-in-law of Jeff & Marcia Pollock)
Noah Wyatt (recovering from surgery – son of Stuart Wyatt)

Serving our Country:

Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Pete McCollow (U.S. Marine Corps)
Will Morrison (U.S. Army Reserves)

Condolences

The family of Jay Mollenkopf (cancer – nephew of Doris Price)

Birthdays This Week:

12/8 Paige McClure
12/9 Jason Lloyd
12/13 Marilyn Stockton

Anniversaries:

12/16 Kent & Heather McClure

If you have a prayer request, please write it down and leave it in the offering plate or send an email to secretary@salemchurch.cc so that we can have a contact person to follow up and to insert the prayer request with the correct spelling and details. Thank you!