

# Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, Sept 3rd, 2017, 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: LaDonna Allenbaugh

The flowers are given to the glory of God Tuzz & Liz Hobbs



Prelude  
Lighting of the Candles  
Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b 544

\*Hymn: Huddersfield *Welsh hymnal*, 18/19

Prayer of Confession: **God of Fire, You are a force beyond our human understanding, that offers an invitation to draw closer, and marking us as Your own. Yet, there are times when we choose to ignore Your voice, and listen instead to our own needs and desires, and those that challenge our faith from within the world. Forgive us for those times; when we have ignored the needs of others; when we have failed to place our feet upon Your path, and when we allow the earthly voice to distract us from Your call. Loving Lord, in Your forgiveness, offer again Your invitation, to know Your love, to be loved, and to respond to Your call. We pray in the Name of Christ. 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 Sheila Collins

Scripture Readings \*Exodus 3:1-15 49  
Matthew 16:21-28 894  
Romans 12:9-21 1034

Time for Children

\*Hymn: Groeswen *Welsh hymnal*, 42

Sermon: **"An Encounter with a Burning Bush"** 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 our tithes and offerings*

\*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn: Cwm Rhondda *Welsh hymnal*, 40

\*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.*



### Financial Update:

Needed Weekly: \$1,934.00 Needed to Date: \$67,690.00  
Rec'd 08-27-17: \$2,084.80 Rec'd to Date: \$67,130.64

**Sunday:** 09-03-17  
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Ross & Alyssa Evans)  
Peace Offering  
10:45 AM Sunday School  
4-6 PM Light meal served prior to Gymanfa Ganu  
7:00 PM Gymanfa Ganu

**Sunday:** 09-10-17  
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Toby & Elizabeth Adkins))  
10:45 AM Sunday School  
5:00 PM Session Meeting

**Announcements:**

Adult Sunday school will take place 15 minutes after the service.

The Peacemaking offering will go to the Spencerville Food Bank.

Please join the **\*\*Card shower\*\*** for Dorothea Plikerd for her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Her new address is Roselawn, 420 E Fourth St., Spencerville, OH 45887. Please participate by sending out a birthday card.

Drive Your Tractor to Church is on September 17; there will be an informal Meal served following the worship service.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the September newsletter. Submit them to [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc).

**Upcoming Birthdays**

3<sup>rd</sup>-Pete McCollow  
4<sup>th</sup>-Katie McClure

4<sup>th</sup>-Claudia LeValley  
11<sup>th</sup>-Landon Price

**Upcoming Anniversaries**

8<sup>th</sup>-Paul & Doris Price

11<sup>th</sup>-Doug & Jan Jones



*Salem Presbyterian Church*

Venedocia, Ohio | September 3, 2017

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

[www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc) | [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc)

**Prayer Concerns:**

Elizabeth Adkins (liver issue)  
Violet Ashton  
Matt Blackmore (recovering from a stroke)  
Leona Browning  
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)  
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)  
Doris Evans (cancer)  
Colin Good (diagnosed with emphysema – son of Charlie Good)  
Larry Howell (St. Rita's hospital)  
Linda Howell  
Jeremy Hughes (recovering from MRSA)  
Noell Hunter (Type 1 diabetes)  
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)  
Betty Lloyd  
Elizabeth Markus (depression & salvation)  
Janet Mohr  
Marian Morris  
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)  
Dorothea Plikerd  
Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)  
Lewis Price (bladder cancer, stones, Paul Price's brother)  
Joyce Profit (cataract surgery)  
Bob Pugh (arm healing)  
Randy Richards (Lutheran hospital-mowing accident)  
George Siler (physical therapy)  
Bill Stewart (brother of Kim Coil)  
Keith Stoller (surgical complications)  
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)  
Warren Summersett (cancer)  
Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)  
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)

**Serving our Country:**

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)  
Nick Fuller (U.S. Air Force)  
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)  
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)  
Pete McCollow (U.S. Marine Corps)

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Rev. Thomas Emery  
*“An Encounter with a Burning Bush” Exodus 3:1-15*  
Salem Presbyterian Church  
September 3, 2017

Neither prior faith nor any other personal ability had the slightest part to play in getting a person ready who was chosen by Yahweh for His calling. In our passage, the way God called Moses’ is common in Scripture and our lives. God comes into our lives, usually uninvited, surprisingly invading someone’s life. Then, God asks for something huge. We humans respond with an argument why it won’t work, i.e., Moses is a poor speaker, Jeremiah is too young, Isaiah is not holy enough, Jonah hates the proposed recipients of God’s mercy, and Mary is a virgin. But God gave us His divine reassurance.

### TEACHING POINTS

*First, God calls us.*

*Second, God isn’t looking for ability, but for our availability.*

*Third, God has a plan in action for our good.*

### THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

*2There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up (Exodus3:2 NLT).*

### ACTION POINT

Apparently, God chooses people because they don’t have the gifts or important abilities. God usually just picks average people. It’s about the hand of God, not us. As long as I’m the focus of things, I’ll never discover that mere availability can be the gateway to the astonishing. This text tells about God, and it is God that our lives need to be centered around. God is the one who initiates things to happen. It is God who hears, cares, and then comes down to us and takes on flesh in Jesus. Why not open yourself to God and tell Him. “Here I am, use me, God, to build Your kingdom.”

Rev. Thomas Emery  
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