

Salem Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 24, 2017
4th Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: LaDonna Allenbaugh



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Pugh Family

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship

Psalm 96

539

*Hymn

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

90

Prayer of Confession: **God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ You came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted the Good News to be good. We have closed our eyes to Your glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of Your grace, and live in the truth of Jesus Christ. We pray in the Name of Jesus 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

*Hymn

Noel (verses 1,2,5,6)

91

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 92-7

624

Luke 2:1-14

933

Titus 2:11-14

1087

A Time with the Children

*Hymn

What Child Is This?

94

Sermon

“Unto Us a Child Is Born”

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

O Come, All Ye Faithful

100

*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 Gloria Leiter



Today: 12-24-17
9:30 AM Worship (Nursery not staffed)
10:00 PM Christmas Eve Service / Communion

Thursday: 12-31-17
9:30 AM Worship (Nursery-Toby & Elizabeth Adkins)

Announcements:

Communion will be served at the Christmas Eve service.

No Women's' Group till January 2, 2018. No Sunday school till January 7, 2018.

Please sign up on the new 2018 Flower calendar.

The boxes with offering envelopes can be found on the white table in the prayer room. Please sign your name beside the box number you are taking for the year 2018.

Once again, we have decorated the church with **poinsettias**. If you donated flowers, and want to take them home, they need to be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service or after church on December 31st. Any flowers left in January will be donated.

Financial Updates:

Needed Weekly:	\$1,934.00	Needed to Date: \$96,700.00
<u>Rec'd 12-10-17:</u>	<u>\$1,740.87</u>	<u>Rec'd to Date: \$98,757.43</u>
Needed Weekly:	\$1,934.00	Needed to Date: \$98,634.00
<u>Rec'd 12-17-17:</u>	<u>\$2,059.63</u>	<u>Rec'd to Date: \$100,817.06</u>



Upcoming Birthdays:

23rd-Jeff Owens
30th-Isaiah Pugh

24th-Mary Ellen Lloyd

Upcoming Anniversaries:

28th-Doug & Marylin Strickler



Salem Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve Service

Salem Presbyterian Church | December 24, 2017
www.SalemChurch.cc | 419-667-4142 | P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894
Contact Secretary: Secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Elizabeth Adkins (liver issue)
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Doris Evans (cancer)
Larry Howell
Linda Howell
Tim Hurbert (cancer in lungs & pancreas-friend of Barb Good)
Jan Jones (health Issues)
Paula Jones (healing from fall)
Sami Jones (health issues)
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)
Becky Martz (health problems)
Janet Mohr
Marian Morris
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)
Kim Owens
Dorothea Plikerd
Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)
Lewis Price (bladder cancer, stones, Paul Price's brother)
Joyce Profit
Karen Pugh
Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)
Randy Richards (mowing accident)
Laura Saylor (Viral Meningitis, wife of Pastor Mike Saylor)
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)

***Condolences to the family of Betty Lloyd**

***Condolences to the Tex Rider family for the loss of his daughter Melonie Rider**

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
“Unto Us a Child Is Born” Isaiah 9:1-7
Salem Presbyterian Church
December 24, 2017

The context is the events that occurred in fulfillment of the judgment for the Hebrew’s disobedience to God’s commands. In 733 BC, the Assyrians besieged Damascus and invaded the region of Galilee, including Zebulun and Naphtali, to add them into their kingdom (2 Kings 15:29). “Gloom” and “distress” resulted from foreign oppression and the Hebrew separation from the covenantal love of God. But Isaiah prophesied that the Lord would forgive them and graciously turn their disgrace into glory. How? By the coming of the Messiah (9:1–7). The Messiah will free His people from their enemies. The Child is God’s gift to humanity’s predicament. He is fully human (“a child,” “born,” and “a son”), but He is also divine, with all the perfections of kingship in Himself: supernatural wisdom, might, and peace. This Son will reign forever in justice, righteousness, and peace. The certainty of His kingdom is guaranteed by “the zeal of the Lord” (9:7).

TEACHING POINTS

First. God entered the world as a tiny babe to be our Savior.

Second. In this Child, we see God's loving goodness.

Third. This child guides us through our dark world.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6 NLT).

ACTION POINT

When the storms about us are swirling, and the winds of confusion are blowing, there's a person who we can look to for guidance. There is a little child called "The Rock of Ages" that can lead us to safety. His Name is Jesus. What Child is this? That Child is God's gift given to you by special delivery, wrapped up in love. You can know Him personally as the Son of Man, Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Savior of the world. He came to earth for a relationship with you. Why not turn to Him today to know His love for you.

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