

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, Jan 14th, 2018, 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

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 139:1-6, 13-18 566

*Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God 18

Prayer of Confession: **O God, we confess that so many voices often compete for our attention that Your Word is hard for us to hear. Forgive us, as You have called us to be prophetic witnesses and to use our gifts to serve You, and we have not heard, or have been unwilling to respond. Holy Spirit, You empower us to recognize and to respond to the invitation of Jesus to follow Him, even when that means travelling on unknown and unfamiliar paths. Merciful God, take from us all that hinders our hearing Your voice and fill us anew with the Holy Spirit that we may joyfully respond to Jesus' call on our lives. 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 Una VanWynsberghe

Scripture Readings *1 Samuel 3:1-20 244
 John 1:43-51 967
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 1041

Time for Children

Installation of Officers

Hymn: Love Divine 2

Sermon: *"Hearing God"* 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: How Great Thou Art 37

*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:	\$1,927.00	Needed to Date:	\$1,927.00
Rec'd 01-07-18:	\$1,347.10	Rec'd to Date:	\$1347.10

Sunday: **01-14-18**
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow)
10:45 AM Installation of Officers
5:00 PM Sunday School
Trustee Meeting

Tuesday: **01-16-18**
7:00 PM Teens for Christ (Spencerville)

Sunday: **01-21-18**
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Denise Pugh)
10:45 AM Reports due to Auditors
Sunday School

Wednesday: **01-24-18**
6:00 PM Potato Supper
7:00 PM Prayer Service

Announcements:

The **Women's Bible Study** is cancelled until better weather in March.

The **Children of Trauma** training in Van Wert is canceled due to expected weather conditions. It is RESCHEDULED for February 24, 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 take for the year 2018.

The **Teens for Christ** meeting is on Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Spencerville Nazarene Church.

Adult Sunday school will begin again today. Today's topic is an introduction and discussion of the Alpha series entitled "**Is There More to Life Than This.**" We will openly discuss our own questions and doubts about God and our own faith. If you grew up in the church, it is a way to make your faith your own.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the February newsletter. Submit them to secretary@saalemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

16th-Rob Breese

16th-Liz Hobbs



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 14, 2018

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@saalemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Peggy Burnett
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Doris Evans (cancer)
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)
Bill Harmon (cancer)
Larry Howell
Linda Howell
Bob Hundley (cancer)
Tim Hurbert (cancer in lungs & pancreas-friend of Barb Good)
Jan Jones (health Issues)
Paula Jones (healing from fall)
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)
Bob Louth
Becky Martz (health problems)
Janet Mohr
Marian Morris
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)
Kim Owens
Dorothea Plikerd
Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)
Joyce Profit
Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)
Randy Richards (mowing accident)
Julie Sheets (lung cancer)
Bobbie Spyres
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)
Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)

***Condolences to the Jim O'Neill family**

Serving our Country:

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)
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
“Hearing God” 1 Samuel 3:1-20
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 14, 2018

In our passage, Eli’s blindness mirrors the situation in Israel under his and his sons’ leadership; prophetic visions are rare. By way of contrast, Samuel is close to the Lord; he even sleeps in the tabernacle near the ark, the earthly symbol of God’s presence. The ark is kept in the inner sanctuary, at the rear of the tabernacle proper, while Samuel is sleeping in the nave or main area. There is a contrast between Samuel, who is “lying down” in his usual place near God’s presence, and Eli’s sons, who “slept” with the women serving at the tent of meeting. Israel was in a spiritually dark period when divine revelation was rare. The lamp points to the dawning of a new day when the one sleeping nearby will dispel darkness nearby.

TEACHING POINTS

First. The Lord is willing to revive his broken relationship with His people through those who honor Him.

Second. In an era when “everyone does as they saw fit” (Judg. 21:25), God will respond appropriately to judge the wicked.

Third. Could there be many people, including many adults in church, who have studied about God, but do not know God? Maybe it’s because we have not been listening to God’s voice.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

And the LORD came and called as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel replied, “Speak, your servant is listening” (1 Samuel 3:10).

ACTION POINT

This is a story about honoring God and experiencing spiritual renewal. The Lord praises those who honor Him but rejects those who despise Him. The Lord rejected Eli’s house, but the Lord chose Samuel. Jesus warned the religious officials of His day that honoring God is not mere lip service and adherence to human rules, but rather deep loyalty (Matt. 15:8; Mark 7:6). No one can honor the Father without honoring Jesus (John 5:23). Those who serve, and therefore acknowledge Jesus, will be accepted by the Father (12:26). In this passage, it shows that we honor the Lord by abstaining from sexual immorality (1 Cor. 6:12–20) and by generously sharing our material wealth with those who are in need (2 Cor. 8:19; Gal. 6:10). Why not open your heart to God today? Let us be open to God's call to do whatever it is that God’s Word asks of us.

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