

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 21st, 2018, 3rd 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 62:5-12 515
*Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past 10

Prayer of Confession: **Holy Fountain of Forgiveness, the tale of Jonah reminds us of Your never-ending love for all creation. May we be like the people of Nineveh, who were able to acknowledge their sin and open their eyes to Your healing presence. Though You stand ready to forgive our sin, we find it easier to bite our tongues, clench our fists, and cling to our hurts and resentments, rather than, let You open our hearts. We trust You, Holy One, and we pour out our hearts to You. Receive the pain that lurks in our humanity, as we offer up what we have hidden from ourselves and from the world— those words and deeds that keep us separated from Your love. 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 Llanfair *Welsh Hymnal, 44*

Scripture Readings *Jonah 3:1-10 845
Mark 1:14-20 910
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 1042

Time for Children

Hymn: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty 13

Sermon: "A Fish Story" 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: 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.*



Financial Update:

Needed Weekly: \$1,927.00 Needed to Date: \$3,854.00
Rec'd 01-14-18: \$1,034.30 Rec'd to Date: \$2,381.40

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

Tuesday: **01-23-18**
7:00 PM Teens for Christ (Spencerville)

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

Sunday: **01-28-18**
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd)
10:45 AM Reports will be distributed for review
Sunday School

Announcements:

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

The **Teens for Christ** meeting is on Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Spencerville Nazarene Church. If you need a ride, call Pastor Tom to carpool

Thad Summersett is fighting cancer again. If you would like to send him a card, here is his address: 605 S Barrington Ave., Apt 38, Los Angeles, CA 90049

The **Prayer Service** is this Wednesday at 7 pm. The Potato supper is cancelled this year.

This year, we are continuing the **Lenten Season Pulpit Exchange** of Spencerville area churches. Our Pastor will present at 7 pm, February 25th, at Agape Fellowship Church at 9250 Armstrong Rd. in Spencerville, Ohio (just off 117). We are hosting at Salem Rev. Jim Fletcher, of First Baptist Church, on March 4th with a light meal reception to follow.

Adult Sunday School will begin again today. Today's topic is a discussion of the Alpha series entitled "Who Is Jesus." We will openly discuss our questions and doubts about God and our own faith.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

21st-Paul Price 24th-Tim Price
25th-Bill McGee 27th-Keven Fair 28th-Jean Owens



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 21, 2018

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@saalemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Tim Allen (cancer)
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)
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 family of Martha Walker (Droll)**

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
“A Fish Story” Jonah 3:1-10
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 21, 2018

Though undeserving, Jonah has been delivered from death by God’s miracle utilizing a fish. The Book of Jonah is a lesson concerning God’s free grace and a portrayal of God’s incredible patience. As Jonah confesses in 4:2, Yahweh is a God who is “*slow to anger*,” and it is amazing that God says nothing to Jonah in 3:1–2 by way of punishment or warning. Instead, God calls Jonah again, using the same words that he used in verse one of the Book: “*Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city...*” The primary emphasis of verse 10 is on God’s incredible mercy. This capital city of the most wicked nation in the eighth-century BC ancient Near East is forgiven by God and spared punishment for its cruelty toward others. God’s love extends not just to His chosen people, but to the wicked Ninevehs of the world. That is the fact that the author of Jonah wants Israel—and us—to ponder its truth.

TEACHING POINTS

First. God has universal love for all people.

Second. You can't outrun God.

Third. Repentance leads to real change.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened. (Jonah 3:10 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Jonah obeys Yahweh as a grateful response to the deliverance that God has afforded him in chapter 2. God’s deliverance provides no “cheap forgiveness” that allows its recipient simply to bask in the salvation won. Rather, along with the grace, there is always the demand of God’s expectation of an obedient response, because God saves you for a purpose. God has a purpose for this world, and God saves to further that plan. As Psalm 130:4 puts it, “*But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared*” (ESV). God expects the obedient response of those who are saved. Are you open to a change of plans? You've been walking in your way. Are you willing to step along in His way? Only a willingness to change directions, and an invitation to Christ to come into your life, can do that.

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