

Salem Presbyterian Church  
Sunday, May 15, 2022, 5th Sunday of Easter

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Beth Conn

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Marilyn Foust



Prelude & Lighting of the candles

Pastoral Welcome and Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 148 571

\*Hymn **May Jesus Be Praised** 73

Prayer of Confession: Master, Savior, Shepherd, Messiah—we know You by many Names, Lord. **Your presence fills our lives—all that we are and all that we have comes from You.** All that You do declares Your love for us. **Yet when trouble comes, when adversity plagues us, we wonder where You are.** We even wonder who You are. **How quickly we forget that You are always with us.** Dispel our gloom and despair. **Change our garments of darkness into robes of dazzling light.** Spread Your table before us and feed us from Your hand. **Lead us in the paths of righteousness. It is in the Name of Jesus that we pray. Amen.** *(Take a moment of silent 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**

Scripture Readings **John 13:31-35 982**  
**Acts 11:1-18 1003**  
**Revelation 21-1-8 1132**

Time for Children

\*Hymn To God Be the Glory 449

Sermon **"Heaven Is for Real but So Is Hell"** 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.**

\*Prayer of Dedication for the Offertory

\*Response **Praise God**

Inside Front Cover

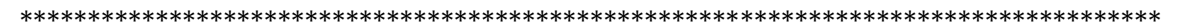
\*Hymn **Deemster** *Welsh Hymnal, 29*

\*Taking the Light into the World

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response **Three Fold Amen** Inside Back Cover

*\*Those who can are invited to stand.*



**Financial Update:**

Needed Weekly: \$2,126.78 Needed to Date: \$40,408.74  
Rec'd 05-08-22 \$1,333.00 Rec'd to Date: \$50,628.79

**Sunday:** 05-15-22 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
 9:30 AM Worship with Pastor Tom Emery  
 (nursery with Gwenda Blackmore)  
 5:00 PM Trustee Meeting

**Tuesday:** 05-17-22  
 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study - Cafeteria at V.W. Hospital  
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

**Thursday:** 05-19-22  
 Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting at the Church on the  
 Horizon, 634 N. Washington, Van Wert.

**Sunday:** 05-22-22 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
 9:30 AM Worship with Pastor Tom Emery  
 (nursery with Mark & Missy Zielke)  
 10:45 AM Session Meeting

**Announcements:**

The **Women's Bible Study** will continue to be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM till May 24th; this is the last one for the summer.

**Landon Price's graduation party** is on May 22, from 5 to 8 at the Middle Point Community building. This is an open house.

The **Senior Luncheon** will be held at noon on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Come enjoy food, fellowship, and white elephant bingo at the Lion's Club.

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

**Upcoming Birthdays**

15 <sup>th</sup> Dane Ebel	16 <sup>th</sup> Chance Mosier	17 <sup>th</sup> Mary Jane Haines
17 <sup>th</sup> Delayna Profit	17 <sup>th</sup> Stacia Profit	19 <sup>th</sup> Holden Price
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dawson Kimmet	23 <sup>rd</sup> Carolyn Girod	25 <sup>th</sup> Taylor Hoehn

**Upcoming Anniversaries**

15<sup>th</sup> Steve & Lindsay Richards    19<sup>th</sup> Bart & Rosemary Strick    20<sup>th</sup> Mark & Messy Zielke



# Revelation 21:1-8

## Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | May 15, 2022

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

Secretary: [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.cc) 419-303-2032 (call/text)

Website: [www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc)

**Prayer Concerns:**

Kenzie Bay  
Kathy Comer  
Jim Davis (cancer)  
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma) LaDonna's stepdaughter  
Andrew Emery (blood clots)  
Pastor Tom Emery  
Marjorie Eutsler  
Deb Fair (cancer)  
Nikki Ford (surgery & funds for surgery)  
Shana Fryer  
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)  
Brett Hammons  
Jane Harter  
Jerry Holscher  
Dale Kiesza (leg operation)  
Ann King (cancer)  
Claudia LeValley (cancer)  
LuAnn (family issues)  
John & Mary Ellen Lloyd  
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)  
Anne Morris  
David Morris (Zeb)  
Steve Peters (surgery & recovery)  
Paul & Doris Price  
Clarence Ringwald (hospice)  
Marjorie Rhodes  
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)  
Stacy Smith (Covid)  
Maxine Stewart (hospice)  
Rosa Wollenhaupt  
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

**Serving Our Country**

Gyer Blackmore (U.S. Army)  
Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marine Corps)  
Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)  
Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)  
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)  
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)

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**Rev. Thomas Emery**  
**“Heaven Is for Real but So Is Hell” Revelation 21:1-8**  
**Salem Presbyterian Church**  
**May 15, 2022**

In our passage of Revelation 21:1–8, John describes the vision of the eternal heaven. John views a “new heaven and new earth” without any sea (a symbol of evil). John also sees the New Jerusalem, prepared as a beautiful Bride (21:1–2). The City and Bride are symbols of God’s people among whom God will live with for eternity. This fulfills God’s promise to live with His children and take away their pain and suffering (21:3–4). God is making all things new and providing the satisfying water of life (21:5–6). At the judgment, the overcomers will enjoy God’s presence and His eternal blessings, while the wicked will be assigned to the Lake of Fire, the second death (21:7–8).

### **TEACHING POINTS**

**POINT ONE** – If their name is found in the Book of Life, the overcomers will be in the presence of God, while the wicked will be assigned to the Lake of Fire. This life determines where you are headed.

**POINT TWO** – The new heaven and new earth will become the perfect environment, as a new Genesis.

**POINT THREE** – We are promised a new world where all tears, suffering, pain, and death are gone. Sin will be gone forever!

### **THIS WEEK’S MAIN VERSE**

<sup>7</sup> *All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.* <sup>8</sup> *“But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death” (Revelation 21:7-8 NLT).*

### **ACTION POINT**

One could easily argue that God’s primary goal and the objective depicted in the entire Bible, is for God to live among His children in the new creation. God’s heart is pure love. He doesn’t just want people who will worship Him even though He deserves it; He wants people who will love (and worship) Him in response to His character of perfect love. The Westminster Shorter Catechism says, “Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.” However, there is more to the “enjoy Him forever” part than we realize. If God has gone to this much trouble to live with us in the new creation, then we should know in our deepest being that He wants to live in intimate fellowship with us now. This passage must be heard as an expression of God’s great love for us (see Romans 8:18ff for more understanding). Why not repent and begin a deep loving relationship with God right now? Why not be an overcomer?

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If you give a boy a baseball, he will want a bat to go with it.  
You'll buy him the best bat you can find, and then he will probably want a bucket of balls and a glove and some cleats too.

Then, he will probably spend hours begging you to go out in the yard to play with him, even though you may want to sit on the couch and watch tv. He will insist. And his insistence will win.  
And when a boy gets a jersey, he will need pants and socks and a belt to go with it. And a TEAM.....  
And then life as you know it will end.

There will be no more lazy weekends watching tv. You will see more sunrises and sunsets than you ever thought possible. Every spare minute of your time will be spent hauling buckets and bags and stinky cleats and crazy boys all over town for hours to practice for a game.

THE GAME.

And your house will be a mess. And your car will be dirty. All because you gave a boy a baseball.  
Your weekends will be spent freezing or burning to death on a fold up chair. And his weekends will be spent gaining confidence and friends, and learning new skills and having fun and getting dirty.  
So dirty in fact that you will have to learn how to do laundry in a whole new way, like maybe at a carwash using the pressure washer.

And you will be there the day he hits his first homerun, his first strikeout, and his first double play. And he will make you SO proud. The other parents will congratulate you. But you feel weird saying thank you because it's not you at bat or on the mound. It's all him, you're merely the facilitator.

And right before your eyes, your little boy will be transformed from the baby who spun around with his head on the bat, (because he loves attention), into a pitcher. Because he loves attention... still.

When you give a boy a baseball, you give him more than just a ball. You give him a sport, and a talent, and hope, and dreams, and friends, a new family, a place to learn about life, room to grow as a person where he can push his limits, and bravery, and courage and Life, AND MEMORIES.  
And he will have ALL of these things, simply because you gave a boy a baseball.

Because you gave a boy a baseball, you too will develop new lifelong friendships, developed solely from the same passion for the game and love of your team. You will root together. Also, you can count on spewing PG-13 things out of your mouths together. Because you gave a boy a baseball.  
Then one day, many years from today, he will be in his room and a baseball will roll out from an old dusty batbag underneath his bed. And he will pick it up and realize instantly that when you gave that boy a baseball, you also gave him a childhood that he would never forget. And then he will hug you, and your eyes may leak - because you realize that everything YOU gave up along the way....was worth it!

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