

Salem Presbyterian Church

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Rev. Thomas Emery

Pianist: Cindy Bowsher

Flowers are given in honor of Lee and Marcile Lare by their family



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship: Psalm 40:1-11 502

*Hymn Trust and Obey 261

Prayer of Confession: Faithful God, You call us to be saints, but we are more comfortable with the role of sinner. **You call us to be Your servants, but we worry that we lack the skills to do Your work.** You put a new song of praise in our mouths, but we stumble on unfamiliar words. **You show us the work to be tackled, but we turn away defiant, insisting we have more important things to do.** Put Your song on our lips and in our hearts, and remind us of the joy that awaits us when we put our trust in You. **Guide us into the light of Your unwavering, never-ending, and grace-filled love. We pray this in Jesus' Name. Amen.** *(Let us now have a moment of silence to offer our personal prayers of confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

Response

I Love You Lord

Inside Bulletin

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

Prayer Response

The Lord's Prayer

Installation and Ordination of Officers

Scripture Readings
Isaiah 49:1-7 665
John 1:29-42 966
1 Corinthians 1:1-9 1038

Time for Children

*Hymn It Is Well with My Soul 256

Sermon

"Created for a Purpose"

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 Prayer of Dedication

*Response

Praise God

Inside Front Cover

*Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

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*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: \$2,179.63

Needed to Date: \$4,359.26

Rec'd 01-08-2023: \$1,555.00

Rec'd to Date: \$2,605.00

Sunday: 1-15-2023
 9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow*).
 Installation and Ordination of Officers
 10:45 AM Confirmation Class
 1:00 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday: 1-17-2023
 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study is at the Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria.
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study is at Salem downstairs.

Thursday: 1-19-2023
 Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting is at Trinity Friends.

Sunday: 1-22-2023
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Bob & Denise Pugh*).
 Congregational Meeting to approve the annual reports
 10:45 AM Confirmation Class

Announcements:

The **Installation and Ordination of Officers** is today. The **Confirmation Class** meets after the Service. **The Session Meeting** is at 1 PM today. A **Congregational Meeting** to approve the **Annual Report** takes place next week.

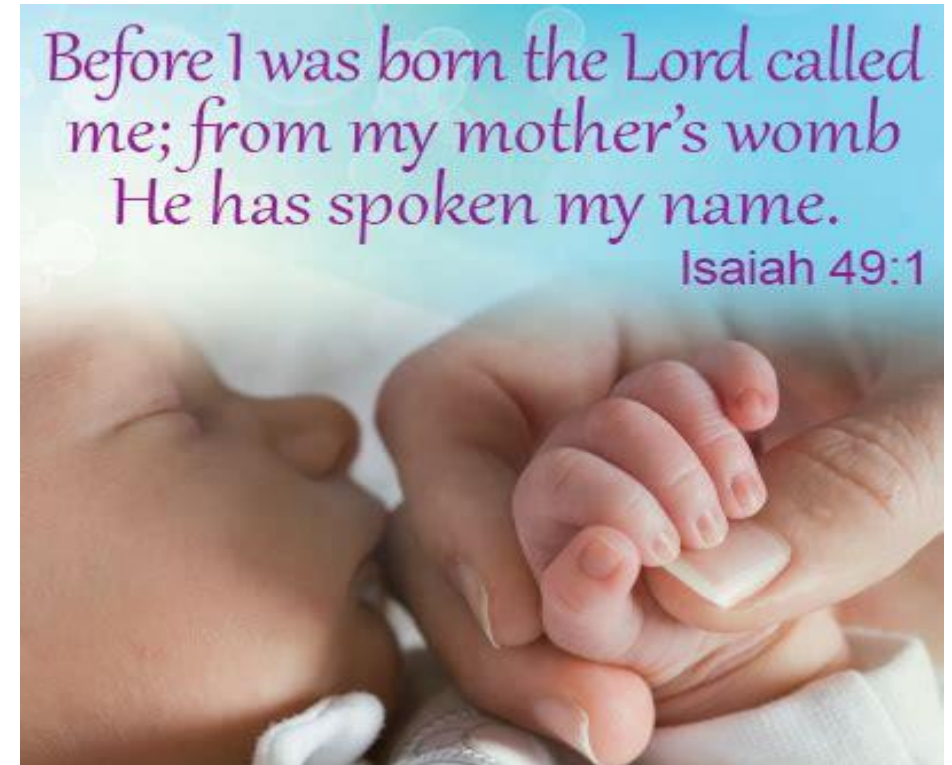
The **2023 Offering Envelope Boxes** can be found on the white table in the Prayer Room. Please sign your name beside the box number you take for the new year.

Be sure to sign up for the **2023 Flower Chart** on the back bulletin Board.

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

Upcoming Birthdays:

16th Rob Breese 16th Liz Hobbs 19th Wrettic Breese



ISAIAH 49:1-7

Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 15, 2023

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142
www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Eddie Basham (back surgery)
Jason Boyd (limited time to live - terminal cancer)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jeff Coil (open heart surgery)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Kathy Comer
Irene Cooper (In a coma after a fall)
Cindy Davis
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Nikki Ford (surgery & funds for surgery)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Mandolin Jones (cancer)
Ann King (cancer)
Becky Lee (Carpal tunnel surgery)
Joe Lemming (stroke)
John Lloyd
Steve Martz
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Wayne McMichael
David Morris (Zeb)
Todd Morris (heart surgery)
Paul & Doris Price
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Jeanette Walls (stroke)
Tori Wells (serious spine injury)
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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2nd Sunday of Epiphany
“Created for a Purpose” – Isaiah 49:1-7
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 15, 2023

Today’s Lectionary passage unit places all the attention on the Servant, Jesus, who speaks in this passage. Isaiah 49:1–4 describes the Servant’s calling from God, and 49:5–6 lays out his twofold mission: restoration for Israel and salvation for the nations/gentiles. He is to proclaim the Word, which the prophet likens to a “sharpened sword.” The sword speaks of the prophetic ministry in which the Servant, filled by the Word of the Lord, speaks that Word, which can penetrate the hearts and souls of people. The arrow, as an instrument of warfare, symbolizes God’s judgment on those who do not respond.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *We are called to be servants.*

POINT TWO – *God prepares His servants.*

POINT THREE – *There is a universal task for all God’s servants.*

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

And now the LORD speaks—the one who formed me in my mother’s womb to be his servant, who commissioned me to bring Israel back to him (Isaiah 49:5 NLT).

ACTION POINT

The contrasting themes of disgrace and delight bring a strong irony to this prophecy. The people do not realize the importance of the Servant. Their negative misperception of Him is compared with the reality of who He is and how He will save them through His suffering. These are the same themes that are characteristic of the life of Jesus Christ in the Gospels writers. God then calls on all sinners to repent and be saved (55:6–7). Considering the severe sin that Isaiah has been highlighting throughout the Book so far, one might wonder how mercy and forgiveness can now be offered. Isaiah 55:8–9, however, reminds us that God’s ways and His understanding are often above us and not easy for us to grasp. With God going the extra distance to offer salvation to you, why not accept God’s gift of salvation by getting right with God today?

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