

Salem Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday After Epiphany

Sunday, January 29, 2023

Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Beth Conn

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



Prelude
Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 15 485

*Hymn Lead Me to Calvary 124

Prayer of Confession: Merciful God, we confess our bewilderment over the presence of any wisdom, at all, in such a dreadful act as the crucifixion of Jesus. **Each year as we hear the story again, we wonder why did it have to happen? It appears that evil triumphed. But, it was an act of powerful and sacrificial love, and that in the end, good did triumph over evil, life defeated death.** And so, forgive our reluctance, O God, to proclaim with our lips and our lives that the crucified Christ is Lord of our lives. **Help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders such proclamation of our faith. In the Name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

(Take a moment of silent confession.)

Assurance of Pardon

Response I Love You Lord

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

Prayer Response The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn How Great Thou Art 37

Scripture Readings Micah 6:1-8 850
Matthew 5:1-12 880
**1 Corinthians 1:18-31 1038

Time for Children

*Hymn The Old Rugged Cross 112

Sermon "The Foolish to Shame the Wise" 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 Diadem 13

*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. **Sermon passage.*



Financial Update:

Needed Weekly:	\$2,179.63	Needed to Date:	\$8,718.52
Rec'd 01-15-23:	\$1,258.00	Rec'd to Date:	\$7,054.00

Sunday: 1-29-2023
9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd*)
10:45 AM Congregational Meeting to approve the annual reports
Confirmation Class

Tuesday: 1-31-2023
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study is at the Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria.
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study is in the basement at Salem

Thursday: 2-02-2023
Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting is at Trinity Friends.

Sunday: 2-05-2023
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans*)
10:45 AM Bring canned goods for Souper Bowl of Caring
Confirmation Class

Announcements:

A **Congregational Meeting** to approve the **Annual Report** takes place today. The **Confirmation Class** meets after the Service.

Souper Bowl of caring will be held on February 5th. Please bring canned goods

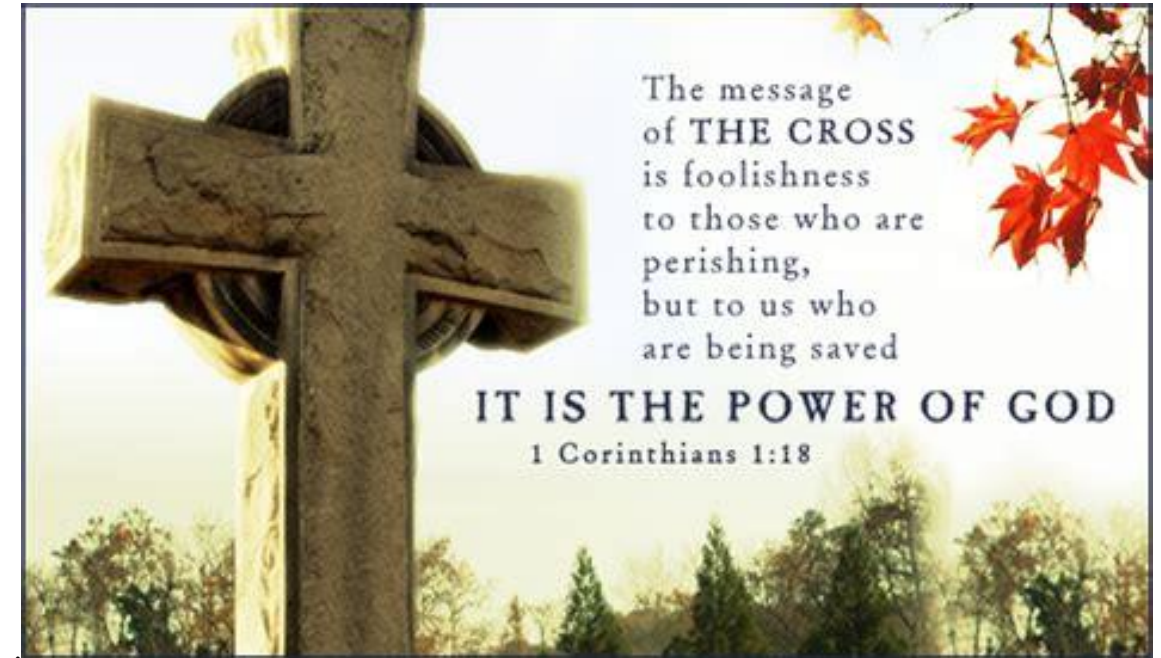
The **2023 Offering Envelope Boxes** can be found on the white table in the Prayer Room. Please sign your name beside the box number you take for the new year.

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 March newsletter. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays:

30 th Doris Price	30 th John Smith
31 st Carrie Jones	Feb. 1 st John Lloyd
2 nd Jerry Holscher	3 rd Elizabeth Holscher
	2 nd Lindsay Breese
	4 th Andrew Emery



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 29, 2023

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Edie Basham (back surgery)
Jason Boyd (limited time to live - terminal cancer)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jeff Coil (open heart surgery)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Cindy Davis
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Mandolin Jones (cancer)
John Lloyd
Steve Martz
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Wayne McMichael
David Morris (Zeb)
Paul & Doris Price
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
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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Rev. Thomas Emery
“The Foolish to Shame the Wise” 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 29, 2023

In the context of our passage, Paul was reaching out to the Corinthian church community captivated by worldliness. Paul addressed the gentiles' tendency to look for public speaking messages that were stimulating, and he addressed the Jews' seeking David's kingdom being restored. Putting these aside, Paul is warning this young community against allowing these cultural and religious expectations to overwhelm the basic, simple message of how God had been at work in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. Instead, Paul chose a seemingly irrational image as the true brand of a Christian - Christ crucified. That's all. Christ crucified!

TEACHING POINTS

Point 1 - The message of the cross is foolishness to the world.

Point 2 - The Church is also foolishness to the world.

Point 3 - It is foolish to the world that God would use you and me in His church as His central plan.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18 NLT).

ACTION POINT

The message of the cross might seem foolish to some, but it is God's supreme wisdom displayed to us. God is the source of our new life in Christ Jesus, and God enables us to be His disciples. All we must do is let ourselves be used by God.

Won't you do that - pledge to open your heart, soul, mind, and strength so God can use you and enable you to be a tool in God's hands? The challenge is to have faith and trust in God. Are you committed, and are you up to it?

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