

Salem Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 26, 2023

Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Dave VanTilburg

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Mark & Missy Zielke



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship:

Psalm 32

496

*Hymn

God of Our Fathers

532

Prayer of Confession: **Gracious God, source of all life, Lord of mercy and grace, hear our prayer.** We come before You in need of healing: the healing of our bodies and souls, the healing of our relationships, the healing of our pride and fear and apathy. **We know that with You, nothing is impossible, not even our healing - not even the restoration of the whole world.** We pray that You will heal us, that You will heal our world, so that we will be freed to serve and love and dream and be, as Christ calls us. **This we pray in Jesus' Name. 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

Time for Children

Scripture Readings

Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7

2

Matthew 4:1-11

879

Romans 5:12-19

1027

Special Music

Marea VanTilburg

*Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

358

Sermon

“Know the Goodness of 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 Prayer of Dedication

*Response

Praise God

Inside Front Cover

*Hymn

All Hail the Power

42

*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:

\$17,437.05

Rec'd 02-19-23:

\$1,756.00

Rec'd to Date:

\$27,344.00

Sunday: **02-26-2023 1st Sunday in Lent**
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Mark & Missy Zielke*)
 10:45 AM Confirmation Class

Tuesday: **02-28-2023**
 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study is at the Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study is in the downstairs at Salem

Thursday: **03-02-2023**
 Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting is at the Pentecostal Way Church at 1213 Leeson Avenue, in Van Wert.

Sunday: **03-05-2023 2nd Sunday in Lent - St. David's Day**
 9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Rex & Lisa Lloyd)
 10:45 AM St. David's Day
 meal

Announcements:

Next Sunday, March 5th is the celebration of **St. David's Day**. We will have a meal following the service. On March 5, there is no Confirmation Class.

The church will be **collecting offerings** from the heart to be given to the **Salvation Army**. There is a monthly need and your generosity is greatly needed. Each month we are collecting a different food. The food for March is pork & beans.

The March Newsletter is being sent out this week. Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the **April newsletter**. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

27th Kevin Fair

Mar 2nd Marilyn Strickler

8th John Morris



Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Salem Presbyterian Church
February 26, 2023

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

Contact Secretary: 419-303-2032 (call/text) | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Edie Basham (back surgery)
Jason Boyd (limited time to live - terminal cancer)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Cindy (Davis) Barnes
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Diana Glass (cancer)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Mandolin Jones (cancer)
Tony Kahle (leg amputation)
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
First Sunday in Lent
“Know the Goodness of God” – Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7
Salem Presbyterian Church
February 26, 2023

It started with a perfect garden and the gift of life. It began again with the gift of Jesus’ sacrifice redeeming us from Satan. So there remains the question, how will you spend your life? What is your purpose? Will you again be tricked by Satan’s voice that says, “you absolutely deserve to have it all now without effort, and you deserve a the garden and a risk-free, easy, entitled life?” Or will you invest in a relationship with a loving absolutely good God who is wiser and greater than you? In Jesus, God asks you not to go your own way but to yoke together and travel your path with Him.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *Things went downhill fast in the garden with Satan’s deception.*

POINT TWO - *Adam and Eve’s sin in the Garden began when they doubted God’s character.*

POINT THREE – *Understanding the goodness of God makes the difference between believing in God and trusting in God.*

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

¹⁵ *The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶ But the LORD God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—¹⁷ except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.” (Genesis 2:15-17 NLT).*

ACTION POINT

Why can’t we have it all? We can, but not on our own. Not without cost. We can’t create it on our own. We can’t take it and assume something that isn’t ours to take. We can’t be God. We have to let it sink in that God is God, and we are not. But we can receive the free gift of God’s love and grace. Most important, we can receive God’s invitation to enter into a relationship with Jesus, a discipleship relationship, in which we strive, and we learn, and we change, and we love. In doing this, we will truly have it all – God’s way.

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