

# Salem Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday  
Sunday, April 9, 2023

Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Dave VanTilburg

The flowers given to the glory of God by Rex & Lisa Lloyd

The lilies are given by Bill Arnold in memory of his wife Jane (Lloyd) Arnold and his in-laws Rev. Ellis Lloyd and his wife Betty



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Easter Skit

Call to Worship

26 The Resurrection

Hymnal 475

\*Hymn

He Lives

132

Prayer of Confession: Merciful God, we confess that like the disciples of old, we ran and hid, in our hearts, from the terror and sadness of the crucifixion. **We didn't want to be there.** We found ways of avoiding the scene and pretending that it was all a bad dream. **But it wasn't a dream.** Jesus our Lord was crucified. **We were numbed by the news.** But now, we have been given the most blessed gift of forgiveness for our sins; we have been given the gift of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. **New Light has shined in our deep darkness. Restore us again to Your presence.** Soften our hard hearts. **Brighten our spirits, for we ask this in the Name of the Resurrected One, Jesus Christ. 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

Scripture Readings

Matthew 28:1-10

909

Philippians 2:5-11

1069

Time for Children

\*Hymn:

Lead Me to Calvary

Hymnal 124

Sermon

"Amazing Hope"

Rev. Thomas Emery

**- The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper -**

Words of Institution: 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Congregational Prayer **Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Christ the Bread of Life: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation, Distribution, and Prayer

Offertory Dedication Prayer

\*Response

**Praise God**

Inside Front Cover

\*Hymn

**Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

Hymnal 137

\*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:

\$30,514.83

Rec'd 04-02-2023:

\$1,849.00

Rec'd to Date:

\$38,567.00

**Sunday:** **04-09-2023 Easter Sunday**  
 8:00 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Flowering of the Cross  
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Kevin & Kristen Price*)  
 5:00 PM Trustee Meeting

**Tuesday:** **04-11-2023**  
 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:** **04-13-2023**  
 Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting is at the Pentecostal Way Church at 1213 Leeson Avenue, in Van Wert.

**Sunday:** **04-16-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
 9:30 AM Worship with guest pastor Harry Tolhurst (*nursery with Toby & Elizabeth Adkins*)

**Announcements:**

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 April is ramen noodles.

The **Women's Bible Study** will begin watching and having discussions about the series, "The Chosen" on April 18. If you would like a copy of the schedule and study questions, contact Carol Emery or Liz Hobbs.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the May newsletter. Submit them to [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc). The April paper copies are on the back table and the electronic copies are on the SalemChurch.cc website for the church. Send you email request to the [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc) to be put on the email delivery list.

**Upcoming Birthdays**

12 <sup>th</sup> MaKenna Kimmet	13 <sup>th</sup> Sami Jones	16 <sup>th</sup> Bill Evans
16 <sup>th</sup> Anne Morris	20 <sup>th</sup> Kevin Matthews	22 <sup>nd</sup> Elgarda McGee



*Salem Presbyterian Church*

Venedocia, Ohio | April 9, 2023

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

[www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc) | [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc)

**Prayer Concerns:**

Edie Basham (back surgery)  
Charles Boroff (heart issue)  
Jason Boyd (limited time to live - terminal cancer)  
Dave Burnett (heart issues)  
Lynn Collins (cancer)  
Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)  
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)  
Jim Lloyd (knee surgery)  
John Lloyd  
Steve Martz  
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)  
Wayne McMichael  
David Morris (Zeb)  
Paul & Doris Price  
Jarrod Rigdon  
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)  
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

**Condolences**

to the family of Mike Wolford

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Rev. Thomas Emery  
**“Amazing Hope” Matthew 18:1-10**  
Salem Presbyterian Church  
Easter, April 9, 2023

Yes, the resurrection really did occur. There are four major pieces of evidence. First, there was the empty tomb. At least four followers saw the empty tomb and reported it. Second, there were all the appearances of the risen Christ to the women in the garden, to the disciples in the upper room, and then to more than five hundred followers at once. Third, there was the change in the attitudes of the disciples. Before the crucifixion, they acted like cowards. After the resurrection, they were ready to die for their faith. Fourth, there is the very existence of the church where the living Christ, alone, cemented their identity before the world as the people of God.

#### **TEACHING POINTS**

***Point One – The Empty Tomb Was a Surprise.***

***Point Two – God Is in Control.***

***Point Three – Easter Is a Way of Living Today.***

#### **THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

*<sup>5</sup> Then the angel spoke to the women. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying (Matthew 10:5-6 NLT).*

#### **ACTION POINT**

The women made their way to the tomb that first Easter morning. They felt the earth shake. An angel descended. The guards had vanished. And the tomb was empty. At that moment, the women realized that God had the last word. Death has been defeated. In the darkest of hours, He still was in control. That’s a good thing for us to know in our dark hours. God is still in control, and we can trust Him in all circumstances in this life and in the next.

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