

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, June 11th, 2023, 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Becky Reichard

The flowers are given to the glory of God by the family of Lee Lare



Prelude
Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 116:1-2,12-19 553

*Hymn: Ebenezer *Welsh hymnal, 11*

Prayer of Confession: Gracious God, You reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives and asked them to dream the impossible dream—that **You would transform what appears to have been a barren and lifeless situation into one overflowing with promise and hope**—and, through faith in You, they believed your promises. **Forgive us, O God, if we never get beyond thinking of Your call on our lives as an impossible dream or even as an unwelcome interruption.** Merciful God, Jesus revealed the great depth of Your love in His determination to defeat evil even when this meant giving up His own life. **Forgive us, O God, when we allow the power of evil to flourish,** because we fear that taking up one's cross would be just too costly an exercise. **Forgive us, in Jesus' Name we pray. 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 18:1-15 13
Matthew 9:35-10:8 885
Romans 6:1-11 1028

*Hymn: Open My Eyes, That I May See 163

Sermon: "Not Too Hard for 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
*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

*Hymn: Trust and Obey 261

*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: \$50,131.51
Rec'd 06-04-2023: \$960.00 Rec'd to Date: \$57,070.00

Sunday: **06-11-2023**
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Kevin & Kristen Price*)
10:45 AM Session Meeting
5:00 PM Trustee Meeting

Tuesday: **06-13-2023**
7:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria

Thursday: **06-15-2023**
Noon Van Wert County prayer meeting is at the Liberty Baptist Church 501 E 3rd St., Van Wert. All are invited to pray with other county churches.

Sunday: **06-18-2023**
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Rex & Lisa Lloyd*)

Announcements:

Today, **Session** will meet at 10:45 AM and the **Trustees** at 5 PM.

The **Ice Cream Social** will take place this weekend on Friday, June 16, from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Please sign up for volunteer positions and for food donations.

There is a **graduation party for Keaton Adkins** on June 24 from 3 to 7 PM. The Salem church is invited, and it is at his home: 15584 Ohio City-Venedocia Road, Venedocia. To RSVP call 419.236.5367

Salem is 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 collect different food. The food for June is hamburger helper boxed meals.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the next **Newsletter**. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

11 th Doris Evans	13 th Kevin Price	14 th Sandra Caffro
18 th Charlie Good	22 nd Ann Rees	25 th Tamara Mullenhour

Upcoming Anniversaries

14 th Jeff & Kim Coil	17 th Bill & Elgarda McGee	22 nd Todd & Jayne Morris
24 th Owen & Karen Pugh	25 th Rex & Lisa Lloyd	28 th Larry & Sandra Caffro



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | June 11, 2023

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)
Edie Basham (back surgery)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jason Boyd (terminal cancer)
Dave Burnett (heart issues)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid healing)
Dave Espinoza (lung transplant)
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Greg Glander
Diana Glass (cancer)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Pat Hunt (breast cancer)
Mandolin Jones (cancer)
Tony Kahle (leg amputation)
John Lloyd
Steve Martz
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Wayne McMichael
David Morris (heart issues)
David Morris (Zeb)
Kason Perez
Monica Placke
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)
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
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Rev. Thomas Emery
“Not Too Hard for God” Genesis 18:1-15
Salem Presbyterian Church
June 11, 2023

This is a joyous story. Why hadn't Abraham told Sarah about the first promise of a child? Perhaps he had simply kept quiet about it, not wanting to open old emotional wounds? But with this reaffirmation of what he had previously heard by the visiting angels, he most likely began to believe the promise of a baby, even though it made no sense. Are we like Abraham that we need to hear God speak more than once? Sarah is laughing because Abraham is 100, and she is almost 91. She has just overheard that she is going to have a child. Even though it was with the assurance of an angel who spoke, she couldn't restrain herself, and Abraham can't control himself, either. Perhaps, Abraham keeps a straight face a few seconds longer than she is able, but Abraham ends up cracking up in the laughter of joy and belief in the impossible.

TEACHING POINTS

Point One – Nothing is too hard for God.

Point Two – Miracles come through faith.

Point Three – God keeps His promises.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY PASSAGE

Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.” (Genesis 18:14 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Where does our deepest hope lie? It is in the wild laughter that rumbles through the centuries. It is the laughter of Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth, the resurrected Lazarus as well as the laughter of millions of persons over the past 2,000 years who have discovered that God is alive. God is truly at work in their lives. It is the laughter of hope during a hopeless situation, the laughter of expectation when everyone else has given up, and the laughter of astonishment at old age as we hold a baby in our arms. What a beautiful, joyful noise as Sarah laughed! Abraham and Sarah knew now in our passage, all that God wants is a trusting faith in Himself. Why not put your confidence in Jesus to lead us into that committed, joy-filled trusting relationship with God!

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