

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 17th, 2023, 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist Becky Reichard

Pianist Arlene Amstutz

The flowers are given to the glory of God for the "Miracle of Life"

by Marilyn Foust and PJ Burnett



Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21 60

*Hymn: For the Fruit of All Creation Insert

Prayer of Confession: **Lord, Your grace and mercy are ever-present in our lives. Your forgiveness is boundless in mercy, even when we fail to live in Christ-like ways. Even so, we are quick to carry a grudge— quick to find fault, quick to assign blame, and quick to harden our hearts toward others. Set us apart, loving God, to extend and model the grace You have shown us, by offering grace to others. We pray in the Name of the Christ who died so that we might fully live. 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

Matthew 18:21-35

896

Romans 14:1-12

1034

*Exodus 14:5-31

59

*Hymn: Immortal, Invisible 34

Sermon: "When Life Is Difficult, Turn to 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 Dedication

*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn: Sanctus

Welsh hymnal, 30

*Congregational Response **Three Fold Amen** Inside Back Cover

Adjournment to the front steps for the "Blessing of the Tractors" and the "Blessing of the Harvest."

*Charge and Benediction

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*



Financial Update:

Needed Weekly:	\$2,179.63	Needed to Date:	\$80,646.34
Rec'd 2023/09/10	\$2,370.00	Rec'd to Date:	\$90,564.90

Sunday: 2023- 09-17
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Dave & Carla Breese*)

Tuesday: 2023- 09-19
 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Thursday 2023- 09-21
 12:00 PM **Van Wert County prayer meeting** is at the Church on the Horizon in Van Wert.

Sunday: 2023-09-24
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Kevin & Kristen Price*)
 10:45 AM Session Meeting

Announcements:

Today, we will have a Blessing of the Harvest/Blessing of the Tractors after the service. We will also have a church potluck after the service. Thank you, to those who drove tractors today whether big or small. Also, thank you, to those who brought dishes of food to share.

The **Senior Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, September 27, at noon.

If you are interested in a **bus trip to the Ark Encounter** on September 27, contact the Council on Aging at 419-238-5011. Price is \$135 (or \$139 if using a credit card) and they will need 40 travelers to do the trip. Additional details are listed on a paper by the front door of the church.

The **Legacy Grandparenting Summit – 2023** is at the Trinity Friends Church, October 19-20. Please register as soon as possible as there are exceptional national speakers: LegacyCoalition.com/summit

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. The food for September is canned fruit.

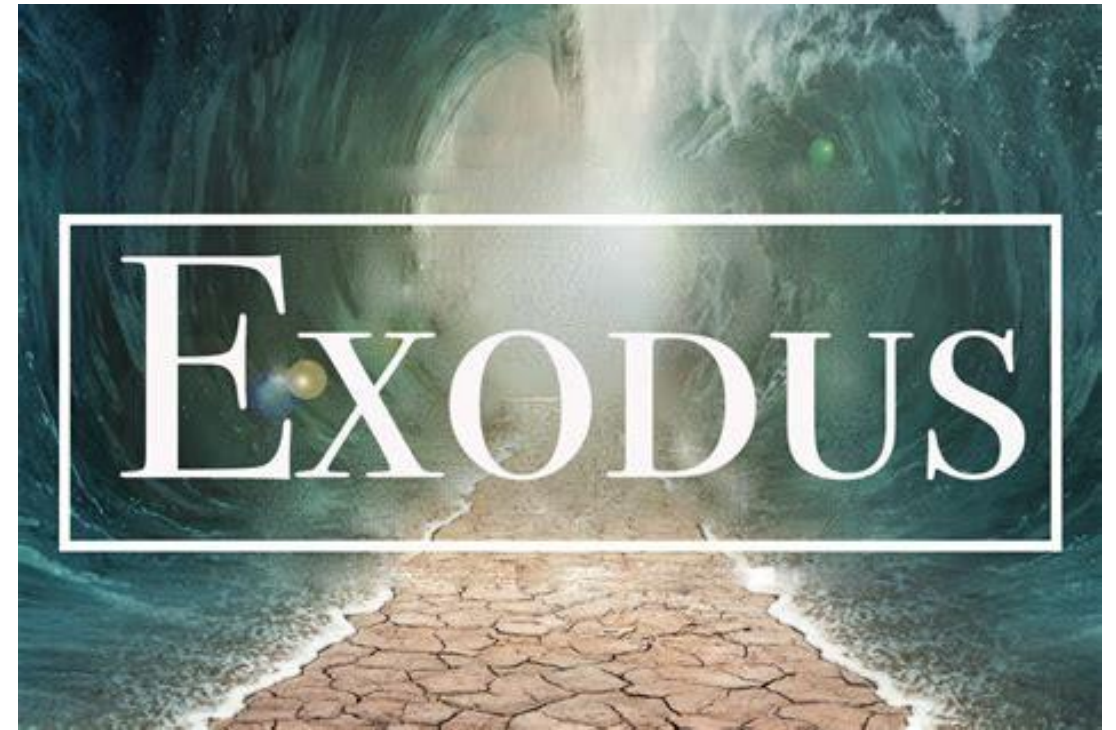
We are updating the Prayer List. Please inform Liz of changes, as we need your input.

Upcoming Birthdays:

18 th Jayne Morris	18 th Tyler McConnell	18 th Morgan McConnell
19 th Gianna Richards	20 th Megan Jones	23 rd April Ellerbrock

Upcoming Anniversaries:

28th Eric & Jen Pugh



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | September 17, 2023

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Josh Archinal (car accident-critical condition)
Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)
Edie Basham (back surgery)
Scott Basham (Bypass 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
Ellen Friesner
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
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 (Zeb)
Monica Placke
Paul & Doris Price
Ann Rees (ICU brain swelling) & Dave Rees
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Doug Smith
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country:

Gyer Blackmore (U.S. Army)
Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marines)
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)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“When Life Is Difficult, Turn to God” *Exodus 14:5-31*
Salem Presbyterian Church
September 17, 2023

Pharaoh was bent on power, and he was an inconsistent man. The plagues had eventually gotten to him, especially the death angel claiming the firstborn of all the land. He had enough of God’s intervention in his life, so he had summoned Moses and Aaron in the middle of the night and commanded them to take the people and leave the land to serve the Lord as they wanted. But when they had gone, Pharaoh and his servants changed their mind. So, the army of Pharaoh made itself ready, with all its officers, foot soldiers, and with their mighty chariots, and they went in pursuit of the Israelites. When the Israelites saw them, they knew that they had a crisis on their hands. Their responses were the same as in our difficult times.

TEACHING POINTS

First, there are poor reactions. Let’s give up and go back! Let’s hide from our problems! Let’s create a pity party! Let’s blame someone!

Second, let’s realize that God has a future for His people.

Third, let’s fully trust in God!

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

³¹ When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the LORD had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before Him. They put their faith in the LORD and in His servant Moses (Exodus 14:31 NLT).

ACTION POINT

None of us escape trying situations in life. No matter how difficult the circumstance, we must continue to trust in the Lord, knowing that while deliverance may not come immediately, relief is on the way. God is walking with you through it. What God promised, He will provide. We also need to acknowledge that God wants to use all conditions for our good and His glory to make us into the people He desires us to be. In the struggle between good and evil, victory is with God! So, let’s trust in God alone!

*Our church website, <http://www.salemchurch.cc/> under the title “Exhibits,” posts the archaeologist Ron Wyatt film on Exodus artifacts discovered from 1450 BC.

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