

# Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 22th, 2023, 21th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: 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 99 540

\*Hymn: Rock of Ages 126

Prayer of Confession: O God, we seem to have lost the ability to see Your glory. **We look at money, or medals, or trophies, and those things for the privileged few, and we call these glorious, forgetting how they tarnish after just a few moments.** We have forgotten how to recognise the glory that lives in the compassion of a stranger who gives his time and talent to care for wounded, sick and dying souls, and in the courage of a peacemaker who chooses to serve and love an enemy. **Open our eyes to the glory of Your presence and creativity in dark and ugly and fearful places.** Yes, God, teach us to be both heralds and couriers of this glory, so that it may be seen to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. **We pray in the Name of the Lord 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

Prayer Response **The Lord's Prayer**

Time for Children

Scripture Readings Matthew 22:15-22 900  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 1075

\*Hymn: Calon Lan Welsh hymnal, 66

Scripture Readings \*Exodus 33:12-23 79

Sermon: "The Presence 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  
\*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

\*Hymn: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty 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.



### Financial Update:

Needed Weekly: \$2,179.63 Needed to Date: \$91,544.49  
Rec'd 2023-10-15 \$2,830.00 Rec'd to Date: \$102,215.90

**Sunday:** 2023-10-22  
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Todd & Jayne Morris*)

**Tuesday:** 2023-10-24  
 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study at Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria  
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

**Thursday:** 2023-10-26  
 Noon Van Wert County prayer meeting is at the Apostolic Church on 1017 S. Shannon Street.

**Sunday:** 2023-10-29  
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Michael & Lindsay Breese*)

**Announcements:**

**Budget and Nominating Committees** are to have their 2024 information completed by today.

The next **Senior Luncheon** will be held on October 25, at noon. All are welcome.

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 October items are shampoo and conditioner.

The **Shoebbox Project** - For the last 30 years, shoeboxes have been collected, filled with gifts, and delivered to children in need around the world. Please plan to fill a shoebox and give hope and joy to a precious child. There are pamphlets and shoeboxes in the prayer room. Collection day is Sunday, **November 12**.

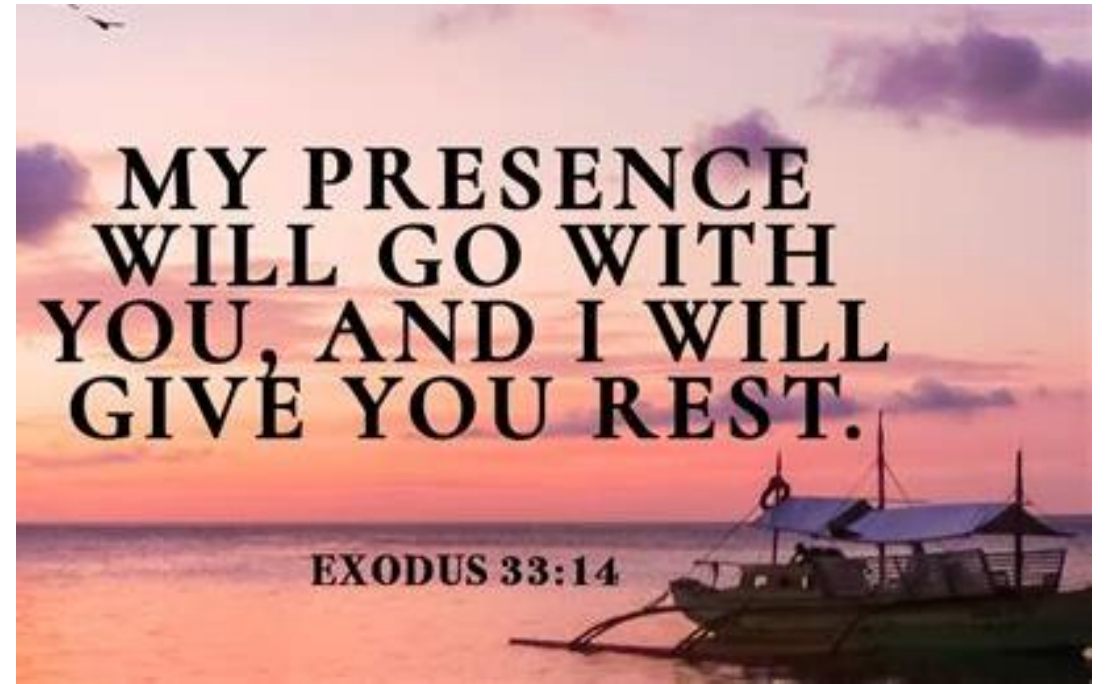
Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the **November Newsletter**. Submit them to [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.cc).

**Upcoming Birthdays**

22 <sup>nd</sup> Ashley Finn	23 <sup>rd</sup> Remi Finn	25 <sup>th</sup> Josh Hobbs
28 <sup>th</sup> Keaton Adkins	29 <sup>th</sup> Nancy Swygart	30 <sup>th</sup> Jeff Coil
Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> Avery Zielke	1 <sup>st</sup> Dan Lloyd	

**Upcoming Anniversaries**

30<sup>th</sup> Kevin & Kristen Price



*Salem Presbyterian Church*

Venedocia, Ohio | October 22, 2023

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142  
[www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc) | [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.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 (in Van Wert Vancrest)  
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)  
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)  
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

**Condolences to the families of:**

Lain Patterson, Matthew Hemker, & Janice Osburn

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Rev. Thomas Emery  
**“The Presence of God” Exodus 33:12-23**  
Salem Presbyterian Church  
October 22, 2023

Moses had been in a relationship with the Lord long enough to discover God’s friendship and grace. God would soon extend this grace and friendship shared with Moses to the whole nation. While Moses might not have physically seen as much of God as he would have liked, he did see God's glory exhibited to him. Martin Luther commented on this passage and claimed that we did see God — when Jesus died upon the cross.

### TEACHING POINTS

*First, wherever life leads us, God is there with us.*

*Second, prayer gives us accessibility to God.*

*Third, God is God-sized, not human-sized.*

### THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

*<sup>16</sup>How will anyone know that you look favorably on me—on me and on your people—if you don’t go with us? For your presence among us sets your people and me apart from all other people on the earth” (Exodus 33:16 NLT).*

### ACTION POINT

So many times, in our lives, we are tempted to cry out and ask, "***Where are you, God? I need Your presence and help so desperately.***" And the unseen but ever-present God and Father of us all answers us in the parting words of our Lord in Matthew’s Gospel: "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." Dare we ask for, or need, anything more?

Trust in God when we find ourselves in places we do not wish to be. And do not be afraid to step out in faith at times going against the popular trends. It is at such moments that we trust in the God who loves us — the God who is with us and will continue to be with us. This passage assures us that God does not hold grudges and that He is always willing to open His arms wide to us. What is even more beautiful, He is waiting for us to take that vital step. In fact, He may have been waiting for some time now, so do not put God off any longer. He wants to hide you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with His hand.

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