

Salem Presbyterian Church
Sunday, March 17, 2024, Fifth Sunday in Lent

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Prelude
Lighting of the Candles
Welcome & Prayer

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| Call to Worship | Psalm 119:97-104 | 557 |
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Lenten Skit

*Hymn Groeswen *Welsh Hymnal*, 42

Prayer of Confession: God promised a new covenant through the prophet Jeremiah, **who said that one day the law would be written on our hearts and all would know God.** Often, we are confused and closed and worn, **and we wonder if that day will ever come.** But, we can rejoice, because God's promise throughout the law and prophets is made alive in us. **God will always be our God,** and we will always be God's people. **Let us be glad,** for God remembers our sins no more if we are in Jesus. **We pray this together in Jesus' Name. Amen.** *(Please take a moment of silent 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**

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| Scripture Readings | Isaiah 29:18-24 | 644 |
| | 1 Peter 1:18-21 | 1104 |

Sermon passage * Mark 10:46-52 922

“Time for Children” and their dismissal to Sunday School

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| *Hymn | I Need Thee Every Hour | 318 |
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Sermon *“God Hears Our Pleading”* 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.**

*Prayer of Dedication

| | | |
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| *Offering Response | Praise God | Inside Front Cover |
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| *Hymn | I Love to Tell the Story | 431 |
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*Finishing Thoughts

*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: | \$2,398.10 | Needed to Date: | \$22,981.01 |
| Rec'd 2024-03-10: | \$1,355.00 | Rec'd to Date: | \$26,220.00 |

Sunday: 2024-03-17
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow)
10:45 AM Session Meeting

Tuesday: 2024-03-19
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study at the Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Thursday: 2024-03-21
Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting at the Ohio City United Methodist Church.

Sunday: 2024-03-24
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Denise Pugh)
10:45 AM Session Meeting

Announcements:

Election Day is Tuesday, March 19.

The Van Wert County **Ecumenical Good Friday Service** is at noon, March 29, at the Promise Church, 1017 S. Shannon St., Van Wert. Pastor Tom is participating.

The **Venedocia Easter Egg Hunt** will be held in Memorial Park on Saturday, March 30, at 1 PM. All youth are invited.

The **Senior Luncheon** is on Wednesday, March 27, at noon.

Salem is collecting offerings from the heart for the **Salvation Army**. There is a monthly need, and your generosity is greatly needed. Each month we collect different food. The food for March is pork and beans.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the **April newsletter**. Submit them to secretary@saalemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 18 th Morgan McCollow | 19 th Pamela Beamer | 20 th Johnathon Morris |
| 20 th Brian Owens | 22 nd Toby Adkins | 23 rd Josh Hoehn |



Mark 10:46-52-34

Salem Presbyterian Church

March 17, 2024

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@saalemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Kirk Dougal (cancer problems)
Josh Archinal (recovering from car accident)
Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jason Boyd (terminal cancer)
Dave Burnett (heart issues)
Tim (Alfie) Burnett (recovering from a car accident)
Kim Coil (foot surgery)
Kirk Dougal (cancer)
Pastor Tom Emery (long Covid healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Ellen Friesner
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Jane Harter
Jerry & Elizabeth Holscher
Pat Hunt (breast cancer)
John Lloyd
David Morris (Zeb)
Patti Poling (pancreatic cancer)
Paul & Doris Price
Ann Rees (in Van Wert Hearth & Home)
Kristy Ringwald (adenoid cystic carcinoma)
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Phillip Winfield (brain tumor)
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country:

Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marines)
Corbin Evans (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

Condolences to the family of:

Tressa Dicus

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“God Hears Our Pleading” - Mark 10:46-52
Salem Presbyterian Church
March 17, 2024

In this passage, the blind Bartimaeus knows that Jesus, the prophesied Messiah, can heal his darkness and poverty. Word of healings had reached him after Jesus had already healed six others of blindness. One of the central features of the New Covenant ushered in with Jesus is that it will be characterized by forgiveness. Our real inner need is that we know that God is seeking us out for healing and for inner wholeness. We should cry out to the world, “I once was blind, but now I can see. Jesus makes us whole!”

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – We need to cry out to God from our hearts.

POINT TWO – Sincere prayers cause Jesus to respond.

POINT THREE – We need to leave our past behind and to follow a new spiritual godly lifestyle.

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

⁵⁰ Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.⁵¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked. “My Rabbi,” the blind man said, “I want to see!”⁵² And Jesus said to him, “Go, for your faith has healed you.” Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road (*Mark 10:46-52 NLT*).

ACTION POINT

Our fate does not hang on our self-restoration, but on the New Covenant that finds its ultimate fulfillment in what God has done alone in Christ Jesus. That means we do not have to keep reliving the same old hurt-filled reruns of our lives. God is not a cold-hearted judge, keeping score. No, He is like an attentive spouse who leads us into a deeper relationship. He plants something new that lives deep within us so that we can become all that God wants us to be. Yes, we may have a pattern of falling short and disappointing God. But God is a God who always reaches out to us with forgiveness if we repent and ask forgiveness again in Jesus’ Name. Why not also invite Christ into your heart and begin a close, forgiven and fulfilling relationship with God?

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