

Salem Presbyterian Church
7th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 20, 2025

Rev. Thomas Emery Pianist: Jake Wilder
The flowers are given to the glory of God by Mark & Missy Zielke

Prelude
Lighting of the Candles
Welcome & Prayer

*Hymn I Have Decided to Follow Jesus 397
Call to Worship Psalm 85 532

Prayer of Confession: Lord, we admit, we were appalled when we heard
You instruct Hosea to marry—a woman like that. Who marries a person of
questionable morals? At first, we condemned Hosea. Then we condemned
her. When they had kids, we scoffed and moved our children to other
schools. But each name of Hosea's children prophesied to us. Each name
reminded us that... We sit uninvolved and watch the tragedies that break
Your heart. We call for vengeance instead of offering mercy. We've
changed so much that people say we no longer bear Your resemblance.
We confess that during the week, we've acted as if we didn't know You.
Forgive us. 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

Scripture Readings *Hosea 1:2-10 820
Luke 11:1-13 947
Colossians 2:6-15 1073

Time for Children

*Hymn I Need Thee Every Hour 318

Sermon Love for an Unfaithful People 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 of the Offering
*Response Praise God Inside Front Cover

*Hymn Groeswen (All My Hope on God Is Founded) Welsh hymnal, 42

*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:

Table with 4 columns: Category, Amount, Category, Amount. Rows: Needed Weekly: \$2,345.90, Needed to Date: \$65,685.10; Rec'd 07-13-2025: \$1,530.00, Rec'd to Date: \$67,934.86

Sunday: 07-20-2025 6th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Dave & Carla Breese*)

Tuesday: 07-22-2025
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study meets in the Global Methodist Church at Crawford and Walnut Streets.

Thursday: 07-24-2025
Noon The Van Wert County Prayer meeting is at the Trinity Global Methodist Church; meet in the "Gate."

Sunday: 07-27-2025 7th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow*)

Announcements:

The **Vacation Bible School** theme title this year is: "Give with Your Heart: Serving Jesus by Serving Others!" This VBS teaches kids that what matters most to God is not how much we give, but the heart behind our giving—and that when we help others, we are showing love directly to Jesus. The Mission for VBS is The Haven of Hope Men's Homeless Shelter. Please see the signup form to bring items for "Love Packages" the children will assemble for them. The VBS is **July 29 & July 30, 9:00-11:30 AM**, for ages: 4 years old to 6th grade. Hope to see you and your children there!

Salem gives **Offerings from the Heart for the Salvation Army**. Each month, we collect different items; the food we collect for July is canned fruit.

The **Venedocia Lions Club** is activating its yearly recruitment drive. Many Salem men belong to and support the organization. If you're interested, you're welcome to attend a meeting or visit VenedociaLions.org for more information. The next meeting is scheduled for July 22 at 7:00 PM.

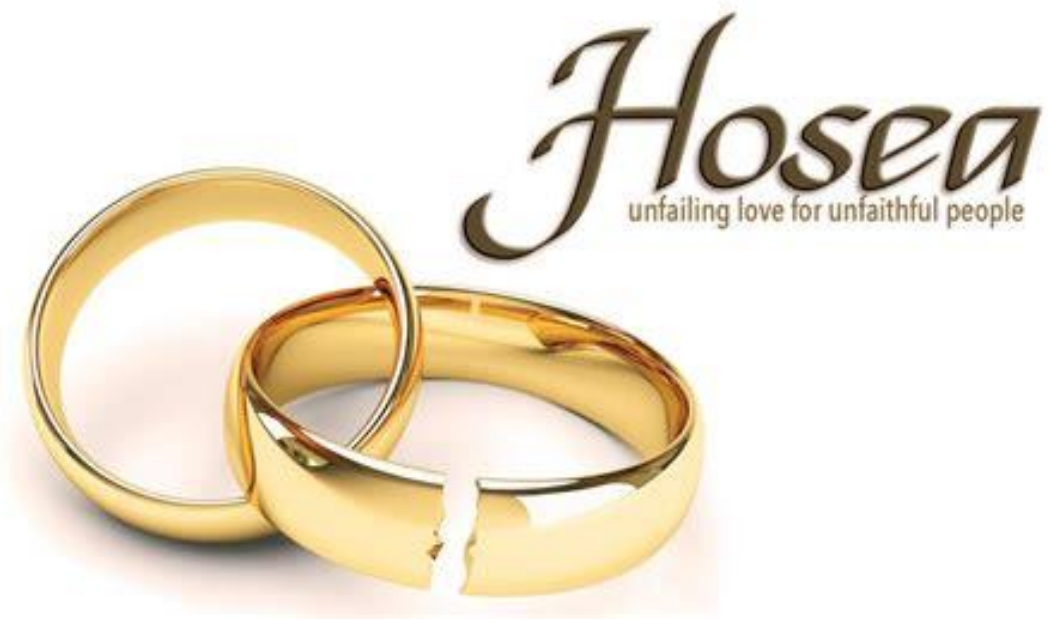
Please take photos and contribute updates, recipes, and ideas for the next **Salem newsletter**, "**Sounds of Salem**." Submit them to PastorTomEmery@live.com

Upcoming Birthdays

22 nd Dave Rees	24 th Evan Pugh	25 th Charlotte McConnell
25 th Kent McClure	26 th Brent Price	29 th Heather McClure

Upcoming Anniversaries

24 th Bill & Ruth Evans	25 th David & Nancy Jo Breese	27 th Jeff & Kelly Lloyd
31 st Jason & Danielle Lloyd	31 st Johnathan & Katie Young	



Hosea 1:2-10

Salem Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894

www.SalemChurch.cc | 419-667-4142

Secretary: 419-303-2032 (call/text)

salemchurch.cc@gmail.com

July 20, 2025

Prayer Concerns:

Allen Breece
Tom Burnett (recovering from an accident)
Bill Culver
Pastor Tom Emery (long COVID healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Millie Fletcher
Ellen Friesner
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Charlie Good (prostate cancer)
Carla Hillabrand (medical issues) sister to Nancy Breese
Elizabeth Holscher
Jim Lloyd (at Van Wert Manor)
Pete McCollow
Mary Lou Morgan (Eleanor Morgan’s daughter)
David Morris (Zeb)
Steve Muhlenkamp (cancer) Jen Pugh’s stepdad
Ann Rees (in Van Wert Hearth & Home)
Bianca Richards (leukemia)
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)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“Love for an Unfaithful People” Hosea 1:2-10
Salem Presbyterian Church
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In our passage today, God instructs Hosea to marry a promiscuous Israelite woman named Gomer. Although many understand this command as somewhat inappropriate or harmful to the prophet’s ministry, one should not protect Hosea’s reputation by interpreting this story as a parable or a dream. There is no doubt that God wants the marriage of Hosea and the adulterous Gomer to represent God’s covenant marriage with the two-timing Israel. All these unusual acts effectively communicate God’s truth to audiences who are too stubborn to listen to any “normal” or traditional presentation of God’s Word, so God needed another way to communicate. Finally, this is also how the local Canaanites usually worshipped their god of fertility.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *Like Gomer, we have sought other gods.*

POINT TWO – *And as Paul taught in the New Testament, "... the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), we need to take seriously our faithfulness to God.*

POINT THREE – *Our God is obsessed with love for us.*

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

When the LORD first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, “Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods” (Hosea 1:2 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Ultimately, the message that Hosea speaks on behalf of the Lord is that the Lord is full of compassion and faithful to the promises made and cannot and will not let Israel go. It is a message of hope for Israel, Judah, and for all who hear this word — though we are unfaithful, God will forever be faithful. God also believes that Hosea will be most effective in delivering this word of warning to God's people if he himself experiences the pain of living with an unfaithful wife. May the Good News that God calls us "beloved" despite our faithlessness be a source of sustenance for us in times of weariness. And may we, by the grace of God, know what it is to have our joy restored. God is asking us to return to Him; when we do, He is waiting to bless us beyond what we would think is deserved! If you have wandered away, why not come back to the God who is obsessed with having a close, loving relationship with you?

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