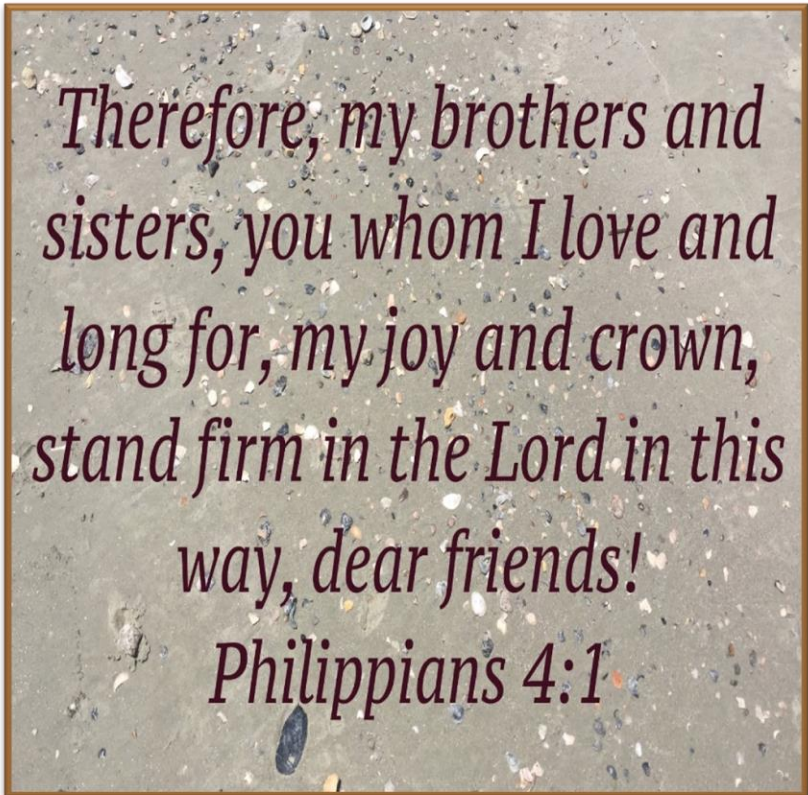


First Presbyterian Church  
Salem, Ohio

March 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent



Worship will be live streamed on  
**Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio,  
**You Tube:** [www.youtube / FPCSALEM](http://www.youtube.com/FPCSALEM); and  
our website, [www.fpcsaalem.org](http://www.fpcsaalem.org).

*"We are centered in Christ and powered by love."*

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### PRELUDE

*Voluntary*

*Maurice Green*

*The Gift to Be Simple*

*Dale Wood*

*Let us silently turn our hearts, minds, and  
bodies to the worship of God as the  
light of Christ is brought forward.*

### PRELUDE

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*Jan Sanborn*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please take a moment to sign and pass the Attendance Pad.*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

**Whom shall I fear?**

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

**Of whom shall I be afraid?**

Come, seek God in this time of worship.

### \*HYMN 487

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

### \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.**

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**Eternal God, as enemies circle and fear grows large, the distance between us feels like absence and we come to believe you are hidden and concealed. Forgive our doubt. Forgive our lack of spiritual seeking. Forgive us when we make our faith all about what you might do for us rather than how we might serve you and work at right relationship with you. Amen.**

*(Moments of Silent Prayer)*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God does not forsake us in times of trial. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (*Unison; Hymn 579*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Jesus Shall Reign*

*Carillon Ringers*

*arr. Sandra Eithun*

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

**Merciful God, open us to your Word and your way. Help us to seek you, your truth, and the message you intend for us today. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

*Philippians 3:17-4:1*

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. 4 <sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom

I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

This is the Word of the LORD!

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*His Eye is On the Sparrow*

Lorenz Publishing Company, CCL#2595933

*The Haviland Choir*

*Mark Hayes*

Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
and long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is he:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled,"  
his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;  
though by the path he leadeth  
but one step I may see:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted,  
whenever clouds arise,  
when song gives place to sighing,

when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him,  
from care he sets me free:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

SERMON

*"It Was Called the Way for a Reason"*  
Rev. Jan Reed

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

\*HYMN 307

*Fight the Good Fight*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

**God chose one people for the sake of all.**

**To the world in its rebellion and sin**

**God promised blessing and restoration.**

**The Lord chose Abraham, Sarah, and their descendants  
as bearers of that promise for all peoples.**

**They had done nothing more than others  
to deserve the Lord's favor,**

**but God loved them and made them God's own.**

**We acknowledge God's freedom and grace.**

**Though we are unworthy,**

**we are God's own people in Christ.**

**God has chosen us as servants for the sake of the world,  
and destined us to be God's daughters and sons,  
giving us love and life,  
calling us to worship and honor God.**

*(from "A Declaration of Faith," 1977)*

MOMENT FOR CELEBRATION

*Lynn Zocolo*

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Mark Smith, OGHS*

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

*Chorus from St. Matthew Passion*

*J.S. Bach*

\*RESPONSE HYMN 592 (*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*)

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

**God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. May our offerings provide for others and be used to further Christ's ministry and mission. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION / LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*HYMN 98

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 2162, Sing the Faith, Grace Alone*)

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,  
every difference we will make is only by his grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,  
every blessing left behind is only by his grace.

Grace alone which God supplies,  
strength unknown he will provide.

Christ in us our Cornerstone;  
we will go forth in grace alone.

*Please remain standing as the Light of Christ  
is carried into the world.*

POSTLUDE

*Voluntary*

*John Travers*

\*Please stand if you are able.

**Janice L. Reed** – I am a second-career pastor. I graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in 2012 (Annie was a classmate). My first calls were in Eastminster Presbytery, but I eventually ended up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Presbytery of Mackinac. I retired last fall and decided to move to a warmer climate and now live in Union Township, just outside of New Castle PA. I am still a member of Mackinac Presbytery and, thanks to technology, serve as their Moderator. As for my personal life – I enjoy golf, reading, and all things Disney.

**Head Ushers:** Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

**Liturgist:** Lynn Zocolo

**Light-Bearer:** Joseph Seefeldt

**Bulletins:** *Open Dates for Bulletins* – March 23, May 11, 18, June 8, 15, 22.

**Chancel Flowers** have been given anonymously to the Glory of God, and by Devon Johnson in memory of mother, Olive Van Schoik.

**Easter Plant Orders** will be taken today and on Sundays, March 23, and 30 in Fellowship Hall for Daffodils and Red and Purple Tulips for \$6.00 each, and Lilies for \$8.00 each. You can also order by calling the Church Office, 330-337-9555, or e-mail [phyllis@fpcsalem.org](mailto:phyllis@fpcsalem.org).

**Preschool Open House – Thursday, March 20**

5:30-7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

### **Soup and Bread Luncheon – Sunday, March 23**

Come share your favorite recipe of soup in Fellowship Hall. Event sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

### **Soup to Go – Next Sunday, March 23**

*Vegetable Beef* – the price of the soup is \$5.00, but with the rise in cost of the ingredients, we will not have as much money to donate to the local missions. If at all possible, please consider adding a small donation when you purchase your soup. Please return jars and lids. *Come join us on Saturday, March 22 to make the soup in the church kitchen.*

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** – Sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world provides relief from natural disasters (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance), food for the hungry (Presbyterian Hunger Program), and support for the poor and oppressed (Self-Development of People). Please give what you can. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. *OGHS Envelopes are in the Pew Racks and at Sanctuary entrances.*

### **Interested in Overseeing Garage Sale????**

Please contact Bill Penfold, 330-831-2673 or [exmatch@neo.rr.com](mailto:exmatch@neo.rr.com).

**Support PDA’s Response to California Wildfires** – PDA affirms our commitment to accompany those affected by this disaster. As people of God, once again we are called to stand with our siblings in the “**GAP**” – **Give, Act and Pray**. God, our refuge and our strength, you are an ever-present help in trouble. Please make checks payable to the church and mark ‘California Wildfires’ in the memo line.

**Per Capita Apportionment for 2025** is \$33.00 per Active Member. Per Capita is an assessment paid to General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery for each member of the congregation. Per Capita funding is how Presbyterians mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit’s leading for the future.



**Troop 3** is seeking adult leaders and young persons ages 11-18. Qualifications are adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, a love of adventure, learning, and teamwork. Perks are a world-class team, adventure, and learning amazing things. For more information, see Mark Smith or Frank Lewis.

**Let's Gather** – Join us to celebrate George Bell Jr.'s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Sunday, April 6 at an Open House from 4-6 p.m. at the Aeonian Brewing Company, 120 West Chestnut Street in Alliance. Please RSVP by April 1 to 330-204-4663, Abby Schroeder (George's Niece).

Sunday, March 16

6:00 Cub Scouts (Basement)

Monday, March 17

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 Troop 3 (Basement) / Troop 2003G (209)

Wednesday, March 19

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

**11:00 Lent Study** (Library)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (S)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 20

12:00 Holy Yoga Class (Fellowship Hall)

**5:30 Preschool Open House** (Fellowship Hall)

**7:00 Regular Session Meeting** (Library and Hybrid)

Saturday, March 22

9:00 Making Soup – *Vegetable Beef*

Vision Statement

*To glorify God and share the Spirit and love of Christ  
with our community and the world.*

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Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884  
[pastorannie@fpcsalem.org](mailto:pastorannie@fpcsalem.org)  
 Clerk of Session.....Barbara Loudon, [bloudon@neo.rr.com](mailto:bloudon@neo.rr.com)  
 Director of Music.....John Krauss, [wjohnkrauss@gmail.com](mailto:wjohnkrauss@gmail.com)  
 Organist ..... Nancy McNeal  
 Dir. Handbells/Youth Choirs .....Cheryl McDevitt, [chermcd@aol.com](mailto:chermcd@aol.com)  
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