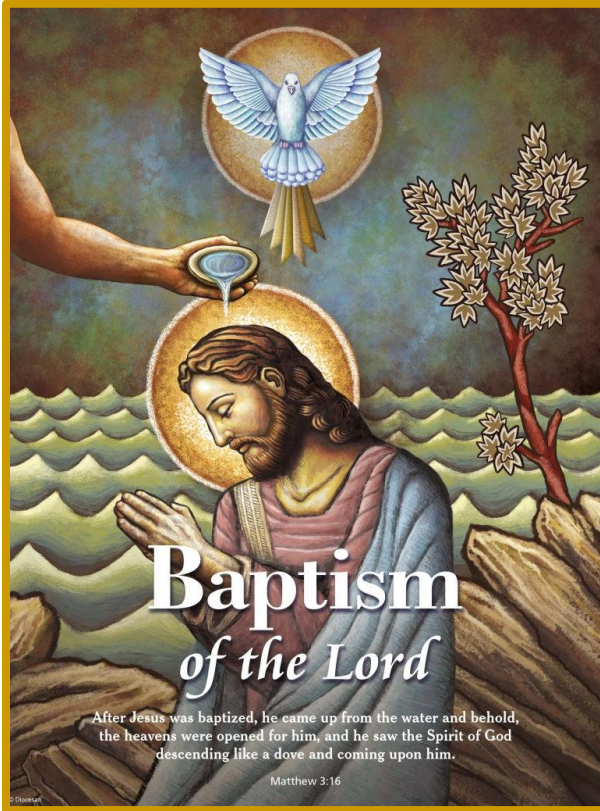


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

January 12, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Baptism of the Lord



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

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

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

*Trumpet Tune on "Wachet Auf"
Pastorale*

*Martha Sobaje
A. Corelli*

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

PRELUDE

He Whom Shepherds Once Came Praising

David Lasky

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

**Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.**

*HYMN 485

To God Be the Glory

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We belong to God. Nothing can break this covenant. Let us,
then, with confidence approach God to honestly confess our sins
in prayer.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**God, you call us to a beloved community with you and with
each other. But we exclude and reject those we deem
different. You claim us as beloved, but we turn against each
other in anger and hate. You liberate us and lead us in Christ's
path of peace, but we build walls and dismiss peace as
impractical and unrealistic. Redeeming God, forgive our**

worldly ways. Call us and claim us once again for the work of building your beloved community. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Our God is loving, just and merciful. God delivers us from sin and restores us by grace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

Help us, Holy God, to connect to your word anew. Open the Scriptures to us in a way that is life-giving. Encourage us to listen to the message your Spirit makes known in word and worship. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I

will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Come to the Water

The Haviland Choir

arr. by Jack Schrader

Hope Publishing Co., CCL#2595933

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord, the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
without money, without strife.
Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord, the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:
all who labor, who labor without rest.
How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord, except for the
Lord, the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water.
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:
bring the children without might.
Easy the load and light: Come to the Lord, the Lord.
Come to the water; come to the Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might

be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: *“Belonging to God”* *Rev. Annie Parker*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 316

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; The Apostles’ Creed*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living 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.**

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACONS AND ELDERS

Sentences of Scripture (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27)

There are varieties of gifts,

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,

but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination and Installation

Presentation

Susan Skiba is being presented for ordination to the office of Elder. She and Ruling Elders Debbie Boyd, Ruth Newman, and Barbara Yonker are presented for installation to active service on the Session.

Julie Johnson and Brenda Swinhart are being presented for ordination to the office of Deacon. They and Deacons Susan Kyser and Wanda Navoyosky are presented for installation to active service on the Board of Deacons.

Constitutional Questions

Questions of the Congregation:

Do we, the members of the church, accept these persons as deacons and elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Prayer of Ordination and Laying on of Hands

The members of Session are invited to come forward to participate in the act of ordination.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Welcome

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Pastoral Symphony from "Messiah"

G.F. Handel

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Bless and multiply these gifts, God, that they may be a blessing to others. May whoever benefits from these offerings know of your love for them and our desire to serve. Amen.

GOD'S WORD IS SEALED

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

All who seek the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *including* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION /
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Then in the fullness of time,
out of your great love for the world,
you sent your only Son to be one of us,
to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice,
dedicated to your service.

According to his commandment:
**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

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.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

The bread and the cup will be received by coming forward and given a piece of bread, taking the cup, and returning the cup to a tray. If you cannot come forward, you will be served in the pew.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*Unison*)

O God, we give you thanks and praise, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 313

Come Down, O Love Divine

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Unison; "Grant us peace."*)

Dona nobis pacem, pacem. Dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis pacem, pacem. Dona nobis pacem.

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

POSTLUDE

Noël Suisse

Louis-Claude Daquin

*Please stand if you are able.

Some of today's liturgy came from or was inspired by the
Presbyterian Outlook.

Questions for thought:

1. In what do you feel the call of God?
2. How do you listen for God's voice in your life?
3. How can you more fully live out your call?

Star Cards are in a basket at the west entrance if you missed getting a random card last Sunday.

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Ryan Gillis

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins have been given anonymously to the Glory of God.

Open Dates for Bulletins – March 2, 16, 23, April 6, 13, May 4, 11, 18. Please call the Church Office if you have a standing flower and/or bulletin order and wish to continue in 2025.

Flowers have been given by Tom Mercer in memory of his wife, Marilyn. Please call the Church Office if you have a standing flower and/or bulletin order and wish to continue in 2025. *Open Dates for Flowers* are January 26, February 23, March 9, 23, 30, April 27, May 4. Cost is \$10.00 a vase.

Café Justo's great Organic Coffee we serve every Sunday during Coffee Hour is for sale today in Fellowship Hall! Cost is \$12.00 for a 1-pound bag of regular, decaf, or whole bean coffee. Cooperative members own the entire business from the growing through the roasting, and the coffee is famous for its smooth taste and low acidity. It is Organic certified and has a Fair Trade Plus certification.

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.

Sunday, January 12

6:30 Cub Scouts (Basement)

Monday, January 13

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 Troops 3 and 2003G (Basement/209)

7:00 Congregational Care (Library)

Wednesday, January 15

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

7:00 Finance and Administration *via Zoom*

Sunday, January 19

9:00 Adult Church School (Library); Youth Church School

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 Service of Worship

Monday, January 20

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, January 22

10:00 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)

Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884

pastorannie@fpcsaalem.org

Clerk of Session.....Barbara Loudon, bloudon@neo.rr.com

Director of Music.....John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com

Organist Nancy McNeal

Director, Handbells/Youth Choirs Cheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com

Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsaalem.org

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Custodian..... Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net