

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: LaDonna Allenbaugh



Prelude
Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 119:1-8 555

*Hymn Aberystwyth 17

Prayer of Confession: **Gracious and Holy God, for those times we have chosen death over life for ourselves, Forgive us. For those times, we have chosen death over life for others, Forgive us. For those times, we have chosen not to receive your blessings, Forgive us. For those times, we have prevented others from receiving your blessings, Forgive us. For each time, we have made the easy choice of law over the hard choice of love, Forgive us O God of mercy. In the Name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen. (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**

Special Music Heather McClure

Scripture Readings Deuteronomy 30:15-20 185
1 Corinthians 3:1-9 1039

Time for Children

*Hymn Have Thine Own Way, Lord! 388

Sermon "Choose Life or Death" Rev. Thomas Emery

Offertory – *ushers will receive our tithes and offerings*

*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn I Surrender All 393

*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:	\$1,934.00	Needed to Date:	\$11,604.00
Rec'd 02-05-17:	\$1,238.05	Rec'd to Date:	\$10,719.85

Sunday: **02-12-17**
9:30 AM Worship Service (*nursery Adkins Family*)
10:45 AM Sunday School

Tuesday: **02-14-17**
7:00 PM Teens for Christ

Sunday: **02-19-17**
9:30 AM Worship Service (*nursery Dave and Carla Breese*)
10:45 AM Sunday School

Announcements:

A one-hour Adult Sunday School class based on the book, **Dave Ramsey's Complete Guide to Money**, meets in the back room at 10:45 am.

Teens for Christ Area churches are having Teens for Christ meet each Tuesday night at 7 PM at the Nazarene Church in Spencerville. It offers Christ-centered Bible study, skits, games, food and fun. If you need a ride, contact Pastor Tom.

Please contact Pastor or Carol for your secretarial needs until a new **secretary** is hired. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for a new secretary!

PCUSA Yearly per capita is due. This year, it is \$30 per person. Please mark your name on the envelope or check and who it is for. Thank you.

V-FIT is an exercise class happening right here at Salem Church on **Thursdays** from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. We had several ladies this week ages 16-69. It's open to both ladies and gents of all ages. Bring your water bottle and \$1 donation and prepare to have fun and get fit!

Lenten Services are beginning February 26th at 7:00pm. Eight churches from the surrounding area will share their pulpits with each other every Sunday evening throughout Lent. We will host the first service. There will be refreshments afterwards.

St. David's Day is March 5th. A special celebration is planned for that day so please plan to attend. You won't want to miss it!

Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | February 12, 2017

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142
www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc



Prayer Concerns:

Norma Adam (diabetic issues)
Violet Ashton
Arlene Barrientos (Alzheimer's & foot surgery)
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Marjorie Eutsler (Kidney Stones - surgery)
Colin Good (diagnosed with emphysema – son of Charlie Good)
Melanie Huddleston (cancer – sister of Kim Coil)
Noell Hunter (Type 1 diabetes)
Betty Lloyd
Marian Morris (stage two cancer)
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)
Joyce Profit (heart issues)
Chris Reichert (health issues)
George Siler (physical therapy)
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)
Martha Walker (recovering from heart attack)
Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)
Ian (brain cancer)
Daniel Cruse (lymphoma cancer)
Simon Ibell (deadly birth condition)
Karen Payne (cancer)
Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)
Kyle Mullenhour (successful kidney transplant – brother of Kory)
Nick Roxo's Family (house fire – neighbor of Evelyn Martz)
Nancy Lautzenhtiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)
Martin Family (house fire - family in Spencerville)
Mother of Shana Fryer
Condolences Brenda Keltner's Family (Jan Jones' sister)

Serving our Country:

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Nick Fuller (U.S. Air Force)
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Pete McCollow (U.S. Marine Corps)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“Choose Life or Death” Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Salem Presbyterian Church
February 12, 2017

Moses was telling to the children of Israel the covenant he had received from God. Moses had no choice but to deliver to them a difficult message. The very existence of his people was at stake. In the midst of Moses' discourse, he says these important words: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death . . . Therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live" (v19). Moses was saying that a time of choice was at hand, and the people of Israel could no longer be on both sides of the fence. They must make a choice. So, must we in our modern times, either follow Jesus or this world.

TEACHING POINTS

Point 1 – You make a choice when you refuse to choose.

Point 2 – Our identity is found in our closeness to God.

Point 3 – The choice to follow Christ is the most important one.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

¹⁵See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. (Deuteronomy 30:15-16 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Deuteronomy is the first instance in the Torah to reveal a loving God and a God who invites our love back to Him. Choosing life, or choosing obedience to God, means choosing love. It is devotion to your God and love for each other, that is the basis of this new covenant. The chosenness of God’s covenanted people has nothing to do with their worthiness; it had everything to do with God’s unmerited mercy and commitment to the people of God. God choose to enter an outlandish relationship with the fractured, broken human creatures of his creation. Why? Because He is a God of love, who loves us. All we must do is love Him back. That is our “choice” now. Why not “choose life?”

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