Salem Presbyterian Church Sunday, Jan 7th, 2018, Baptism of the Lord

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery Organist: LaDonna Allenbaugh The flowers are given to the glory of God Tuzz & Liz Hobbs

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles Welcome & Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 29 494

*<u>Hymn</u>: In the Garden 264

Prayer of Confession: Holy and merciful God, in perfection You created the earth, fixed the course of the sun and seasons, and populated the earth with plants, fish, birds, animals, and humankind to live in an intricate, balanced web of life. You created us in Your image and gave us the responsibility to care for the world. We confess that we have failed to live up to our responsibilities. Our lust for comfort and money has polluted the water. We choke the air with gases that poison. We live for ourselves instead of others. Now, we pray for Your forgiveness and beg that You would create a right heart and mind within us, that we may live according to Your good and perfect commands. We pray in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. (Let us now have a moment of silence to offer our personal prayers of confession).

Assurance of Pardon

Response Glory Be to the Father Inside Front Cover

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

<u>Prayer Response</u> The Lord's Prayer

Special Music Groswen Welsh Hymnal, 42

 Scripture Readings
 *Geneses 1:1-5
 1

 Mark 1:4-11
 910

 Acts 19:1-7
 1012

Time for Children

<u>Hymn</u>: This Is My Father's World 39

Sermon: "In the Beginning" 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.

Offertory – ushers will receive our tithes and offerings

*Response Praise God Inside Front Cover

*Prayer of Dedication

*<u>Hymn:</u> How Great Thou Art 37

*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: \$102,502.00 Rec'd 12-31-17: \$4,069.55 Rec'd to Date: \$106,669.86

Sunday: <u>01-07-18</u>

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Dave & Carla Breese)

10:45 AM Sunday School Noon Session Retreat

Tuesday: <u>01-02-18</u>

10:00 AM & 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

7:00 PM Teens for Christ (Spencerville)

Sunday: 01-14-18

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow)

10:45 AM Sunday School 5:00 PM Trustee Meeting

Announcements:

Please sign up on the new 2018 Flower calendar.

The boxes with offering envelopes can be found on the white table in the prayer room. Please sign your name beside the box number you take for the year 2018.

Women's Bible Study is on Tuesday 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. The **Teens for Christ** continues this Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Spencerville Nazarene Church.

The **Session** training class is today at noon. Please bring a dish to share for lunch.

Adult Sunday school will begin again today. Today's topic is "From Evolution to Creation;" former evolutionist, atheist and respected biology professor, Gary Parker Ph.D., a writer of five textbooks, discusses how the Lord helped him to see the false assumptions behind modern evolutionary belief, and how the Bible's account is more reasonable.

On Sat, January 13, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm at Vantage is a free course called **Children of Trauma**; it is for those who work with at-risk and traumatized children. A foundation paid for the \$130 course. Please let Pastor Tom know if you want to take the course.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the February newsletter. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

7th-Nell Jean Wienken 7th-Loretta Williams 8th-Dean Swygart 9th-Megan (Smith) Romano

10th-Dominic Adkins 11th-Chelsey Lloyd 11th-Ashlyn Price 12th-Christina Emery

12th-George Siler



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 7, 2018

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Peggy Burnett

Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)

Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)

Doris Evans (cancer)

Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)

Larry Howell

Linda Howell

Tim Hurbert (cancer in lungs & pancreas-friend of Barb Good)

Jan Jones (health Issues)

Paula Jones (healing from fall)

Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)

Bob Louth

Becky Martz (health problems)

Janet Mohr

Marian Morris

Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)

Kim Owens

Dorothea Plikerd

Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)

Joyce Profit

Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)

Randy Richards (mowing accident)

Laura Saylor (Viral Meningitis, wife of Pastor Mike Saylor)

Julie Sheets (lung cancer)

Keith Stoller (surgical complications)

Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)

Warren Summersett (cancer)

Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)

Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)

Serving our Country:

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)

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
"In the Beginning" Genesis 1:1-5
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 7 2018

To the ultimate questions of all questions – "Where did the universe come from?" and "Why does it exist?" - Genesis 1:1 simply states, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (NLT). God's Word to man, says humankind had a divine supernatural beginning. God's hand is behind the entire created order. No natural forces exist on their own. Nothing comes from any other source. God's Word is not only the place where the laws of nature come, but God's Word also tells us how we ought to live.

TEACHING POINTS

First. Belief in evolution is parallel to belief in creationism - both are beliefs which their followers hold to be true, but neither beliefs have been capable of proof.

Second. If evolution is such a deficient theory, if, in fact, it not only didn't happen but really couldn't have happened, why do scientists so vigorously defend it? It is because we would have to acknowledge that there is a God to whom we are accountable.

Third. Only when you understand how you got here, will you ever know why you are here. Only God can answer the fundamental questions of human existence.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY PASSAGE

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1 NLT).

ACTION POINT

The debate provides answers to whether you were created for a purpose, or you have no purpose; whether there is a plan for your life or no plan for your life; and finally whether some things are right, and some things are wrong (and God Word tells us which is which), or right and wrong are merely up to majority vote. Then, we look at the world we live in today with weeds, pests, bacteria, viruses, murder, rape, war, hatred, and violence, and we have to ask, "So what happened?" The lesson is this - there is a hole in your soul that can only be filled by the God who created you. The reason the Creator God came to earth and lived and died as a man and was raised from the dead was to fill that hole with grace and forgiveness and love. Understand not only that you were created, but also understand that the Christ of Creation wants to personally relate to you, both now and forever. With that awareness, life will begin to be lived with purpose and fulfillment. Why not speak to God now, and let Him know that you also want a deep loving relationship with Him?

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