

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 28th, 2018, 4th Sunday after Epiphany

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

<u>Call to Worship</u>	Psalm 111	551
* <u>Hymn</u> :	Blessed Assurance	255

Prayer of Confession: Merciful God, from You comes all truth, all healing, all that makes our world good and whole. **Forgive us, O Lord, those times when we have listened to those who do not speak for You.** Forgive us for the weakness that has led us at times to seek the water of life at springs which can never satisfy. **Forgive us for not testing the spirits that are around us: forgive us too for how we play with empty knowledge and delight in useless predictions, that help neither us or those around us.** Have mercy on us and speak once again to us. **Help us to hear the Word You send, and to turn away from the words that come from false prophets, and those who do not know Your ways. In Jesus' Name we pray. 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

Prayer Response **The Lord's Prayer**

Special Music Llef *Welsh Hymnal, 56*

Scripture Readings	*Deuteronomy 18:14-22	174
	Mark 1:21-28	910
	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	1043

Time for Children

Hymn: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind 358

Sermon: "The True Prophet" 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

*Hymn: Cwn Rhondda *Welsh Hymnal, 40*

*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:	\$1,927.00	Needed to Date:	\$5,781.00
Rec'd 01-21-18:	\$2,105.25	Rec'd to Date:	\$4,486.65

Sunday: 01-28-18
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd)
10:45 AM Reports to be distributed to the congregation
Sunday School

Tuesday: 01-30-18
7:00 PM Teens for Christ (Spencerville)

Sunday: 02-04-18
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans)
10:45 AM Congregational meeting following the service
Souper Bowl of Caring-bring canned foods
Sunday School

Announcements:

The **Teens for Christ** meeting is on Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Spencerville Nazarene Church. If you need a ride, call Pastor Tom to carpool.

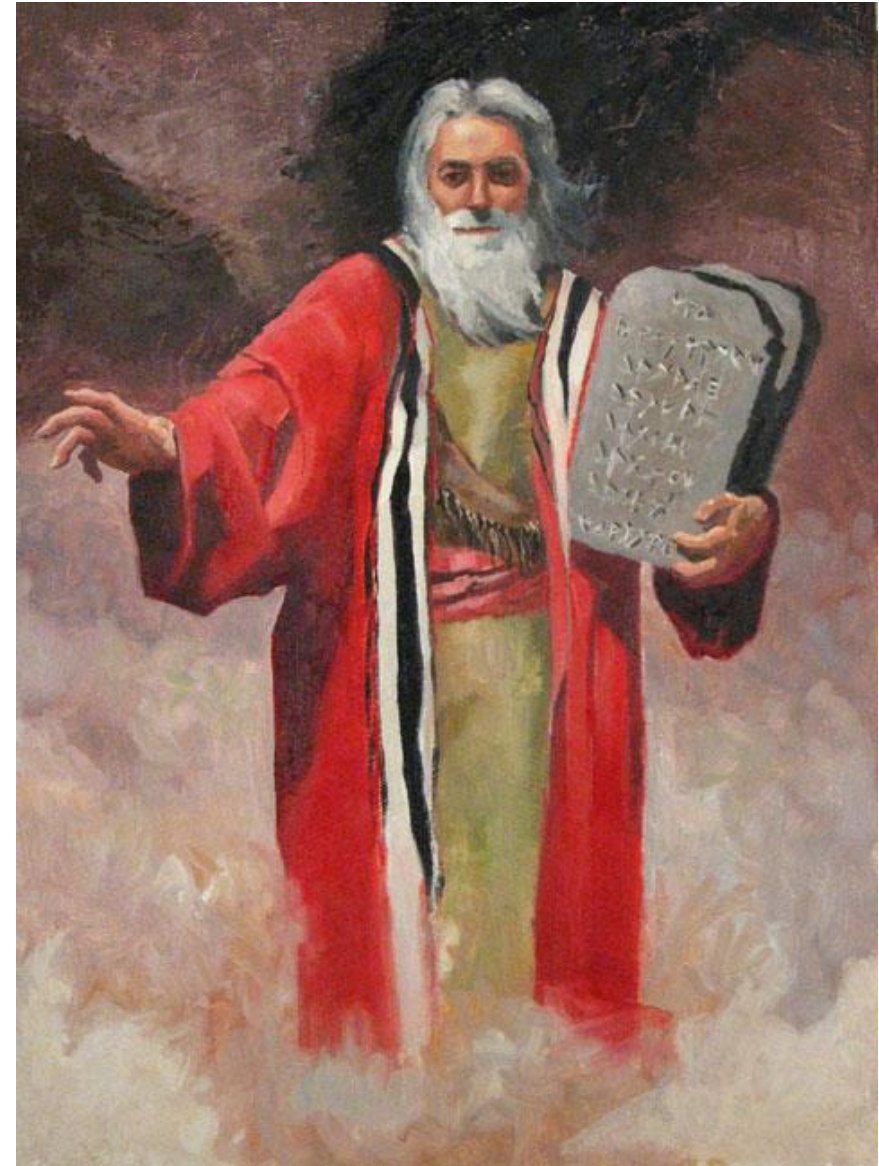
This year, we are continuing the **Lenten Season Pulpit Exchange** of Spencerville area churches. Our Pastor will present at 7 pm, February 25th, at Agape Fellowship Church at 9250 Armstrong Rd. in Spencerville, Ohio (just off 117). We are hosting at Salem Rev. Jim Fletcher, of First Baptist Church, on March 4th with a light meal reception to follow.

The **Adult Sunday School** topic is a discussion of the Alpha series entitled "**Who Is Jesus.**" We will openly discuss our own questions and doubts about God and our own faith.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

28 th -Scott Fair	30 th -Doris Price
30 th -John Smith	31 st -Carrie Jones
Feb 1 st -John Lloyd	Feb 1 st -Ashley McClure



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | January 28, 2018

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Tim Adams (cancer)
Peggy Burnett
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Doris Evans (cancer)
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)
Bill Harmon (cancer)
Larry Howell
Linda Howell
Bob Hundley (cancer)
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)
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)
Julie Sheets (lung cancer)
Bobbie Spyres
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)
Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)

***Condolences to the family of Janice Owens**

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
“The True Prophet” Deuteronomy 18:14-22
Salem Presbyterian Church
January 28, 2018

The passage recalls Deuteronomy 5:22–29 when at the foot of Mt. Sinai, the people had been afraid to hear the voice of God directly. They declared to Moses: “*Go yourself and listen to what the LORD our God says. Then come and tell us everything he tells you, and we will listen and obey*” (NLT). Moses became their go-between. After Moses died, God promised to extend that role by raising up prophets “*like Moses,*” to continue bringing God’s Word. It is God who wants to do the speaking. It is God who has guidance with words of warning and encouragement. Unlike the other people groups, prophecy would not be what humans could discover by fortune-telling or by consulting spirits, but what God reveals to us.

TEACHING POINTS

First. God takes the initiative to clarify who is a true prophet.

Second. God provided us with a model to compare.

Third. The message is always directly from God.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

I will raise up a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell the people everything I command him (Deuteronomy 18:18 NLT).

ACTION POINT

God’s prophecy was neither for a self-appointed egomaniac or self-perpetuating secret-knowledge societies. False prophets are defined two ways in this passage. First, anyone who spoke for other gods or used divination would be easily recognizable as a serious violator of speaking for God and would be severely punished. Second, there is a threat much more treacherous, the person who claimed to speak in the name of Yahweh, but whose words were their own. The scriptures tell us that the prophets whom God would raise up would be “like Moses.” Those who promoted the nation’s wickedness, who lived depraved lifestyles, or were egoistic in their ambitions, were not “like Moses.” True prophets spell out the long-range consequences of not obeying God. In our age, we are faced with the growth of prophetic cults and the adoration of people with “prophetic ministries. We should test their messages to see if there is a violation the commands of scriptures, and we should ask the Holy Spirit for guidance if their messages are of God.

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