Salem Presbyterian Church Sunday, March 14th, 2021, 4th Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery Organist: Becky Reichard The flowers are given to the glory of God by Mark & Missy Zielke

Prelude

Welcome & Prayer

<u>Call to Worship</u> Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 548

Lenten Skit

*<u>Hymn</u>: Marvellous Things [See Insert]

<u>Prayer of Confession</u>: O' Lord, we have failed to be like Jesus. We have not fed those who were hungry. We have not drawn near to those living on the margins and those who are excluded. We have not brought healing and wholeness to those in need. We have not hungered and thirsted for righteousness. O' Lord, may we be more like Jesus in Your power. We pray to You, in Jesus' Name. 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

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

Scripture Readings Numbers 21:4-9 138

*John 3:1-21 968

Ephesians 2:1-10 1064

Children dismissed

Hymn: Come, Christians, Join to Sing 55

Sermon: "Become Born Again" 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.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Offering Response Praise God Inside Front Cover

*<u>Hymn:</u> To God Be the Glory 449

*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.

Needed Weekly: \$2,108.38 Needed to Date: \$21,083.82 Rec'd 03-07-21: \$8,817.59 Rec'd to Date: \$32,005.44 Sunday: 03-14-21

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd)

5:00 PM Trustee Meeting

Tuesday: <u>03-16-21</u>

7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Saturday: <u>03-20-21</u>

7:00 AM-1:00 PM Lions Club Drive Thru Pancake and Sausage

Breakfast

Sunday: <u>03-21-21</u>

9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans)

10:45 AM Session Meeting

Announcements:

The Women's Bible Study will be held on Tuesday at 7:00 PM.

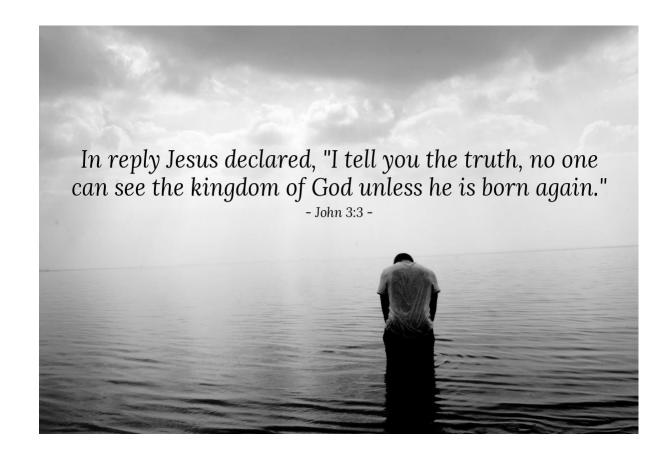
Lions Club Drive Thru Pancake and Sausage Breakfast is this Saturday at the Lion's Club alley from 7 AM to 1 PM. Prices are by donation, but the two-pound bulk of Venedocia sausage is priced at \$10.00. They still need volunteers for a variety of tasks to handle the fund raiser.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

14th Larry Caffro14th Elijah Martz16th Tom Emery19th Pamela Beamer20th Johnathon Morris20th Brian Owens

22nd Toby Adkins 23rd Josh Hoehn



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio / March 14, 2021

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 / (419)667-4142

www.SalemChurch.cc / secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Kaitie Adams (recovering from surgery)

Barry Coil (stroke)

Kathy Comer

Rosemary Cooper

Asher Eberle

Marjorie Eutsler

Nikki Ford (surgery & funds for surgery)

Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)

Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)

Jerry Holscher

Dale Kiesza (leg operation)

Danny King (cancer)

Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer)

LuAnn (family issues)

John & Mary Ellen Lloyd

Donald Martin

Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)

Byron Mohr

David Morris (Zeb)

Marian Morris

Judy Jones Muhn (health issues)

Ione Owens

Steve Peters (surgery & recovery)

Paul & Doris Price

Marjorie Rhodes

Shalia Schomaeker

Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)

Betty Tennant

Harold & Rosa Wollenhaupt

Raymond Young

The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country

Gyer Blackmore (U.S. Army)

Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marine Corps)

Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)

Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)

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Condolences to the family

of Jill Burnett

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Rev. Thomas Emery "Become Born Again" John 3:1-21 Salem Presbyterian Church Sunday, March 14, 2021

Nicodemus came to Jesus at night looking for a set of rules to add to organized religion's already lengthy list of guidelines. Nicodemus was asking: "How can I be sure that God loves and accepts me? How can I be Born Again, be Born from Above, and know it for a fact? How is the womb re-entry routine accomplished?"

There is a fascinating thing to notice here about Nicodemus. He knew his scriptures well. But for him, being religious meant knowing what to do and especially what not to do. But Jesus changed all of that.

TEACHING POINTS

Teaching Point One: *What "Born from above" means.* Jesus said that to see the Kingdom of God, the emphasis must shift to what God does.

Teaching Point Two: *The New Birth is required of everyone.* The New Testament makes it clear that this "New Birth" is not our doing. We are "Born from Above;" it is God's gift.

Teaching Point Three: *How the New Birth happens.* We can't earn it. We can only accept it in faith. So, to be "Born From Above" means to come alive to the Bible by falling in love with "the author and finisher of our faith."

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God" (John 3:3 NLT).

ACTION POINT

People in their natural state became like computers with faulty wiring. They can't work right because they are mis-wired. They cannot correct the problem. God is the only spiritual computer specialist who can fix it. It cost him a cross in order to be able to do it. One of the awful failings of many mainline churches in America is that they no longer preach that it is necessary to be Born Again. They imply that a person can be saved by just hanging around the church. But hanging around the church no more makes you a Christian than hanging around the Lion's Club makes you a lion. Each of us needs to prayerfully ask God what it means to be "Born from Above" and to trust Jesus as the Lord of our lives. May we all enter into the eternal Kingdom of God!

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