

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 29, 2018, 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery Organist: Dave VanTilburg
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Prelude
Lighting the Candles
Welcome & Prayer

*Hymn: Aberyswyth *Welsh Hymnal*, 17

Call to Worship Psalm 45 [:1-2, 6-9] 506

Prayer of Confession: God of justice and righteousness, Your call beckons to us: to live faithful lives, to turn from wickedness, and to walk in Your ways. **Yet it is so easy to turn aside: to speak a thoughtless word, to ignore those in need, to strike out in anger, and to forget Your ways. Forgive us.** Implant Your Word in our hearts, and cleanse us from all evil. **By the power of Your love, save our souls, that we might faithfully serve You. We ask these things in Jesus' Name. 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 "Keep Your Lamps" [see insert for details]

Scripture Readings *Song of Solomon 2:8-13 612
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 917
James 1:17-27 1100

Time for Children

*Hymn: Huddersfield *Welsh Hymnal*, 19

Sermon "The Bridgroom and His Love" 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: Deemster *Welsh Hymnal*, 29

*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: \$2,108.38 Needed to Date: \$71,684.98
 Rec'd 08-22-2021: \$1,669.50 Rec'd to Date: \$85,996.06

Sunday: **08-29-21**
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Kathy McCollow)

Thursday: **09-02-21**
Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting

Sunday: **09-05-21**
9:30 AM Worship (nursery with Bob & Denise Pugh)
Honoring Gymanfa Ganu at the morning service
and rededicating our organ-50 year anniversary

Announcements:

Trinity Friends Church is hosting this week's **Van Wert County-Wide Prayer Meeting at noon, Thursday, September 2nd** at 605 N. Franklin Street, Van Wert, Ohio.

The **2021 Gymanfa Ganu** has been cancelled. There will be a special service the morning of September 5th to honor our Gymanfa Ganu tradition and rededicating our organ (50 year anniversary).

The **2021 Drive Your Tractor to Church / Blessing of the Harvest** is on **September 19** with a potluck lunch.

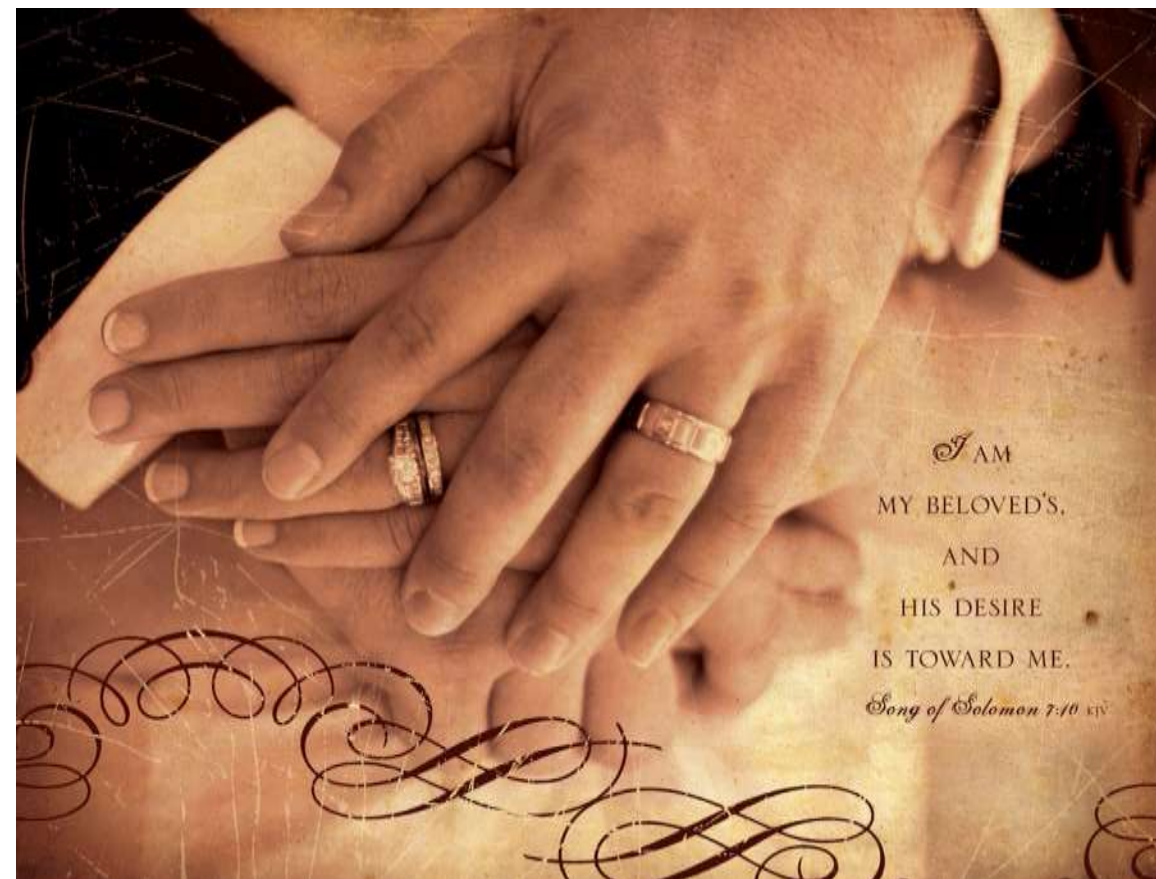
Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the newsletter. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc

Upcoming Birthdays

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 30 th Kelly Lloyd | Sep 1 st Kim Ebel | 1 st Elizabeth Adkins |
| 3 rd Pete Mcollow | 4 th Claudia LeValley | 4 th Katie McClure |

Upcoming Anniversaries

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Sep 8 th Paul & Doris Price | 11 th Doug & Jan Jones |
| 15 th Bob & Denise Pugh | |



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | August 29, 2021

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Kaitie Adams (recovering from surgery)
Matt Blackmore
Barry Coil (stroke)
Kathy Comer
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Nikki Ford (surgery & funds for surgery)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Brett Hammons
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)
Jerry Holscher
Dale Kiesza (leg operation)
Ann King (cancer)
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer)
LuAnn (family issues)
John & Mary Ellen Lloyd
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Byron Mohr
Alice Morris
David Morris (Zeb)
Marian Morris
Judy Jones Muhn (health issues)
Steve Peters (surgery & recovery)
Paul & Doris Price
Greg Richards
Marjorie Rhodes
Reddington Rothgeb (leukemia)
Shalia Schomaeker
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Stacy Smith (Covid)
Betty Tennant
Harold & Rosa Wollenhaupt
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)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“The Bridegroom and His Love” - Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Salem Presbyterian Church
August 29, 2021

The inclusion of the Song of Solomon in the canon of Scripture caused debate among rabbis in the first century, and modern readers may be startled by its content. Some readers considered it little more than an ordinary drinking song. But, the great teacher and mystic, Rabbi Akiba, settled the issue when he said, "The whole world is not worth the day on which the Song of Songs was given to Israel, for all the Scriptures are holy, but the Song of Songs is the Holy of Holies" (Mishnah Yadayim 3:5). It advises us how to make the conditions right for full intimacy with your mate and with your God. Both Jews and Christians have understood these poems as pointing beyond human eros to a union uniting the human and the divine. The voice in today's passage is that of a woman speaking about her much desired lover. He draws near, full of energy, eager to behold her. He summons her to arise and come away. We are left to wonder will she do so?

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE - Modern scholars are almost unanimous in viewing the Song as a celebration of sexual love between a woman and a man.

POINT TWO - It is worth noting that the Song describes a love marked by fidelity and mutuality.

POINT THREE - For Jewish and Christian interpreters of previous centuries, however, the Song described the mutual love of God and Israel or Christ and the Church.

THIS WEEK'S KEY PASSAGE

¹⁰ My lover said to me, “Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one! (Song of Solomon 2:10 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Each of us is caught up in a passionate relationship like this one. We love God, however incompletely. God loves us in a way that is infinite. And moreover, the great surprise is that the love we have for God is secretly infinite: it is God's love for us returning to its source, for divine love is an outpouring and an incoming tide. “Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.” That voice addresses us. It is the music at the foundation of our lives, seeking to realign our desires and to fulfill them if only we will respond. If we create the right conditions in our lives, God will come and dwell in us. God doesn't make the intimacy. We do. But God never fails to reveal Himself intimately to those who make the overtures, those who take the simple steps of preparing for His presence. Build your life in these ways, and you will have a relationship deep as Adam and Eve had in the Garden. Build your life in these ways, and He will come unto you.

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The *"In Spiritu"* Ensemble

1st Soprano

Sheila Chilcote-Collins
Stacie Korte

2nd Soprano

Mary Ann Falk
Jill Jeffery

Alto

Melinda Farmer
Kristina Welker

Accompanist

David VanTilburg

Introit:

"Sing For Joy" - From the Oratorio, "Judas Maccabaeus" - Handel
Arranged by: Linda Spevacek

Special Music:

"Keep Your Lamps!" Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by: Andre Thomas

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