

Salem Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 26, 2021, 17thth Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery Organist: Dave Van Tilburg

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Marilyn Foust



Prelude & Lighting the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Call to Worship: Psalm 1 479

*Hymn: Sardon *Welsh Hymnal, 27*

Prayer of Confession: **O God, we live our lives as best we can—dealing with difficult relationships and situations, putting failures and disappointments behind us, and moving into each new day with as much energy, goodwill, and optimism as we can muster. But right now, we seldom have the right answers; we seldom seek Your higher Wisdom in our lives; we just move ahead. Forgive us for not asking for Your insight. Fill us with Your Wisdom, that we may live lives of goodness and peace. 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**

Scripture Readings *Proverbs 31:10-31 601
Mark 9:30-37 920
James 3:13-4:3 1102

Time for Children

*Hymn: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind 358

Sermon “Valuing the Virtuous Woman” 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 Prayer
*Response **Praise God** Inside Front Cover

*Hymn: For the Fruit of All Creation Insert

*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: \$80,118.51
Rec’d 09-19-21: \$1,444.00 Rec’d to Date: \$91,550.56

Sunday: 09-26-21
9:30 AM
Worship (nursery with Steve & Lindsay Richards)
Drive Your Tractor to Church followed by a
Potluck lunch

Tuesday: 09-28-21
7:00 PM
Women's Bible Study

Sunday: 10-03-21
9:30 AM
Worship (nursery with Rex & Lisa Lloyd)
World Communion Sunday
Peace Making Offering

Announcements:

Pentecostal Way Church is hosting this month's **Van Wert County-Wide Prayer Meeting** at noon **Thursday, September 30** at 1213 Leeson Avenue in Van Wert.

The **Women's Bible Study** will be on Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the church basement.

Today is the **2021 Drive Your Tractor to Church / Blessing of the Harvest** with a potluck lunch; please feel free to stay and socialize over a meal.

The **Shoebox Project** - For the last 28 years, shoeboxes have been collected, filled with gifts and delivered to children in need around the world. Please plan to fill a shoebox and give hope and joy to a precious child. Collection day is Sunday, November 22. There are flyers and boxes set up in the Prayer room.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

26 th Cindy Barnes	26 th Marian Morris	27 th Brian Ellerbrock
27 th Lisa Lloyd	29 th Stephanie Beck	29 th Steve Richards
30 th Jack Blackmore	Oct 2 nd Kory Mullenhour	8 th Bob McCollow

Upcoming Anniversaries

28 th Eric & Jen Pugh	Oct 2 nd Kevin & Heather Matthews
7 th Jason & Sara Kimmet	



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | September 26, 2021

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@saalemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Rick Army
Greg & Mara Beougher & family
Lynnix Bragg
Barry Coil (stroke)
Kathy Comer
Pastor Tom Emery
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
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
“Valuing the Virtuous Woman” Proverbs 31:10-31
Salem Presbyterian Church
September 26, 2021

Proverbs advises us to choose as your lifelong partner in life, the Wisdom of God, for only she can bring you an exemplary life of security, honor, and joy. Our passage today is an acrostic poem using each of the Hebrew letters to exalt the virtues of an allegorical wife who illustrates the principles of godly Wisdom; please note that she is the opposite of the promiscuous worldly woman in Proverbs who should best be shunned. As a virtuous wife, it speaks about a way of seeing and interacting with the world as a pathway that comes from God. The text bids us to seek this same divine perspective in our lives. Recent scholarship on the Proverbs passage links the “good wife” (better translated “woman of strength”) with the Lady of Wisdom (Proverbs 1–9).

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – We are warned against the demonic spirit of Jezebel that is active in this world leading us astray from God.

POINT TWO – True Wisdom, like Jesus, is to be desired and sought after and trusted for our good (Proverbs 31:10-12).

POINT THREE – When we come before God in humility and honesty, God draws near to us with forgiveness and renewed blessing.

THIS WEEK’S KEY PASSAGE

Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears [reverences] the LORD will be greatly praised (Proverbs 30:10 NLT).

ACTION POINT

The previous chapters of Proverbs and Psalm 1 (a Wisdom Psalm), tells us to: “seek God and meditate on God’s ordering of the world.” The Book of James continues this look at Wisdom, speaking of this gift as something that comes “from above” and bears “good fruits” in our lives. While Proverbs and Psalm 1 speak of the prosperity that Wisdom can bring us, Jesus and James remind us that to embrace this heavenly perspective is to put aside the usual definitions of success and honor in order to seek the divine rewards on earth and in heaven. Wisdom is compared to the very personification of Christ, and of all that we should be in Him. Why not seek godliness and not the false and empty things of this world that do not satisfy us?

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