Salem Presbyterian Church Sunday, April 21, 2024, 4th Sunday of Easter

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery Org The flowers are given to the glory of God by Jeremy		•
Prelude Lighting the Candles Welcome & Prayer		
Call to Worship	Psalm 133	563
* <u>Hymn</u> :	This Is My Father's Worl	d 39

<u>Prayer of Confession</u>: When we hesitate to speak of our hope, forgive us and give us a voice. When we find it difficult to love one another, forgive us and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share Your grace. When we cannot believe Your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with Your joy. We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen. (Let us now have a moment of silence to offer our prayers of confession).

Assurance of Pardon <u>Response</u>	Glory Be to the Father	Inside Front Cover
Joys & Concerns of the People	<u>e Church</u>	
Prayer Response	The Lord's Prayer	
Special Music		Bell Choir
Scripture Readings	*John 20:19-31 Acts 3:12-19 1 John 3:1-7	989 993 1111

Time for Children

<u>Hymn</u> :	Milwaukee	Welsh Hymnal, 6
Sermon:	"Belief Without Seeing"	Rev. Thomas Emery

*<u>Apostle's Creed</u>: 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 * <u>Response</u>	Praise God	Inside Front Cover
* <u>Hymn:</u>	To God Be the Glory	449
*Taking the Light into the Worl	ld	
*Charge and Benediction *Congregational Response	Three Fold Amen	Inside Back Cover
*=		

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

<u>Financial Update</u> :			
Needed weekly	\$2,298.10	Needed to date:	\$34,471.51
Rec'd 2024-04-14	\$2,224.25	Received to date:	\$41,178.50

Sunday: 9:30 AM	<u>2024-04-21</u> Worship (nursery with Jason & Danielle Lloyd)	
3:00 PM	Service for Dale Kuiesza at Bayliff Funeral Home and meal at the Lions Club	
Tuesday:	<u>2024-04-23</u>	
7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study at the Orchard Tree	Jesus said to
7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study	Have you
Sunday:	2024-04-28	because
9:30 AM	Worship (nursery with Dave & Carla Breese)	Decause

Announcements:

The **Women's Bible Study** will be meeting on Tuesday at 7 PM.

The **Senior Luncheon** will be held at the Lion's Club, at noon, on Wednesday, April 24th. Come eat and bring a friend.

The next Session Meeting is at 10:45 on May 5th. Mother's Day is May 12th, and we will be recognizing Mothers. In May, we will be recognizing Salem Graduates. Please let us know of any graduates.

For the **May Sounds of Salem Newsletters**, please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the newsletter. Submit them to <u>secretary@salemchurch.cc</u>.

The family of James "Andy" Francis would like to say Thank you for all of your kindness, food, cards, and prayers during our loss of Andy. He loved his family, this town, and all of the people who touched his heart. Thank you again, Monica & Haylie Placke & Sophie & Colby and Alex, Alanna, & Aaron Frances, and Jason & Sarah Kimmet & family, and Tim & Julie Rickard & family, and finally, Marylin "Scarecrow" Foust

Upcoming Birthdays

22nd Elgarda McGee 26th Gwenda Blackmore 23rd Grant Zielke 29th Jenny Pugh

25th Julia Morris(Moliter) 30th Ruth Evans Jesus said to him, Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. John 20:29

John 20: 19-31

Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | April 21, 2024 P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142 www.SalemChurch.cc | <u>secretary@salemchurch.cc</u>

Prayer Concerns:

Josh Archinal (recovering from car accident) Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant) Charles Boroff (heart issue) Jason Boyd (terminal cancer) Dave Burnett (heart issues) Tim (Alfie) Burnett (recovering from a car accident) Kim Coil (foot surgery) Pastor Tom Emery (long Covid healing) Marjorie Eutsler Ellen Friesner Shana Fryer Stephanie Gamble (eye issues) Jane Harter Jerry & Elizabeth Holscher Pat Hunt (breast cancer) David Morris (Zeb) Larry Miller (cancer) Patti Poling (pancreatic cancer) Paul & Doris Price Ann Rees (in Van Wert Hearth & Home) Kristy Ringwald (adenoid cystic carcinoma) Evelyn Schwartz Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy) Phillip Winfield (brain tumor) The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country:

Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marines) Corbin Evans (U.S. Marine Corps) Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard) Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army) Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

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Our text is the story of Thomas who refused to believe in Jesus' resurrection unless the Lord appeared and provided proof. Furthermore, both Jesus' hands and sides must be touched. We smile and sometimes wonder why Jesus went as far as to accommodate his demand. After all, who demands anything from God Almighty? Perhaps, it is a uniquely special way God walks the second mile to reach a doubting child. Whatever the reason(s), we sense it is a teaching moment for all those who would come later. We are to learn not to demand a miracle to believe!

TEACHING POINTS

First. It is "OK" to have doubts about your faith.

Second. Many people struggle with the relationship between science and faith.

Third. We walk by faith, not knowledge.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY PASSAGE

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me" (John 20:29 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Have we not all known friends who insisted on solid proof that answered all doubts? Some great souls, even saints, have been born out of times of the skepticism of struggling with their faith. Read the autobiographies and biographies of those in church history. Well, how about you and me? If we believe in Christ, honestly believe in Him, and turn over to Him all our cares and concerns, we can have a new life, new hope, and new confidence. He is the Lord of our lives. He is the One sent from God to transform our world and to transform our lives. Why not believe in Him and have the promised experience that is more than abundant in following Him?

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