Salem Presbyterian Church Easter Sunday, April 20th, 2025

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery The flowers are given to the glory of God by Bob & Kathy McCollow The lilies are given by Bill Arnold in memory of his wife Jane (Lloyd) Arnold and his in-laws Rev. Ellis Lloyd and his wife Betty ******

Prelude Lighting the Candles Welcome & Prayer

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	554
*Hymn	Christ Arose	138

<u>Prayer of Confession</u>: O God, still creating, we hear your promises of a new day of joy and peace, and we are skeptical. We expect things to go on the same as they always have from bad to worse, and the past will keep us guilty, the future will make us afraid, and the present will burden us with too little time and too much to do. Forgive our lack of faith, our quickness to believe that you do not hear us, and our pessimism about tomorrow. Do a new thing in our hearts and let us be glad and rejoice in your abundant care. This 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
<u>Joys & Concerns of the</u> Prayers of the People	<u>e Church</u>	
Scripture Readings	lsaiah 65:17-25 John 20:1-18 Acts 10:34-43	682 988 1002

Time for Children

*Hymn	He Lives!	132
Homily:	"The Meaning of Easter"	Rev. Thomas Emery
*Hymn	Penpark (First and last verses)	Welsh Hymnal 26
	The Sacrament of the Lord's Sup	oper
Words of Institution	1 Corinthians 11:23-28	
Great Thanksgiving	The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord ou It is right to give our thanks and	
Prayer	laby haby haby Cad of newsray	d might llogues and

Congregational Prayer Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Christ the Bread of Life: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Invitation, Distribution, and Prayer

Offertory Prayer of Dedication

* <u>Response</u>	Praise God	Inside Front Cover
* <u>Hymn:</u>	Christ the Lord Is Risen To	day 137
	Charge and Benediction	
*Taking the Light into the World *Congregational Response	Three Fold Amen	Inside Back Cover
*Those who are able are invited to stand		

Sunday:	2025-04-20 Easter Sunday
8:00 AM	Easter Sunrise Breakfast
9:00 AM	Flowering of the Cross
9:30 AM	Worship (nursery with Jeremy & Samantha Morris)
11:00 AM	Newcomers Class
Tuesday:	<u>2025-04-22</u>
7:30 AM	Men's Bible Study meets at the Global Methodist Church at Crawford and Walnut Streets.
7:00 PM	The Women's Bible Study meets downstairs.
Thursday:	2025-04-24
Noon	The Van Wert County Prayer Group meets at the Ohio City
	United Methodist Church.
Sunday:	2025-04-27 2nd Sunday of Easter
9:30 AM	Worship with guest Pastor Harry Tolhurst
	One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
	(nursery with Liz Hobbs & Kim Coil)

<u>Announcements:</u>

Salem gives **Offerings from the Heart for the Salvation Army**. Each month, we collect different items; the food we are collecting for April is ravioli.

The Senior Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 23, at noon. All are welcome!

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the **May Newsletter**. Submit them to: <u>PastorTomEmery@live.com</u>.

Upcoming Birthdays

20th Kevin Matthews 25thJulia Morris/Moliter 22nd Elgarda McGee23nd Q26th Gwenda Blackmore29th Q

23rd Grant Zielke 29th Jenny Pugh

Financial Update:

Needed Weekly:\$2,345.90Rec'd 2025-04-13:\$2,224.50

Needed to Date: Rec'd to Date: \$35,188.45 \$40,663.68



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | April 20, 2025 P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142 www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

LaDonna Allenbaugh (shoulder & elbow surgery) Charles Boroff (heart issue) Dave Burnett (heart issues) Tom Burnett (recovering from an accident) Kim Coil (foot surgery) Pastor Tom Emery (long COVID healing) Marjorie Eutsler Millie Fletcher Ellen Friesner Cecil Foust (heart surgery) Shana Fryer Stephanie Gamble (eye issues) Charlie Good (prostate cancer) Sheryl Hefner (cancer) Carla Hillabrand (medical issues) sister to Nancy Breese Jerry & Elizabeth Holscher Jim Lloyd (at Van Wert Manor for heart & foot issues) Mary Lou Morgan (Eleanor Morgan's daughter) David Morris (Zeb) Steve Muhlenkamp (cancer) Jen Pugh's stepdad Bev Place (cancer) Patti Poling (pancreatic cancer) Ann Rees (in Van Wert Hearth & Home) Bianca Richards (leukemia) Mark Zielke (prostate cancer) 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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Rev. Thomas Emery "The Meaning of Easter" Isaiah 65:17-25 Salem Presbyterian Church April 20, 2025

At the resurrection, Satan was defeated by Christ's sacrifice on the cross, and God took back the title deed to His creation. We live in a time of "already and not yet." We have the promise of a new heaven and earth when Jesus comes again and takes full possession of this world with His return. But what does the creation of a new heaven convey? Earlier parts of the Book of Isaiah have made it clear that problems in the heavens and on earth are two sides to a single coin. The heavens are the place of supernatural forces whose battling lies behind battles on earth (13:5). The heavens mirror the actions of Yahweh on earth (13:10), and the heavens are shaken as is the earth when Yahweh acts in wrath (13:13). The destruction of evil in heaven (34:4–5) must accompany the destruction of any evil opposition on earth.

TEACHING POINTS

First. Only God could redeem the mess God's people had made of their world and its effects on their present and future.

Second. Christ's sacrificial death was the payment to redeem the earth.

Third. In this life, you have a decision to make.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY PASSAGE

"Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and no one will even think about the old ones anymore (Isaiah 65:17 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Believers will see the fulfillment of God's original vision of creation, of a perfect life with God. Joy will replace grief (v. 19), long life will replace earthly death (v. 20), and fulfillment in work will replace frustration (vv. 21–23). All our sins, all our despair, all the scars of the oppressions of the past are gone. They belong to the former things that will no longer be remembered. When you get free of your old anxieties, your wounds, and your self-seeking selfishness, it is like a fresh start, a new world, with Jesus as your Lord. Are you hurting, anxious, or paralyzed by your past, by a destructive lifestyle, or by what society says you are? Why not seek a cleansed new relationship with God through the actions of Christ's payment for your sins? With Christ in your life, you can begin anew!

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