Salem Presbyterian Church

3rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, June 29, 2025

Rev. Thomas Emery

Organist: Becky Reichard

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Mark & Missy Zielke

Prelude Lighting of the Candles Welcome & Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance to the Christian and American Flags

*<u>Hymn</u>: My Country, 'Tis of Thee 529

<u>Call to Worship</u> Psalm 30 494

<u>Prayer of Confession</u>: O God of hope and healing, we confess that our lives are often marked by brokenness and sin. We turn to You in the hope that Your hand will pass over us and we will be healed. Yet in our desire for salvation, we prefer healing that comes in our own way and on our own terms. When You do not respond according to our expectations, we turn away in anger and disappointment. Have mercy on us when we grow impatient with Your timing, desiring our own. Grant us the humility to receive the words of the humble and lowly. Open our ears to the council of the servants You send us, so that we may be guided into Your path of healing. Make us whole we pray. Wash us and make us clean. And grant us faith beyond all fear, so that we may be clothed with Your joy and give You thanks forever. We pray this in Jesus' Name. Amen. (Please take a moment of silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Response Glory Be to the Father Inside Front Cover

<u>Joys & Concerns of the Church</u> Prayers of the People

Special Music	Arlene Amstutz & Becky Reichard

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings *2 Kings 5:1-14 332 Luke 9:51-62 945

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Time for Children

Prayer Response

Hymn: God of Our Fathers 532

Sermon Godly Decision-Making 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 of the Offering

*Response Praise God Inside Front Cover

*<u>Hymn</u> Diadem Welsh hymnal, 13

*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:	\$2,345.90	Needed to Date:	\$58,647.41
Rec'd 2025-06-22:	\$4,258.50	Rec'd to Date:	\$63,475.61

Sunday: <u>06-29-2025</u> 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM Worship with Pastor Tom Emery

(Nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans)

Tuesday: <u>07-01-2025</u>

7:30 AM Men's Bible Study meets in the Global Methodist

Church at Crawford and Walnut Streets.

Thursday: <u>07-03-2025</u>

Noon The Van Wert County Prayer meeting is at the Global

Methodist Church.

Sunday: <u>07-06-2025</u> 4th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM Worship with Pastor Tom Emery

(Nursery with Johnathan & Katie Young)

Announcements:

Thank you to Susan Mays for donating a second coffee maker for the Salem kitchen.

Salem gives **Offerings from the Heart for the Salvation Army**. Each month, we collect different items; the food we collect for July is canned fruit.

Please take photos and contribute updates, recipes, and ideas for the next **newsletter**. Submit them to PastorTomEmery@live.com

Upcoming Birthdays

29th Tom Evans 30th Shania (Profit) Lloyd Jul 1st Gloria Leiter

2nd Lynette Lloyd 7th Deanna Dearing

Upcoming Anniversaries

1st Jack & Gwenda Blackmore 4th Toby & Elizabeth Adkins



Salem Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, 074 45894

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Secretary: 419-303-2032 (call/text)

Salemchurch.cc@gmail.com

June 29, 2025

Prayer Concerns:

LaDonna Allenbaugh (shoulder & elbow surgery)

Allen Breece

Tom Burnett (recovering from an accident)

Pastor Tom Emery (long COVID healing)

Marjorie Eutsler

Millie Fletcher

Ellen Friesner

Cecil Foust (heart surgery)

Alana Francis

Shana Fryer

Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)

Charlie Good (prostate cancer)

Sheryl Hefner (cancer)

Carla Hillabrand (medical issues) sister to Nancy Breese

Elizabeth Holscher

Jim Lloyd (at Van Wert Manor)

Pete McCollow

Mary Lou Morgan (Eleanor Morgan's daughter)

David Morris (Zeb)

Steve Muhlenkamp (cancer) Jen Pugh's stepdad

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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Salem Presbyterian Church June 29, 2025

The stories of Elisha's miracles continue with the account of Naaman the Aramean, who is healed of leprosy after bathing in the Jordan River. The Lord comes to be acknowledged as the only real God, not only of the Israelites but also of foreigners. Naaman initially appears to believe that prophets are in complete control of their prophetic gifts and can say and do as they please, with a responsibility to please their superiors. He has prepared carefully for the occasion, using diplomacy and bringing valuable gifts. But he didn't want to be addressed only through an intermediary and sent off somewhere else. He reasons that this is surely no way to treat such an important person! What is worse, Elisha seems to be speaking not about healing but only about ritual cleansing.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – Naaman's resistance to Elisha's instructions is not unlike the resistance some of us may feel to some of the church's prescriptions for the healing of our souls.

POINT TWO – Do What God Desires, Deserves, and Demands.

POINT THREE – Don't let our expectations limit us.

THIS WEEK'S VERSE

¹¹ But Naaman became angry and stalked away. "I thought he would certainly come out to meet me!" he said. "I expected him to wave his hand over the leprosy and call on the name of the LORD his God and heal me! ¹² Aren't the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than any of the rivers of Israel? Why shouldn't I wash in them and be healed?" So Naaman turned and went away in a rage (2 Kings 5:11-12 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Naaman had looked to Elisha for a cure based on the recommendation of an Israelite slave. The way Naaman was healed made it clear to him that Elisha's God is not an impersonal prophetic power. The living Lord delivered the healing at a distance from the prophet. It is the directness of God's action that convinced Naaman of God's reality. It is the living Lord, and not Elisha, who must take center stage. Naaman's response reveals his grasp of what has happened, and he will never again worship any other god. Likewise, the world around us is searching to know the true God; you are the means to lead them to God through Jesus Christ. Why not be forthright about your faith and share it with others?

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