



# The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

**9 MAY 2021 • 10:00AM • SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## **WELCOME!**

Welcome to the Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC! While we refrain from meeting in person during the COVID-19 crisis, we continue to share in worship together, virtually. This bulletin will guide you through the process of joining us in worship.

## **HOW WE WILL WORSHIP TOGETHER**

Today's service will be held over Zoom, which is videoconferencing technology available free of charge online. Zoom allows us to see one another throughout the service. To prevent background noise, you will be put on 'mute' for the majority of the service. Even when we can't hear you, you are invited and encouraged to speak your part in the responsive readings, sing boldly, and participate fully.

## **PREPARE FOR OUR ONLINE WORSHIP**

1. Visit [zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download) to find the Zoom app for desktop, laptop, or smartphone
2. For desktop computer users, make sure your webcam is plugged in
3. To practice, join a test meeting: visit [zoom.us/test](https://zoom.us/test) and click "join."

If you are not able to use a smartphone or computer, you can also call in via any regular phone (see below).

## **JOIN WORSHIP ONLINE**

Link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/954580657>

Or join Worship by Phone:

Call (646) 876-9923. When prompted, enter this meeting ID: 954 580 657

You may also watch the service on our YouTube channel, which has better audio quality (though we'll miss visiting with you in the Zoom meeting!):

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCBLRqeZ9Gxj7828rN9sp7og/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBLRqeZ9Gxj7828rN9sp7og/)

## REFLECTING AS WE GATHER

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

To be a mother is to be  
a Touchstone  
and the Source,  
Bestower of names,  
Influencer of identities;  
Life giver,  
Life shaper,  
Empath,  
Healer,  
and  
Original Love.

— Allison Woodard

## WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

### PRELUDE

“Prayer in B flat major”

Alexandre Guilmant

### GREETING

### INTROIT

“God Welcomes All”

John Bell

### CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We gather to worship the One who crafted creation out of chaos,

**ALL: our cries of joy join the anthems of the universe.**

We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice,

**we bring the songs which have echoed  
in our hearts all week long.**

We gather as the children of God, our joy unbroken in God’s love.

**young and old, tone deaf and perfect-pitched,  
we lift the new, new songs of faith.**

### HYMN #760

“Bring Many Names”

WESTCHASE

### A LITANY IN HONOR OF NURSE’S WEEK AND MOTHER’S DAY

One: Blessed be nurses and mothers, who have faced the mystery of life itself.

**Many: Blessed be all women who have soothed pain.**

Blessed be the women who have answered sadness with a compassionate embrace.

**Blessed be the mothers and nurses who have dared  
to confront abuse and apathy with righteous anger.**

Blessed be the women who have practiced the ancient, holy art of healing.

**Blessed be the women who have created safe places,  
making way for the restoration of dignity and comfort.**

Blessed be the nurses and mothers who have anointed the sick and offered blessings.

**Blessed be the mothers and nurses who have faced  
the terrible mystery of death.**

Blessed be the women who have rejoiced in the delights of living.

**Blessed be the women who lead us in the dance of love.**

Blessed be the women who remind us they are made in the image of God,  
and that she is an awesome God indeed.

**Blessed be nurses and mothers, holding life  
in their bodies, hearts, and minds.**

Blessed be mothers and nurses, Holy God,  
**for they do your work and bear your grace.**

#### **RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 98**

ONE: O sing a new song to God Most High,  
Who has done marvelous things.

**ALL: The Holy One's strong right hand and holy arm  
have delivered us from bondage.**

The Almighty has made our deliverance known,

**And has revealed this concern for the people  
in the sight of the nations.**

The Most High has always shown  
love and faithfulness to the people.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the deliverance by our God.**

Shout for joy to God Most High, all the earth;

**Break forth into joyous song.**

Make music to the Holy One with the lyre,

**With the lyre and melodious song.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

Make a joyful noise before the Almighty,

**The One who reigns.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**The world and those who live in it.**

Let the rivers clap their hands;

**Let the hills sing together for joy,**

At the presence of the Holy One,

**Who is coming to rule the earth.**

The Almighty will rule the world with justice,

**And the peoples with equity.**

### **WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD**

#### **A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*debts*)

**MODERN TESTIMONY**

*The Rev. Michelle Terry*

**ANCIENT TESTIMONY:**

I John 5:1-6

**SERMON**

“Born of God”

John A. Nelson

## **WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY**

ONE: God’s commandments can seem impossible. But every so often we get a chance to give of ourselves, from the heart, without thought of reward — and we do it. That’s God at work, spreading grace and *shalom* through people like us. Let God use you today, even through your tithes and offerings, which we will dedicate to the care and healing of all that belongs to God.

**ALL: Let us offer our gifts with grateful praise,  
and commit them to God’s purposes.**

**RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

“Arioso”

*Mary McLeary*

Salisbury UCC Handbell Choir

✘ **DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit ever more;  
One God of grace, whom we adore! Amen.**

✘ **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We pray your blessing, O God, on these gifts — may they be used to give support and nourishment to our sisters and brothers. We pray your blessing on us, that our lives may be authentic signs of your grace and visible expressions of your joy. We ask it in Jesus’ name: Amen.**

**HYMN #7**

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

NORWICH

**BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

“Cornet Voluntary”

*John Travers*



### **Participants in Today's Celebration**

*Worshippers:*

Members and Friends of the Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC

Salisbury UCC Choir;  
Jennifer Oberto, *cantor*

Hand Bell Choir, Mary Davidson, *director*

Betsy Beck  
Larry Burcroff  
Jo Loi  
Karin Noyes

Jennifer Oberto  
Steve Ohlinger  
Lynn Reifsnyder  
Richard Reifsnyder

Sue Spring  
Jennifer Weigel  
Gordon Whitbeck

Dr. Samuel Lord Kalcheim, *music director*

John Estabrook, *reader*  
Karin Noyes, *online host*

The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson, *preacher*