

*The Congregational
Church of Salisbury*
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

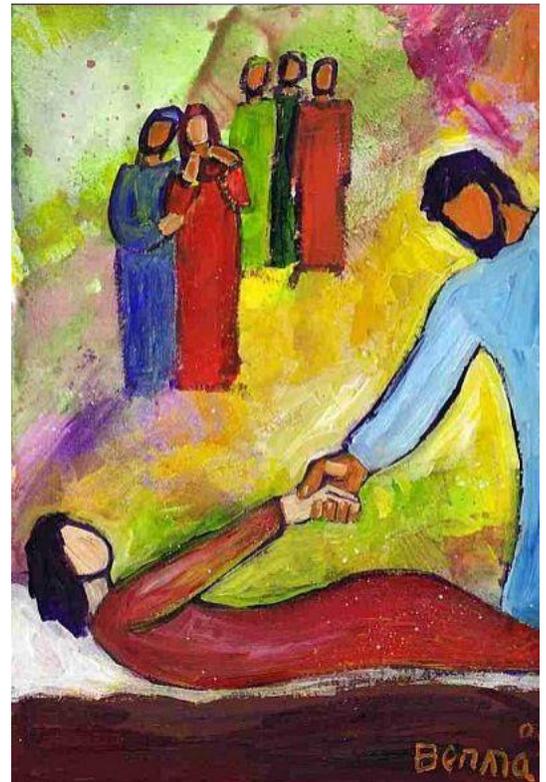
27 June 2021 • 10:00AM
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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 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 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/

REFLECTING AS WE GATHER

God longs for the healing and well-being of all human beings, even those about whom, left to ourselves, we would choose not to care.

Roberta Bondi

Health is a human right, not a privilege to be purchased

Shirley Chisholm

I have come to see how intimately the forgiveness of sins is connected with bodily and emotional healing.

Francis MacNutt, "Healing"

Can I see another's woe,
And not be in sorrow too?
Can I see another's grief,
And not seek for kind relief?

William Blake, "On Another's Sorrow"

WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

GREETING

INTROIT

"Walk in the Light"

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come among us, Healing God; we wait for you.

ALL: We come, hungry for your Word to bless us.

Come among us, Compassionate Christ; we hope in you.

We come, longing to be made whole by your mercy and mystery.

Come among us, Restoring Spirit; we wait and hope in you.

We come, eager to rest in your peace.

HYMN #792

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

SPIRITUAL

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

There is nothing, nothing, that can divide us — in life and death — from God. So let us confess our worst faults and eager failings, so we may be touched by the healing power of God. Join me as we pray together, saying,

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

We want to touch the hem of your garment, O God.

Forgive us for being afraid to touch those who come to us for hope.

**We want to love the whole world:
forgive us for ignoring our neighbor.**

**We long for peace:
forgive us for the pain we inflict
on our families and friends.**

**We want to share with those we love and like:
forgive us for walking past
those who need you most.**

**Forgive us, Loving God, for we do not excel
in everything you call us to do.**

**Give us grace:
to touch those who frighten us;
to carry compassion to the hurting;
to stop and listen to the outcast;
to offer the blessings of your reign to everyone we meet,
even as you have graced us in Christ Jesus,
our Teacher and Savior.**

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Listen to the Good News! Hope in God, for God's love has no ending; God fills us with grace and hope, this day, and forever.

ALL: God hears our voice, and listens to our prayers, redeeming us from all our sins. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Walk in the Light”

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm #30

ONE: I will honor You, O Holy One,
For You have pulled me up from the pit,

ALL: And did not let my enemies gloat over me.

O God, my God, I cried out to You for help,

And You healed me.

O Loving One, You brought me up from the grave,

You restored me to life from the realm of the dead.

Sing praises to the Almighty, O you who are faithful,

And give thanks to the God who is Life.

Who seems to forsake us but for a moment;

Whose favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,

But joy comes as surely as the morning.

When I lived untroubled, I declared,

"I shall never be distressed."

Your face, it seemed, beamed upon me an abundance of gifts,
And I stood firm as a mighty mountain.

When I lost sight of Your face, I was terrified.

I called to You, O God, and to You I made my appeal:

**"What good will come from my destruction,
From my going down to the land of the dead?**

Can the dust remember You?

Can it tell of Your faithfulness?

Hear me, O God, and be gracious to me!

O God Most High, be my help!"

You turned my lament into dancing;

**You undid my clothes of mourning,
And wrapped me with joy,**

So that my soul may sing praises to You

And not be silent.

O God my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts*)

MODERN TESTIMONY

"That time
I thought I could not
go any closer to grief
without dying
I went closer,
and I did not die.
Surely God
had his hand in this,
as well as friends.
Still, I was bent,
and my laughter,
as the poet said,
was nowhere to be found.
Then said my friend Daniel,
(brave even among lions),
"It's not the weight you carry
but how you carry it -
books, bricks, grief -

"Heavy"

it's all in the way
you embrace it, balance it, carry it
when you cannot, and would not,
put it down."
So I went practicing.
Have you noticed?
Have you heard
the laughter
that comes, now and again,
out of my startled mouth?
How I linger
to admire, admire, admire
the things of this world
that are kind, and maybe
also troubled -
roses in the wind,
the sea geese on the steep waves,
a love
to which there is no reply?"

Mary Oliver

ANCIENT TESTIMONY:

Mark 5:21-43

SERMON

“Indiscriminate Grace”

John A. Nelson

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

OFFERTORY

ONE: We know this much: God is pouring out healing grace, constantly. When we dare to believe, we open ourselves to the wonder and power of that grace. God fills us, and makes us able to give joyfully and deeply, as partners in service to the world.

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

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

✠ **DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100TH

**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**

From our present abundance, we offer our gifts to you, Generous Heart, so that the hungry might be fed, so that the broken might find healing, so the grieving might be comforted, and so your joy may rise among us. Amen!

HYMN

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE



Participants in Today’s Celebration

Worshippers:

Members and Friends of the Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC

Salisbury UCC Choir;
Jennifer Oberto, *cantor*

Dr. Samuel Lord Kalcheim, *music director*

Theresa Carroll, *reader & online host*

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