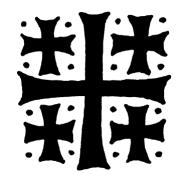
The Congregational Church of Salisbury

United Church of Christ

22 August 2021 • 10:00AM Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather as the Church



PRELUDE

WELCOME

₩ HYMN #757 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" KINGSFOLD (№ The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: To abide in you; to find strength in you;

to worship you in these moments,

ALL: we gather, O God.

To challenge the evils around us; to bring healing to the hurt;

to offer hope to the vulnerable,

we follow, Jesus our Brother.

To learn how to live; to put away our old gods;

to stick with the God of wholeness and wonder in every moment,

we listen, Holy Spirit.



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CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Yes, Watcher of the faithful, we could put on the bright shirt of faith, but prefer well-worn fear with its frayed cuffs, no matter the stains on the front.

We could slip on the loafers of peace, but squeeze into the size-too-small, stiff shoes of anger.

We could wrap truth around our lives,

yet continue to punch holes in the belt of opinion so it always fits.

Hear us, Faithful heart, and rescue us from our worst selves.

When we are lonely, you offer us your heart as a refuge.

When we are broken, you knit us back together.

When we are afraid, you promise to draw us into your embrace.

When we are faithless, you continue to call us to follow Jesus the Christ: the Word of grace and shalom.

(Silence is kept)

Assurance of Pardon

ONE: As God listens to our voices and hearts, our brokenness is gathered up and we are made whole. God's mercy and hope fill our lives.

ALL: We are forgiven! We are transformed into new people. We are clothed with grace and peace, so we may go and serve as God's people. Thanks be to God: Amen.



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RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 84

ONE: How lovely is Your dwelling place, O God Almighty!

MANY: My soul yearns,

Indeed it faints with longing,

For the flourishing gardens of the Holy One;

My heart and my body sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow has a home,

And the swallow finds a nest,

Where it may lay its young,

At Your altar, O God Almighty, My Sovereign and my God.

Happy are those who live in Your presence,

Ever singing with joy.

Happy are those whose strength is in You, In whose hearts are the highways to You.

As they pass through the parched valley,

They make it a place of springs;

The early rain covers it with blessing.

They go from strength to strength; Coming at last before God, in the holy city.

O God Almighty, hear my prayer;

Give ear, O God of blessing.

Behold, You are our sanctuary, O God;

Look upon the face of Your blessed ones.

Better a day in Your presence,

Than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather huddle on the threshold

At the house of my God,

Than dwell in the homes of the self-serving.

For the Holy God is a sun and a safe harbor;

Bestowing life and grace.

The Most High withholds no good thing

From those Who walk in God's path unswervingly.

O God Almighty, happy are all who trust in You.

We Proclaim the Gospel in Word

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

₩ HYMN #730 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" GRAND ISLE

SCRIPTURE READINGS Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 Old Testament, p. 267

Ephesians 6:10-20 New Testament, p. 238

SERMON "Sunday Styles" Pastor John A. Nelson

We Respond in Prayer and Faith

PASTORAL PRAYER | SILENT PRAYER

OFFERTORY

ONE: God gives a covenant that we can wrap around ourselves like an outfit: a promise of presence and grace. God gives the power of life: wholeness and harmony for all people. God gives truth, wonder, and the mystery of salvation. Amazing gifts, freely given — and we respond with our own gestures of thanks.

ALL: Let us gather our gifts with grateful praise, and offer 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

All that we have is yours, Holy One, given into our stewardship. Take these gifts, and use them to put shoes on weary feet, to put garments of grace around the hopeless, to touch hurting bodies with healing hands, and to share your Good News with everyone we meet. We ask in Jesus' name: Amen.

₩ HYMN #755

"Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

WEISSE FLAGGEN

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE

XXX

Welcome to Church!

Gathered in 1744, the Congregational Church of Salisbury is an Open and Affirming member of the United Church of Christ. It is also a welcoming home to people from a great variety of church backgrounds and life experiences. Your presence here today is a gift to us! We hope you will feel God's Spirit here today through our worship and fellowship.

We seek to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds and love our neighbors as ourselves. This Church is Open to all for participation, membership, leadership and employment regardless of race, ancestry, class, gender identity, physical and mental ability or sexual orientation. We Affirm each individual as a child of God, celebrating the total identity of each person.

As an Open and Affirming Congregation, we commit to work toward ending ignorance, fear, hatred, prejudice, and discrimination against any person.

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

If you are visiting us today, Welcome! Please sign our guest book and introduce yourself to our Pastor or to one of the Deacons. Fill out a welcome card in the pew to be put on our email list — and please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship following worship. Assistive Listening Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance!

Please set phones to silent mode (unless you're expecting a call from Jesus)

Today's Worship Leaders **Ushers**: Ken Edholm, Patricia Palmer

Deacon and Reader: Deborah Moore

Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary to the Glory of God.

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2021 (lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com); used by permission.

Psalm adapted from *The Psalms in Worship*, Mary Susan Gast, © 2002; used by permission.

Our Ministry Team

Ministers: All Participants in the Life of the Congregation

Worship & Music

Holding the Parts Together

Transitional Music Director:

Dr. Samuel Lord Kalcheim

Bell Choir Director: Mary Davidson

Administrative Assistant: Loriann Chevremont

Bookkeeper: Alex Bercy **Sexton**: Cory Wiggins

Faith Formation

Religious Education Coordinator:

Barbara Collins

Pastor and Teacher: The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

Church Officers, Boards, & Committees

Underline indicates first term of service

Moderator: Betsy Beck

Treasurer: Jennifer Weigel

Clerk: lennifer Oberto

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Peggy Heck '22 Janet Kaufman '23 Mary Davidson '24

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Cynthia LaPier '22 Sue Morrill '22 vacant

vacant vacant Theresa Carroll '23 Janet Kaufman '24
Lorna Edmundson '23, *chair* Deborah Moore '24
John Estabrook '23 Jennifer Oberto '24
Kathy Mera '23 Patricia Palmer '24

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Moderator, Treasurer, Pastor, and elected members:

Janet Accardo '22Roger Crain '23Louise Brown '24John Merwin '22Carol Magowan '23Dan Edmundson '24Susan Hassler '22Anne Williams '23Kerry Noble '24

BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Moderator, RE Coordinator, Pastor, and elected members:

Debby Mark '22 Stephanie Tierney '22 Jennifer Good '23 Linda Estabrook '23 Emily Elliot '24 vacant

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN ACTION Moderator. Pastor, and elected members:

Brenda Boone '22 Joanne Hayhurst '23 Peggy Heck '24 Joanne Taber '22 Beth Isler '23 Leanne Larson '24 Barbara Wiggins '22 Margie Vail '23 Karin Noyes '24

Jano Fairservis – Emeritus

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Sue Bucceri '22 Jane Capecelatro '23 <u>Linda Estabrook '24</u>
Theresa Carroll '22 Lee Collins '23
<u>Helen Scoville '22</u> Lyndell Giffenig '23
Sara Wardell '22 Alice Kent '23

MUSIC COMMITTEE Moderator, Music Minister, Pastor, and elected members:

Malcolm Brown '22, *chair* Peggy Hayes '23 Mary Davidson '24 Abby Gackenheimer '22 Emily Eliot '23 Terre Lefferts '24

USHERS COMMITTEE Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Cole Metcalf '22 Becky Belcher '23 Ken Edholm '24
Debra Moore '22 Janet Kaufman '24
Patricia Palmer '22 Sarah Morrison '24
Sharon Tingley '22

DELEGATE TO UCC CONFERENCE & LITCHFIELD NORTH: Charlie Noyes

Occasions for Service, Witness, and Prayer

IN OUR PRAYERS:

We gladly list joys and concerns, and typically print them for four weeks after they are offered in worship. (Prayer requests may be renewed at any time.)

Continuing concerns:

Linda Estabrook, recovering from broken hip • healing from gun violence and its long-term trauma • families seeking asylum and opportunity in the US • Residents of areas devastated by volcanoes, storms, earthquakes, floods, fires, and drought • an end to hunger • courage and wisdom to reckon with the racism and white supremacism in our society and its violence • faithful care of God's creation & repair of human damage to the environment • for our country's leaders and for all citizens striving to hold our country to its best standards • for survivors of war, for neighbors in

conflict zones, and for repentance by any who use deadly force.

Family & Friends who have passed away:

Sal Accardo; Nancy Smith

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray tender mercy on family and friends who are grieving.

Thanksgivings:

Zeah Rose Bercy, born to Alex and Kathleen on August 9th

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PASTORAL VISIT, please call the church office (860-435-2442) or email Pastor John (jnelson@salisburyucc.org). Sometimes we don't find out about an injury or illness or other need until long after — so please call!

This Week at Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 22 **A**UGUST

10AM Worship

MONDAY, 23 AUGUST

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST

9AM Staff Meeting 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST

5:30PM Packet Pickup Meeting for the

CROP Walk

SATURDAY, 28 AUGUST

Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Landon Good





The Congregational Church of Salisbury UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey: you are welcome here.

30 Main Street | P.O. Box 392 | Salisbury, CT 06068 • 860-435-2442 welcome@salisburyucc.org • www.salisburyucc.org

Office Hours: 9am – 2pm, Monday-Friday