

*The Congregational  
Church of Salisbury*  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**26 September 2021 • 10:00AM**  
**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**We Gather as the Church**



**PRELUDE**

“Berceuse”

*Louis Vierne*

**WELCOME**

✠ **HYMN # 65**      “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”  
(✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

CWM RHONDDA

**ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(inspired by Psalm 124 and James 5)*

ONE: If it had not been God who was on our side,

**MANY: the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.**

If it had not been God who was on our side,

**the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.**

Are any among us suffering?

**Come and pray.**

Are any among us cheerful?

**Come sing songs of praise.**

Are any among us sick?

**Come and ask for healing.**

Our help is in our God,

**the One who made heaven and earth.**

Call upon God, creator and rescuer.

**God is on our side.**

## RESPONSE IN SONG



Weave, weave, weave us to-gether. Weave us to-gether in u-ni-ty and love.



Weave, weave, weave us to-gether. Weave us to-gether, to-gether in love.

WORDS and MUSIC: Rosemary Crow, 1979. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Sometimes our words and actions show how we are salt for the world. But then come those moments when we lose our flavor and our way. Let us confess our sins to our God, so we might be restored and forgiven.

## UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

**Called to be your people, Living God -**

**why do we find it so hard to answer?**

**You ask us to cry out against injustice,**

**and we whisper because we are afraid someone might hear us.**

**You ask us to see the pain and poverty around us,**

**and we allow our eyes to be drawn elsewhere.**

**You tell us that everyone, and each one, is created in your image,**

**yet we persist in noticing the differences between us and others.**

**Forgive us, God of the Past and Creator of the Future.**

**Lead us to become our true, best selves,**

**bearing your gifts of wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy**

**to each neighbor, following Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior.**

*(Silence is kept)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Touched by the healing hands of Christ, filled with the grace of our God, led by the compassion of the Holy Spirit, our hearts are opened — and we discover we are forgiven and at peace with God.

**ALL: We who are created to love the unlovable; we who are created to bear grace; we who are created to embrace all people: we receive our forgiveness, giving thanks to our God. Alleluia! Amen.**

**RESPONSE IN SONG**

Weave Us Together

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**RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 119: 7-14**

ONE: The teachings of the Most High are trustworthy,  
making the simple wise.

**MANY: The designs of the Eternal One are life-giving,  
rejoicing the heart.**

The word of the Redeemer is radiant,  
lighting up the eyes.

**Faithfulness to the Creator brings enduring strength;**  
God's ways are faithful and loving,

**More to be desired than gold,**  
Even much pure gold;

**Sweeter also than honey,**  
Than honey from the comb.

**Your ways are the passage to life;**  
All other paths are raging with peril.

**But who can keep always on course?**  
Prevent me from wandering.

**Let me not be beguiled by the arrogant,  
who boast of their own powers.**

Then I shall ever lodge my trust in You,  
And keep to Your ways.

**ALL: May the words of my mouth  
and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to You,  
my Rock and my Redeemer.**

**We Proclaim the Gospel in Word**

**A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**

✠ **HYMN #346**

“For the Healing of the Nations”  
*All attending Church School may leave as we sing the hymn.*

ST. THOMAS

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Numbers 11:10-16, 24-29

*Old Testament, p. 161*

**GOSPEL READING:**

Mark 9:38-50

*New Testament, p. 55*

**SERMON**

“A Church for All Seasonings”

Pastor John A. Nelson

## **We Respond in Prayer and Faith**

**PASTORAL PRAYER | SILENT PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY**

**ONE:** We give as a practice of faith; we give to embody love in action; we give so that people and planet will be salted with grace.

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

**RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

“O Taste and See”

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

✠ **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**

**Keep leading us into generosity, Giving God. Make us a people who celebrate you when we wake in the morning, and who trust in your mercy when we go to sleep. Receive our offerings, and transform them into evidence of your reign of compassion, here and now. Amen!**

✠ **HYMN #39**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

**BENEDICTION and CHORAL AMEN**



## 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 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, 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 join 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!

***Kindly set phones to silent (unless you’re expecting a call from Jesus)***

## Today’s Worship Leaders

*Ushers: Janet Kaufman, Becky Belcher*

*Reader: • Deacon: Jennifer Oberto*

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House by Theresa Carroll  
in thanks to all our servants, especially those in the military.

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.

## 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.)

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#### Continuing concerns:

Emma Hodges, downsizing as she also deals with health concerns • Linda Estabrook, recovering from broken hip • residents of areas devastated by volcanoes, storms, earthquakes, floods, fires, and drought • the people of Afghanistan • healing from gun violence and its long-term trauma • families seeking asylum and opportunity in the US • an end to hunger • courage and wisdom to reckon with the racism and white supremacy 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:

Audrey Eriksson • John "Bill" Gallup • Sadegh Rafii  
• Jim Bly

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

#### Thanksgivings

The Rev. Abby Gackenhimer, called as pastor and teacher by the Bridgewater Congregational Church, UCC • 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Support Services, celebrated today.

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**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!

**ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME** | The CROP Walk continues throughout September! This fundraising effort gives direct support to people who are in food deserts and live with the burden of hunger. Join in the walking, and ask family and friends for support. Find details online at [tiny.cc/CROP2021](http://tiny.cc/CROP2021).

**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE** | Women's Support Services, headquartered in Sharon, has worked toward a vision of a world in which everyone can be themselves, have healthy relationships, and live free of interpersonal, relationship violence for four decades! *Join a celebration today, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm at the Lakeville Town Grove. Games for kids, music, ice cream, and more.*

## Officers, Boards, & Committees, June 2021 – May 2022

**Moderator:** Betsy Beck

**Treasurer:** Jennifer Weigel

**Clerk:** Jennifer Oberto

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:**

Peggy Heck '22

Janet Kaufman '23

Mary Davidson '24

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Cynthia LaPier '22  
Sue Morrill '22  
*vacant*  
*vacant*

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Theresa Carroll '23  
Lorna Edmundson '23, *chair*  
John Estabrook '23  
Kathy Mera '23

Janet Kaufman '24  
Deborah Moore '24  
Jennifer Oberto '24  
Patricia Palmer '24

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

Janet Accardo '22  
Susan Hassler '22  
John Merwin '22

Roger Crain '23  
Carol Magowan '23  
Anne Williams '23

Louise Brown '24  
Dan Edmundson '24  
Kerry Noble '24

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

Debby Mark '22  
Stephanie Tierney '22

Linda Estabrook '23  
Jennifer Good '23

Emily Elliot '24  
*vacant*

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

Brenda Boone '22  
Joanne Taber '22  
Barbara Wiggins '22

Joanne Hayhurst '23  
Margie Vail '23  
Beth Isler '23  
Jano Fairservis – *Emeritus*

Peggy Heck '24  
Leanne Larson '24  
Karin Noyes '24

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Sue Bucceri '22  
Theresa Carroll '22  
Sara Wardell '22

Jane Capecelatro '23  
Lee Collins '23  
Lyndell Giffenig '23  
Alice Kent '23

Linda Estabrook '24

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

Malcolm Brown '22, *chair*  
Abby Gackenheimer '22

Emily Eliot '23  
Peggy Hayes '23

Mary Davidson '24  
Terre Lefferts '24

**USHERS COMMITTEE**

Cole Metcalf '22  
Debra Moore '22  
Patricia Palmer '22  
Sharon Tingley '22

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Becky Belcher '23

Ken Edholm '24  
Janet Kaufman '24  
Sarah Morrison '24

**DELEGATE TO UCC CONFERENCE & LITCHFIELD NORTH ASSOCIATION:** Charlie Noyes

## Our Ministry Team

**Ministers:** All Participants in the Life of the Congregation

## Worship & Music

**Transitional Music Director:**

Dr. Samuel Lord Kalcheim

**Bell Choir Director:** Mary Davidson

## Faith Formation

**Religious Education Coordinator:**

Barbara Collins

**Religious Education Assistant:**

Holly Tierney

## Holding the Parts Together

**Administrative Assistant:** Loriann Chevremont

**Bookkeeper:** Alex Bercy

**Sexton:** Steven Wolf

**Church Officers:** Betsy Beck, *moderator*;

Jennifer Weigel, *treasurer*;

Jennifer Oberto, *clerk*

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

## This Week at Salisbury UCC

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**SUNDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER**

10AM Worship

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**THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER**

7PM Choir Rehearsal

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**MONDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER**

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

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**FRIDAY, 1 OCTOBER**

8:45AM Men's Bible Study

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**WEDNESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER**

9AM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study



**Please Recycle this Bulletin!**



*The Congregational Church of Salisbury*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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