

*The Congregational
Church of Salisbury*
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
17 October 2021 • 10:00AM
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost



We Gather as the Church

PRELUDE Hommage a Frescobaldi – I: Prelude *Jean Langlais*

WELCOME

✠ **HYMN #41** “O Worship the King” LYONS
Verses 1, 2, 4

(✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: There are many places you could be this morning,
but you have chosen to be here:

**Many: where together we learn how to live
in God’s realm of grace and wonder.**

Welcome to this place — full of music, of companionship, of prayer —
yet also filled with words and spirit that can shake our foundations:

where we encounter a Wisdom we cannot always understand.

Welcome to God’s House, the most dangerous place in town:

**where we remember who we are, and whose we are;
where we gather in awe-struck silence;
where we hear the call to discipleship;
where we are made anew by love’s own self.**

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

RÍO DE LA PLATA

The image shows a musical score for the song "We Sing of Your Glory". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some rests in the vocal line.

We sing of your glo - ry, we praise you a - gain,
We sing of your won - der and mer - cy a - gain,
for you are e - ter - nal. A - men, a - men!
for you are e - ter - nal. A - men, a - men!

Words: Trad. Latin American; trans. By S.T. Kimbrough, Jr., adap. Music: Trad. Latin American; harm. By Carlton R. Young. Trans. and harm. © 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

ONE: We pray to lay down a burden. For we know of things we have said and done that we shouldn't, and of words we could have spoken, actions we could have undertaken, but did not. Despite such choices, God meets us with love, surrounds us with mercy and hope, waits to restore us to fullness of life. Please join me, as we pray together saying,

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Creation's Heart, we look around and see how we fall short in our attempts at faithfulness. We often do things, not because it is what you call us to do, but in hopes of earning points or winning approval. Our focus can narrow until we miss seeing the suffering and struggles of friends, family, strangers. Our calendars expand; our prayer, our sabbath, our practice of wonderment contract.

Forgive us, Holy One. Remind us that the waters of baptism keep on cleansing and making us new, and that Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, calls us to awe-struck gratitude and service, as we seek to be faithful disciples.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The One who poured the foundations of creation fills us with grace and hope. The One who numbered the clouds, tips over rain barrels of living water into our parched souls.

The One who writes anthems for the early morning stars, fills us with songs of joy. The One who provides food for all living things, feeds us with mercies which come fresh and new each day. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

RÍO DE LA PLATA

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 104: 1-9, 24, 35c

ONE: Honor the Holy One, O my soul.

MANY: O Author of Life, my God, You are very great.

You are clothed with magnificence and splendor,

Wrapped in a robe of light.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent,

You set the beams of Your chambers on the waters,

You make the clouds Your chariot,

You ride on the wings of the wind,

You make the winds Your messengers,

Fire and flame Your servants.

You set the earth on its foundations,

So that it shall never be shaken.

You covered it with the oceans as with a garment;

The waters stood above the mountains.

They fled at Your roar,

At the sound of Your thunder they took flight.

They flowed over the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
To the place that You appointed for them.
You set a boundary that they may not pass,
So that they never again cover the earth.
O Holy One, how many and how varied are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all;
The earth is full of Your creatures.
Hallelujah!

We Proclaim the Gospel in Word

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debt*s)

✠ HYMN #352

“My Lord, What a Morning”

SPIRITUAL

All attending Church School may leave as we sing the hymn.

MODERN TESTIMONY

from “I Asked for Wonder”

Abraham Joshua Heschel

SCRIPTURE READING:

Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Old Testament, p. 595

SERMON

“Glorious Wonder”

Pastor John A. Nelson

We Respond in Prayer and Faith

PASTORAL PRAYER | SILENT PRAYER

OFFERTORY

ONE: *In awe* we recall what we know of the Creator of the Universe. *In wonder* we consider that God's power reaches far beyond our understanding. *In joy* we remember that Christ draws us into God's grace, where each one is treasured. *In gratitude*, we give our own treasure to the works of love.

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

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING “Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

J.S. Bach

✠ **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**

May our gifts lay a foundation of hope for neighbors in despair; may they brighten the shadows of those who wander alone; may they cause the voiceless to join the morning stars in singing your praises! Amen and amen.

✠ **HYMN #611**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Toccatta from Missa degli Apostoli

Girolamo Frescobaldi



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. 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 • *Cantor:* Jennifer Oberto
Reader: Kathy Mera • *Deacon:* Pat Palmer

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

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

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:

Ed and Lynda Kulikowski • Linda Estabrook, recovering from broken hip • Joanie and Dale, in treatment for cancer • 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 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:

Nancy Trotta • Audrey Eriksson • John "Bill"
Gallup

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

Thanksgivings

The Rev. Abby Gackenheimer, called as pastor and teacher by the Bridgewater Congregational Church, UCC

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!

*To see a World in a Grain of Sand
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand
And Eternity in an hour*

...

*We are led to Believe a Lie
When we see not Thro the Eye
Which was Born in a Night to perish in a Night
When the Soul Slept in Beams of Light*

From "Auguries of Innocence," by William Blake

This Week at Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 17 OCTOBER

9AM Zoom Sunday School
10AM Worship & Sunday School
11:30AM Trustees Meeting

MONDAY, 18 OCTOBER

Noon-6PM Red Cross blood drive

WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER

9AM Staff Meeting

THURSDAY, 21 OCTOBER

4:00PM Women's Bible Study
7PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, 22 OCTOBER

8:45AM Men's Bible Study
11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club



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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email: welcome@salisburyucc.org • web: salisburyucc.org

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