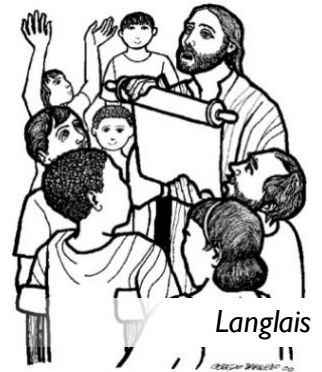


The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

23 January 2011 • 10:00AM

Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Langlais

PRELUDE

“Prelude Modal”

WELCOME

✕ **HYMN #317**

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

MCKEE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Loud talkers and silent worriers,
glad-handers and lonely wallflowers:

**ALL: God gathers us together to be the Body
of wonder and joy, of hope and healing.**

Bystanders with hands shoved into our pockets,
fraidy-cats whose feet are frozen in place:

**Jesus calls us to carry grace to outsiders,
to walk with all those left behind.**

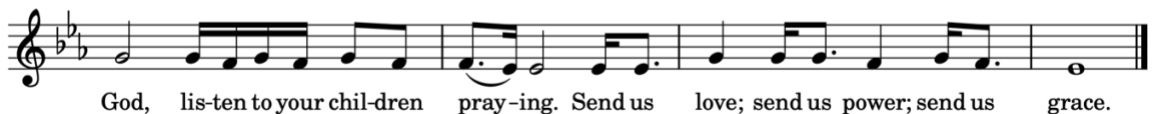
Kids who never offer answers in class,
bashful folks whose tongues tie in knots:

**The Spirit anoints us to speak up for the voiceless,
to partner with the poor, where God’s heart leads.**

RESPONSE IN SONG

“God, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Ken Medema



CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Do we make you laugh or weep, Gracious God?

We sing that we are one in your Spirit,

but tend to keep company with those who agree with us.

We talk of being one Body,

but in our weariness, we rely more on ourselves than one another.

We affirm the giftedness of each person, but sometimes we know more about an admired celebrity than our fellow church member.

Forgive us, Creative God,

when we strain to love and to nurture the Body of Christ.

May the words of our mouths speak peace to all that is broken;

may the hopes of our hearts bring wonder neighbors in despair;

may our love embrace all who are around us,

even as we have been welcomed by your grace in Jesus Christ,

our Teacher and Savior.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We turn our hearts and hopes back God, and God pours out forgiveness. We are filled by grace, commissioned to be Christ's hope, the Spirit's people for the world.

Anointed, we can care for one another, weep with one another, serve one another, and live with one another. Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG “God, Listen to Your Children Praying”

p. 1

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 19

ONE: The heavens declare the brilliance of God;

ALL: The skies proclaim God's handiwork.

Day after day they pour forth speech;

Night after night they disclose understanding.

Yet there is no speech, nor are there words;

Their voice cannot be heard;

Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,

And their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens the Almighty has pitched a tent for the sun.

The sun comes forth with eagerness,

like one betrothed emerging from the wedding canopy,

seeking the beloved;

Like a champion the sun runs its course with joy.

It rises from one end of the heavens, and journeys to the other end;

Nothing can hide from its heat.

The dominion of the Holy One is all-embracing,

Restoring life.

The teachings of the Most High are trustworthy,

Making the simple wise.

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.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

✘ **HYMN** (*p. 6*)

“Praise with Joy the World’s Creator”
All attending Church School may leave as we sing the hymn.

LAUDA ANIMA

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 8:1-2, 5-6, 8-10

Old Testament, p. 540

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 4:14-21

New Testament, p. 74

SERMON

“Your Story”

Pastor John A. Nelson

We Respond in Prayer and Faith

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY

THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

*Each week, offerings not specifically designated for the Church will be given to an organization that doing compassionate work and is close to the heart of a participant in our church. This week, we share our gifts with **Souper Suppers**.*

ONE: God has poured gifts into our lives; we now return our tithes and offerings.

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

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

Our church welcomes every size gift, and thanks you for your generosity.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Ave Maria”

Cecilia MacDowell

✘ **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**

**Though many different amounts and ways, when gathered up by you,
God of abundance, these gifts become a food pantry, a rebuilt life,
medicine for children, a caregiver to the lonely — your grace in action.
We make our offering in the name of Jesus, Love’s Own Self: Amen.**

✘ **HYMN #772**

“Live into Hope”

TRURO

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

“Pasticcio”

Langlais



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).

1 Praise with joy the world's Cre - a - tor, God of jus - tice,
 2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hun - gry, frees the cap - tive,
 3 Praise the Spir - it sent a - mong us, lib - er - a - ting
 4 Praise the Mak - er, Christ, and Spir - it, one God in Com-

love, and peace, Source and end of hu - man knowl - edge,
 finds the lost, Heals the sick, up - sets re - li - gion,
 truth from pride, Forg - ing bonds where race or gen - der,
 mu - ni - ty, Call - ing Christ - ians to em - bod - y

grace be - stow - ing with - out cease. Cel - e - brate the
 fear - less both of fate and cost. Cel - e - brate Christ's
 age or na - tion dare di - vide. Cel - e - brate the
 one - ness and di - ver - si - ty. Thus the world shall

Ma - ker's glo - ry, power to res - cue and re - lease.
 con - stant pres - ence— Friend and Strang - er, Guest and Host.
 Spir - it's trea - sure— fool - ish - ness none dare de - ride.
 yet be - lieve when shown Christ's vi - brant un - i - ty.

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Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Joanne Taber, Becky Belcher • **Reader:** Deborah Moore • **Deacon:** Janet Kaufman

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

Cantor: Jennifer Oberto

Faith Formation

Religious Education Coordinator:

Barbara Collins

Religious Ed. Assistant: Holly Tierney

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

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*

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.)

New concerns:

For Emmanuel and Fritz Gerald Joseph, serving the Evangelical Church in Morocco as Mission Co-workers on behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ, through Global Ministries.

Continuing concerns:

For neighbors in Tonga, devastated by volcano eruption and tsunami • Families and friends of more than 5,560,227 beloveds who have died due to COVID-19 disease, including 855,371 in the US • Linda Estabrook, recovering from broken hip • Residents of areas devastated by volcanoes, storms, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, fires, and

drought • the people of Afghanistan • 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 • Friends and family now serving our country in the armed forces • For survivors of war, for neighbors in conflict zones, and for repentance from the use of deadly force.

For those in treatment for cancer — David Douyea; MingMing; Deborah Merwin and others

— prayers for strength, healing, endurance for them, their families, friends, and caregivers.

Family & Friends who have passed away

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray for the Spirit's strong presence with family and friends who grieve.

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, 23 JANUARY

9AM Zoom Sunday School
10AM Worship & Sunday School

MONDAY, 24 JANUARY

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

WEDNESDAY, 26 JANUARY

12:30PM Staff Meeting
4PM Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY, 27 JANUARY

7PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, 28 JANUARY

8:45AM Men's Bible Study

Opportunities

THIS WEEK FOR OUR LIGHT OF SERVICE we will be raising funds to support our local **Super Suppers**. This program is a community effort, involving other churches, local businesses and individuals who want to offer a meal, free of charge, to people in our area. We have an ambitious goal: to raise the \$1000 needed to sponsor the month of April. This money goes for the cost of food for 130 meals and will be supporting a local farm business to boot. (As a member of the Green Team, I am happy to say we have moved away from the plastic and are using recyclable soup containers). It is exciting to be a part of something that involves a broad cross section of our community. I hope you will be moved to donate to this local effort. — Karin Noyes



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

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

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