



## PRELUDE

“O Welt, Ich Muss dich Lassen”

*Brahms*

## WELCOME

### ✧ HYMN #346

“Creating God”

O WALY WALY

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

1. Cre - a - ting God, you breathe your Word and new each  
 2. Cre - a - ting God, you ga - ther grain from scat-tered  
 3. A - bove the mea - dows of our hearts your ris - ing  
 4. With our dear Christ, we, too, have died, like seeds once

day cre - ate the world; your light you sing, your love you  
 fields, bap-tized by rain; raised up in love, from death re -  
 sun your love im - parts. Re - made in love, raised from the  
 sown and mul - ti - plied. Now raise us up from death a -

give; you breathe in us, and so we live.  
 leased, it brings forth grace that spreads a feast.  
 dead, Make us your wine, your liv - ing bread.  
 new. Cre - ate us now, dear God, in you.

*Original lyrics by the Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes.*

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We come, to renew and deepen our trust in God.

**ALL: We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for our neighbors.**

We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

**We would not worry, but open ourselves to God's heart.**

We come, waiting hopefully for God to speak.

**We will be still, listening for God's words of grace, of peace.**

## RESPONSE IN SONG

"Creating God"

O WALY WALY

**Creating God, you breathe your Word  
and new each day create the world;  
your light you sing, your love you give;  
you breathe in us, and so we live.**

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Over and again we hear how simple life with God can be: trust, do good to others, take delight in the wonders God provides for us. But living such a life? Such simplicity eludes us. Let us confess the struggles we have, as we bring our prayers to God, saying,

## UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

**In this season of growing light, Revealing God,  
we find ourselves wandering the shadows of the world.  
We remember Jesus' ministry of healing,  
yet hold tight to emotions — hatred, fear, worry —  
that continue to damage us.**

**We hear the invitation to heed Jesus' teachings,  
and confess it seems simpler to follow the seductive words of sin.**

**Forgive us, Resurrecting God,  
for trusting in promises which are short-lived,  
rather than in the Living Word that endures forever.**

**We seek grace to follow the ways of Christ,  
journeying from the far country of fear and doubt  
to that brighter realm of resurrection life.**

*(Silence is kept)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Take delight in the good news, dear friends. Salvation is from our God, who forgives us and restores us to new life.

**God chooses to be gracious; God longs to give us our heart's desires;  
God provides healing and hope to all. Thanks be to God, we are  
forgiven! Amen.**

## RESPONSE IN SONG

“Creating God”

O WALY WALY

**With our dear Christ, we, too, have died,  
like seeds once sown and multiplied.  
Now raise us up from death anew.  
Create us now, dear God, in you.**

## RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

ONE: Do not fret because of the wicked;  
do not be envious of wrongdoers,

**ALL: for they will soon fade like the grass,  
and wither like the green herb.**

Trust in the Most High, and do good;  
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

**Take delight in the Almighty,  
who will give you the desires of your heart.**

Commit your way to God:

give your trust, and God will act:

**God will make your vindication shine like the light,  
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

Be still before the Blessed One; wait patiently for God;  
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,  
over those who carry out evil devices.

**Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.**

**Do not fret — it leads only to evil.**

For the wicked shall be cut off,

but those who wait for the Holy One shall inherit the land.

**Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.**

But the meek shall inherit the land,  
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

**The salvation of the righteous is from the Blessed one,  
who is their refuge in the time of trouble.**

The Almighty helps them and rescues them;  
God rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,  
because they take refuge in the Most High.

## **We Proclaim the Gospel in Word**

### **A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

✠ **HYMN #756**

**“O God of Every Nation”**

LLANGLOFFAN

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

### **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 are pleased to support the **Stanton Home** (Great Barrington), which serves adults with a primary diagnosis of intellectual and/or developmental disability. The Stanton Homes have a core belief in the potential of every human to contribute and take pleasure in their productivity and relationships.*

**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**

**“Os Justi”**

*Anton Bruckner*

*Os justi meditabitur sapientiam;  
et lingua ejus loquetur judicium.  
Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius:*

*The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,  
and his tongue speaks what is just.  
The law of his God is in his heart:*

et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus.

Alleluia.

Inveni David servum meum,  
oleo sancto meo unxi eum.

Alleluia.

*and his feet do not falter.*

*Alleluia.*

*I have found David, my servant;  
I have anointed him with my holy oil.*

*Alleluia.*

✠ **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**

**You pour out grace upon us, Loving God, not so we might be filled,  
but we might empty ourselves for others. Take the gifts we offer in  
these moments and use them to bring new life and hope to all around  
us. We ask in the name of Jesus, Love's Own Self: Amen.**

**MODERN TESTIMONY**

on Judgment

*Glennon Doyle*

**ANCIENT TESTIMONY**

Luke 6:27-38

*New Testament, p. 78*

**SERMON**

“Scorecard”

Pastor John A. Nelson

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

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

✠ **HYMN #754**

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

BARONITA

**BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

“Fuga in D minor”

*Pachelbel*

## 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.

## Today's Worship Leaders

*Ushers: Janet Kaufman, Becky Belcher*

*Reader: Janet Kaufman • Deacon: Sue Morrill*

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

Cover art: "Reconciliation" by Amos Supuni (1970 –2008) Zimbabwean sculptor.

## 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 Education Assistant:**

Holly Tierney

## Holding the Parts Together

**Administrative Assistant:** Loriann Chevremont  
**Bookkeeper:** Alex Bercy  
**Sexton:** Richard Tietjen

**Church Officers:** Betsy Beck, *moderator*;  
Jennifer Weigel, *treasurer*;  
Jennifer Oberto, *clerk*

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

## 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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#### New additions:

This week we pray with Angelica Santiago-Gonzales and our mission partners in Chile — Popular Education in Health (EPES), Theological Community of Chile (CTE), and the Pentecostal Church of Chile (IPC).

#### Continuing concerns:

For neighbors in Tonga, devastated by volcano eruption and tsunami • Families and friends of more than 277,010 beloveds who have died due to COVID-19 disease in the last four weeks, including 67,358 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 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 • 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, Keith Blanton and others — prayers for strength, healing, endurance for them, their families, friends, and caregivers.

#### Family & Friends who have passed away:

Chris McKenna • Mary Kate Lomanto

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

Prayers of gratitude for two congregations who recently declared themselves Open and Affirming: First Church of Christ in Clinton, CT and Enfield (CT) Congregational, UCC • For the birth of Wilson Leonard Moore (b. January 24<sup>th</sup>), grandson of Deborah Moore — and prayers for his family now embracing a newborn, George, Samantha, Penelope, Mirabel and Wilson Moore.

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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!

## This Week at Salisbury UCC

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### SUNDAY, 20 FEBRUARY

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

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### MONDAY, 21 FEBRUARY

*Church offices closed (Presidents' Day)*  
11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

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### WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

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

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### THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

6PM Music Director Search Committee  
7PM Choir Rehearsal

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### FRIDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

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

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## Save the Date!



A red poster with a white border and musical notes. At the top is a circular logo featuring a yellow double bass. Below the logo, the text "Student Open Recital" is written in a large, white, cursive font, with "40TH ANNIVERSARY" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font to its right. Below this, the names of the performers are listed in two columns: Callista An, James Leonard Byrne IV, Bella Fisher, Jayden Lee on the left, and Lucca Montondeaux Peacock, Soren Peacock, Julian Schwartz, Lucas Liu Wang on the right. An arrow points from James Leonard Byrne IV to Soren Peacock. Below the names, the text "Salisbury School Jazz Ensemble" and "Salisbury School Classical Music Ensemble" is written. The date and time "Sunday, February 27, 2022 at 3 p.m." are prominently displayed in a large, white, serif font. At the bottom, the text "Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC Meeting House" is written, followed by "SUPPORTED BY THE SPECIAL MUSIC FUND OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY, UCC" in a smaller font. A small logo of a tree is visible in the bottom left corner of the poster.

Student Open Recital 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Callista An  
James Leonard Byrne IV  
Bella Fisher  
Jayden Lee

Lucca Montondeaux Peacock  
Soren Peacock  
Julian Schwartz  
Lucas Liu Wang

Salisbury School Jazz Ensemble  
Salisbury School Classical Music Ensemble

Sunday, February 27, 2022  
at 3 p.m.

Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC  
Meeting House

SUPPORTED BY THE SPECIAL MUSIC FUND OF  
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY, UCC



## 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](mailto:welcome@salisburyucc.org) • web: [salisburyucc.org](http://salisburyucc.org)

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