



First Sunday in Lent

6 March 2022

PRELUDE

“Ricercar Cromatico,” parts 1-2

G. Frescobaldi

WELCOME

✠ HYMN #168

“Within Your Shelter, Loving God”
verses 1, 3, 5

ABBEY

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

**ALL: As we begin our Lenten journey,
let us be led by the Spirit,
even into the uncomfortable places.**

In those forty days, and in that place,

Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt, and temptation.

**As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led,
even into the uncomfortable choices.**

Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God,
rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

**As we continue on our path to faithfulness,
we will be led by our Christ, rejoicing in God alone.**

RESPONSE IN SONG “We Are Standing on Holy Ground”



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A PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

ONE: Holy God, Maker of all

ALL: Have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life

Have mercy on us.

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

(Prayer in silence)

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

**Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

With the whole church,

**We remember that we are forgiven by God,
befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere,

**We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

With all creation,

**We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life: the
unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

RESPONSE IN SONG "We Are Standing on Holy Ground"

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy shaper of this rich reality,

we give you thanks for the way you form us into vessels of your healing.

**Holy light of new beginnings, we give you thanks for your presence
among us as Love's Own Self, leading us into fullness of life.**

Holy comforter of those in pain, we give you thanks for the unfailing power of your Spirit, pruning us to bear the fruits of hope.

**We give you thanks for your Church: a community which abides in
grace and believes in hope and healing for our fractured world.**

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

BLESSING THE ELEMENTS

Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of life,
to drink the cup of the new covenant.

Jesus said, I am the bread of life.

You who come to me shall never hunger,

You who believe in me shall never thirst.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus took the Passover bread,

and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said,

This is my body, broken for the healing of the world.

Whenever you eat it, do so remembering me.

After supper, Jesus took wine of Passover, gave thanks to God, and poured it, saying,

This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for all.

Whenever you drink it, do so remembering me.

O Holy One, send down your Spirit that these gifts of bread and cup may be for us the living presence Christ.

Unite us with Christ forever and bring us

with the whole creation to your eternal realm of *shalom*.

SHARING THE MEAL

We celebrate an open communion, and welcome every person to the table. We share the bread and the cup in Jesus' name as a reenactment of an ancient vision of God's feast for all people. We don't require you to be a member of our church, or any church, to participate with us in this feast of grace: all that is needed is that you desire God's nurture. We serve gluten free bread and grape juice, that all may eat freely.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ONE: Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need,

**ALL: here we have tasted your goodness
and hungered for a world more just.**

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

here we have heard your call to be a people of healing community.

Though daily we touch our limits,

here we have received the fullness of your grace.

Embolden us to serve you, O God,

in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

✠ HYMN #783

“When We Are Tested”

ANGELS OF HEALING

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 doing compassionate work that is close to the heart of a participant in our church. This week, we share our gifts with [Feel the Warmth Community Supper](#), which provides hot nutritious meals and extreme hospitality 52 weeks a year. Volunteers create a welcoming environment for all who walk through the door seeking food and friendship. A program of **nOURish Bridgeport** in partnership with United Congregational Church-Bridgeport, the Rev. Sara D. Smith, Esq., Senior Minister.*

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

“O Sacrum Convivium”

Olivier Messiaen

O sacrum convivium!

O sacred banquet!

in quo Christus sumitur:

in which Christ is received,

recolitur memoria passionis eius:

the memory of his Passion is renewed,

mens impletur gratia:

the mind is filled with grace,

et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.

and a pledge of future glory to us is given.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

✠ 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

**Bless us, O God, that we may be a blessing to others.
Bless these gifts, that they may meet the needs of your people.
Send us with power, with grace, with joy to share the blessing of you,
in word and deed. We ask in Jesus' name: Amen.**

MODERN TESTIMONY from “The Garden of The Prophet”

Kahlil Gibran

GOSPEL READING:

Luke 4:1-13

New Testament, p. 74

SERMON

“Believing Enough”

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✠ **HYMN #618**

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”
verses 1, 2, 5

DEO GRACIAS

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

“Ricerca Cromatico,” part 3

G. 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: Deborah Moore, Sarah Morrison

Reader: Louise Brown • *Deacon:* Janet Kaufman

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2021
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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

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.)

New additions:

Ruth Tyrol, hospitalized

From UCC Global Ministries: this week we pray with our mission partners in Kenya: All Africa Conference of Churches • National Council of Churches of Kenya • Organization of African Instituted Churches • Presbyterian Church of East Africa • Programme for Christian Muslim Relations in Africa • St Paul's United Theological College.

Continuing concerns:

The people of Ukraine • Linda Estabrook, recovering from broken hip • the people of Afghanistan • Families seeking asylum and opportunity in the US • 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 • Friends and family now serving our country in the armed forces • For survivors of war,

for neighbors in conflict zones; 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 • Families and friends of more than 273,531 beloveds who have from Covid-19 disease in the last four weeks, including 57,656 in the US.

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray for the Spirit's presence with all 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, 6 MARCH

9AM Zoom Sunday School
10AM Worship & Sunday School
11:30AM Church Council meeting
5PM Introduction to Centering Prayer
(2nd floor)

MONDAY, 7 MARCH

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH

12:30PM Staff Meeting
4PM Women's Bible Study
6PM Board of Deacons meeting

THURSDAY, 10 MARCH

6PM Music Director Search Committee
7PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, 11 MARCH

8:45AM Men'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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email: welcome@salisburyucc.org • web: salisburyucc.org

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