

The Congregational Church of Salisbury  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Fourth Sunday  
after Pentecost  
3 July 2022 • 10AM

**PRELUDE**

Prelude, Fugue, and Variation

*César Franck*

**WELCOME**

⌘ **HYMN #339**

“Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

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

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Sing praises to our God — our teacher, our servant, our hope, our life —

**ALL: who heals us and makes us whole.**

Sing praises to our God, faithful children of the Holy One:

**whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.**

Sing praises to our God, faithful children of Holiness; praise God’s holy name:

**God’s gracious reality is near to us; God’s peace resides in our hearts.**

**RESPONSE IN SONG**

“Weave”



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



Weave, weave, weave us to-geth-er. Weave us to-geth-er, to-geth-er in love.

## **AN INDEPENDENCE DAY REFLECTION**

ONE: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her. For thus says YHWH: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of YHWH is with all who give themselves wholly to God. (from Isaiah 66)

***ALL (sung): O beautiful for spacious skies,  
for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties  
above the fruited plain:  
America! America!  
God grant that we may be  
a sisterhood and brotherhood  
from sea to shining sea.***

God of love and mercy,

**You have lavished your creative wonder on this land,  
entrusting us with an abundance of natural beauty and resources.**

Mighty Creator, may we always remember that this earth is yours and we are its caretakers.

**We have partly treasured, but also greatly abused your creation.  
Give us the strength of will to correct our ways, Holy One, that we  
may use what you have given us with care and thanksgiving.**

***(Sung) O beautiful for pilgrim feet,  
whose stern, impassioned stress  
a thoroughfare for freedom beat  
across the wilderness:  
America! America!  
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control,  
thy liberty in law.***

God of love and mercy,

**You shower us with grace and not condemnation,  
with love and not hate, with acceptance and not fear.**

Holy One, may we always remember that righteousness is more than law:  
it is your love, reflected in our living.

**Give us the wisdom to perceive when for good or ill we have failed to  
live into your promise of a beloved community. Grant us the courage  
of our pilgrim ancestors' best vision, to challenge every injustice with  
the wisdom we learn from you.**

*(Sung) O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life:  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine,  
'til all success be nobleness,  
and ev'ry gain divine.*

God of love and mercy,

**You have filled this nation with peoples from all races and cultures,  
blending us into a country blessed with diversity and strength.**

Source of all, remind us that patriotism, courage, and love of country  
are qualities we find in all neighbors, whether our families have been here for  
generations or have just arrived.

**Open our eyes to the subtleties of prejudice that place limits on our  
understanding of citizen, stranger, and newcomer to our land. Open  
our hearts and minds that we may perceive and honor and welcome  
you in every person, and make our land a place of deep hospitality.**

*(Sung) O beautiful for patriot dream  
that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam,  
undimmed by human tears:  
America! America!  
God shed full grace on thee:  
a nation blessed with none oppressed,  
true land of liberty.*

God of love and mercy,

**You have blessed us with the vision of a holy city, where everyone who loves, belongs. May we live for your vision, and make it our own.**

Instill in us the humility which comes with the knowledge that we have done nothing to deserve the blessings we have, but they come as your unearned gift to all people.

**Correct us, and direct us, and enlighten us, that we may be servants to the world and to all peoples. We ask this in Jesus' name, who is our God yet servant to all: Amen.**

*(Sung) America! America!*

*God grant that we may be  
a sisterhood and brotherhood  
from sea to shining sea!*

## OFFERTORY

ONE: With a word, God made all that is. With a word, Jesus released God's healing power. With a word, God even renews us, forgives us, and sets us free to sing our praise and serve our neighbors. We give ourselves to the transforming power of God's Word: our tithes and offerings, a token of our thanksgiving.

**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.*

## ANTHEM

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

*Virgil Thomson*

## ✠ 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

**God, all that we have is yours, given into our care. Guide us in the use of all that we bring, that these gifts may contribute to building your realm of mercy and justice. In Jesus' name we ask it: Amen.**

## ANCIENT TESTIMONY

Luke 24:13-16, 28-34

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"

## REFLECTING ON THE WORD

*All God's people*PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (*depts — hymnal, p. 35*)

## The Sacrament of Communion

## INVITATION

## APPROACH

ONE: In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being,

**ALL: So that God could give form to the world.**

At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being,

**So that the world could receive the Living Word.**

Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being,

**So that the Word of Life could be everywhere encountered.**

Entering these gifts of bread and wine the Spirit blesses this time being,

**So this encounter with the Spirit may**

**comfort, challenge, and transform us.**

## CONFESSION

Creator God, your Spirit brings us many different gifts:

**forgive us when we have coveted only the spectacular ones ...**

*(We unburden ourselves in silence)*

Your Spirit speaks to us through many different voices:

**forgive us when we have cut off the disconcerting ones ...**

*(silence)*

Your Spirit offers us many different insights:

**forgive us when we have welcomed only the comfortable ones ...**

*(silence)*

Your Spirit invites us into many different moments of possibility:

**forgive us when we have closed down the costly ones ...**

*(silence)*

Spirit of the living God, beyond time, and yet here with us now –

give us the wisdom to receive and treasure all your gifts,

the discernment to hear and respond to your voice,

the understanding to see and follow your patterns,

and the courage to recognize and seize your moments.

**So may we grow in knowledge of Christ's realm,  
deepen in dependence on its grace,  
and love in accordance with its measures. Amen.**

## COMMUNION NARRATIVE

### SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

### CONSECRATION

And as we share these gifts of grace: come, Holy Spirit! Take and transform them:

**that we may know their comfort and their challenge,**

**and find ourselves, and our time, transformed by heaven itself.**

## SHARING THE MEAL

*We celebrate an open communion and welcome every person to the table. We understand the sharing of the bread and the cup in Jesus' name to be 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 use gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice in an effort to remove barriers to anyone's participation in the sacrament.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ONE: May the Spirit who birthed creation and enabled Incarnation

**ALL: continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity;**

May the Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness

**stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ;**

May the Spirit who transformed the disciples

**grace and gift us for the task of building God's realm;**

May the Spirit whom Jesus bequeathed

**continue to comfort and discomfort us**

**until justice prevails, peace reigns, and love directs all. Amen**

✘ **HYMN #340**

"This Is My Song"

FINLANDIA

## BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

**POSTLUDE**

Organ Symphony Finale

*Camille Saint-Saens*



**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

*Visioning Team members:* Emily Elliot, Bob Maxwell, Janet Offensend

*Ushers:* Sharon Tingley and Deborah Moore

*Reader:* Kathy Mera • *Deacon:* Theresa Carroll

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2022 (lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com); used by permission.



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*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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