

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

“Bryn Calfaria”

Ralph Vaughn Williams

WELCOME

✕ HYMN #320

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

WAREHAM

verses. 1, 2, 3

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God has called us to this place. What do you see?

ALL: We see people who model for us

God’s joyous embrace of all people.

God has brought us to this place. What do you hear?

We hear God’s hope that we are able

to see each person as our sister or brother.

God has challenged us to open our lives and hearts to others. What will you do?

We will do only one thing:

welcome everyone in God’s name!

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

RIO DE LA PLATA

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!

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CALL TO RECONCILIATION

ONE: We meet them in the Bible: men and women who are as weak, as foolish, as prone to sin as we are. Every page, every story reveals to us our brokenness. Yet every page, every story tells us of the One who longs to make us whole. Let us confess our waywardness, and clear the way for God’s reconciling love to work within us. Please join me, as we pray,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In the mirror we call scripture, Revealing God, we see ourselves for who we are and are not. We worry over those who are not doing what we think they should, when our concern would be better given to correcting our own failings. We speak words that fail to give encouragement. We think and pray for the poor, rather than set their well-being at the heart of our actions.

Forgive us, Reconciling Love. Sit us down at Jesus’ feet, so we may learn the balanced life you intend for us. Then we may offer our gifts to our neighbors; we may bring healing to others; we may give welcome to our sisters and brothers, even as we have been

welcomed into your heart through Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Christ Jesus comes to reconcile us to God, so we can be reconciled to one another. Recreated in God's image, we are made whole.

When we are in Christ, everything becomes new. Our past is just that—our past!

Do you really believe this: that your past is done, and you are a new person? If so, go out and reflect it in your life.

Thanks be to God! We will live as reconciled people. Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG (p. 2) “We Sing of Your Glory”

RIO DE LA PLATA

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 15

ONE: O Holy One, who may find lodging in Your dwelling place?
Who may live in Your presence?

ALL: Those who walk Life's path unswervingly,

And do what is faithful,

And speak the truth from their heart;

Who do not defame with their tongue,

Nor do any harm to their friends,

Nor take up insults against their neighbors;

In whose eyes those who affront God's intentions are contemptible,

While those who put their trust in the Most High are cherished;

Who stand by their commitments,

Even to their own wounding;

Who lend money without interest,

And do not collude against the poor.

Those who do these things shall never be shaken or displaced.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

OFFERTORY

ONE: As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, Gracious God, who holds nothing back from us, but is generous and gracious with all that is yours.

**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

“God Be in my Head”

Henry Walford Davies

⌘ **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**

**God, in offering these gifts may we become a more open people:
open-minded in hearing your Word and wisdom,
open-hearted in healing a broken world,
open-handed in heeding your call**

for extravagant hospitality and love in action.

**With thanks for all your good gifts, we present
a portion of our substance and the whole of ourselves: Amen!**

MODERN TESTIMONY

On the Cosmic Christ

Richard Rohr, OSF

GOSPEL READING

Colossians 1:15-28

New Testament, p. 244

SERMON

“Mind: Blown”

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

⌘ **HYMN #383**

“Dream On, Dream On”

DREAM ON

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

“In Dir ist Freude”

J.S. Bach



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: Sarah Morrison and Joanne Hayhurst

Reader: Sue Morrill • Deacon: Theresa Carroll

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House by Angela Lomanto,
in honor of all who defend truth in public life.

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2022 (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

Music Director: David Baranowski
Bell Choir Director: Mary Davidson
Cantor: Jennifer Oberto

Faith Formation

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.)

New additions:

Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries: for G. Lou, Global Ministries Mission Co-worker in China and for mission partners, the China Christian Council and Amity Foundation.

Continuing concerns:

For the ongoing plague of gun violence: for each one grieving the deaths of beloveds, for survivors recovering from physical and spiritual trauma, for first responders, those tending to the traumatized, those whose trauma has again disrupted life, those who are laboring to stop the easy access to guns.

Linda Estabrook, recovering from a hip fracture • the danger to women's health and women's autonomy as reproductive rights are under renewed threat • Baby Sid, grandson of Susie Belcher, born with esophageal atresia, in NICU at Children's Hospital, Providence, for all giving him

care, and for his family • The people of Ukraine and all striving to end war • Richard Wardell, recovering from heart surgery • Ruth Tyrol, in memory care in New Hampshire • the people of Afghanistan • Families seeking asylum and opportunity in the US • Faithful care of God's creation & repair of human damage to the environment • friends and family now serving our country in the armed forces • All those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world.

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

Families and friends of more than 43,389 beloveds who have died due to Covid-19 disease in the last four weeks, including 9,686 in the US •

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!

Opportunities



CROP Hunger Walks are community-based fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States, created to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. After a CROP Hunger Walk ends, 25% of the funds raised is returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts.

This year will be the 39th annual CROP Walk since Pastor Dick and Joanne Taber brought the event to Northwest Connecticut (and neighboring areas of Massachusetts and New York). In our congregation, Pastor John, Pat Palmer, and Joanne Taber are

helping to organize the event — and we could use help **Arranging logistics, planning PR, managing social media, recruiting walkers, and making walks yourself: there is something for everyone to do!** Please speak with Pastor John if you can lend a hand (or feet, as the case may be). And register on the Salisbury UCC team at <http://tiny.cc/salisburyucc-crop>.

This Week at Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 17 JULY

10AM Worship
11:30AM Fellowship and refreshments

WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY

12:30PM Staff Meeting

MONDAY, 18 JULY

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: 8:30am – 1:30pm, Monday-Friday