

# The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**PRELUDE**

*Prière a Notre-Dame*

Boëllmann

**WELCOME**

✘ **HYMN #475**

“Come Thou Font of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

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

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: One: We gather to worship God.

**ALL: We gather with our minds full and bodies tired.**

We seek to be fully present to the Holy and Sacred this day.

**We breathe deep and center ourselves to know the Spirit's movement.**

Let us open ourselves in this moment to community,  
**and to the extravagant love of God.**

**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.

WORDS and MUSIC: Rosemary Crow, 1979. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

## **A LITANY OF HEALING AND HOPE FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

ONE: When memories of terror reawaken the past, and experiences of death, loss, and grief, then ...

**ALL: In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When anger and inflamed passion tempt us to respond with violence and seek revenge, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When we are enticed to give in to the illusion that war alone will resolve conflict between enemies, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When it feels like every menace, whether imagined or real, is a threat to our security, and fills us with fear, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When religion is used as an excuse to exclude, threaten, or destroy others, forgetting or ignoring all that unites us, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When we become stuck in the past, unable to respond to the challenges we face with vision and hope, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When we wrestle with how to create a better future for our children, even to the seventh generation, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

When we struggle to find a new and peaceful way to live in the world, and forget that you, O God, are our help and salvation, then ...

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world.**

O God of all peoples, nations, and creeds,

**you have created us and rejoiced in the goodness of creation, and have wept with us when we have experienced death, loss and grief.**

Send your healing presence into the world and endow all peoples with your vision of *shalom*, that we may bear the wounds of the past and yet live in harmony with one another. By your grace, may our resolve for an end to violence prevail.

**In your sure hope, O God, bring healing to the world. Amen**

**RESPONSE IN SONG**

“Weave”

**RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 51:1-10**

ONE: Have mercy on me, O God,

**MANY: In keeping with Your steadfast love;**

In Your abundant compassion,

**Remove from Your memory my straying from Your ways.**

Sponge up my guilt;

**Cleanse me from my errors.**

For I know what I have done wrong,

**And I am ever conscious of my violations of Your trust in me.**

All the pain I have caused others,

All the arrogance I have displayed,

**Began in my disregard for Your path to Life.**

So that You are justified in condemning me,

**And right to pass judgment.**

Indeed, I cannot help but stray,

**I have ever been weak in my resolve.**

Yet You desire that I be true and reliable in my inward being;

**Therefore sow in my secret heart**

**The wisdom to know my utter dependence upon You.**

Purge me with herbs, and I shall be clean;

**Wash me, and I shall be brighter than snow.**

Let me hear joy and gladness;

**Let the bones that have been crushed by guilt rejoice.**

Turn Your face from my sins,

**And sponge up all my guilt.**

Create for me a new beginning, O God,

**And put an unshakable spirit within me.**

**A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

✕ **HYMN #173**

**"A Woman and a Coin"**

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

## OFFERTORY

ONE: Just imagine — in God’s eyes each of us is a sheep that has wandered: we are precious and God eagerly seeks us. Just imagine — in God’s heart we are a valuable coin, gone missing: God will search us out and bring us safely home. Just imagine — and in gratitude for God’s unending generosity, 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

### ✘ 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

**Christ Jesus, our tithes and offerings are a small part of us, but they express our hopes and our commitment. We dedicate them to the vision of your realm of grace and reconciliation and joy. Bless the gifts, bless the giving, bless the givers, and may all that is within us bless your holy name: Amen and Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

I Timothy 1:12-17  
Luke 15:1-10

*Testament, p. 253  
New Testament, p. 95*

## SERMON

“Hide and Seek”

The Rev. Ryan. Gackenheimer

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### ✘ HYMN #39

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

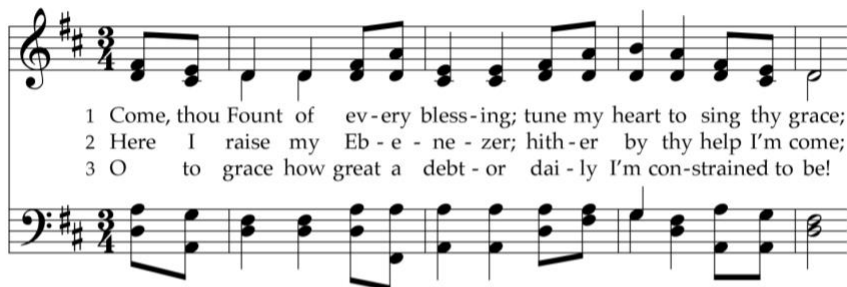
## BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

## POSTLUDE

*Gigue Fuge*

J.S. Bach

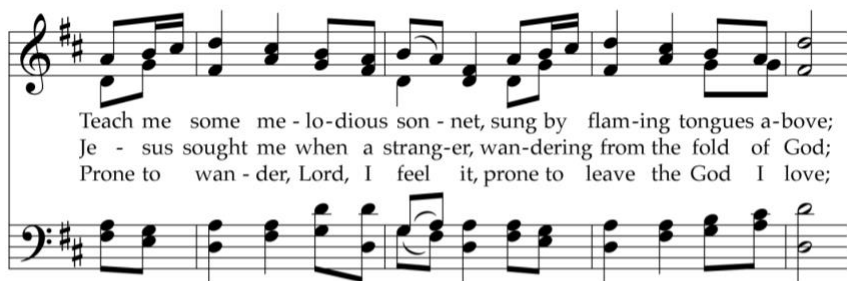
# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



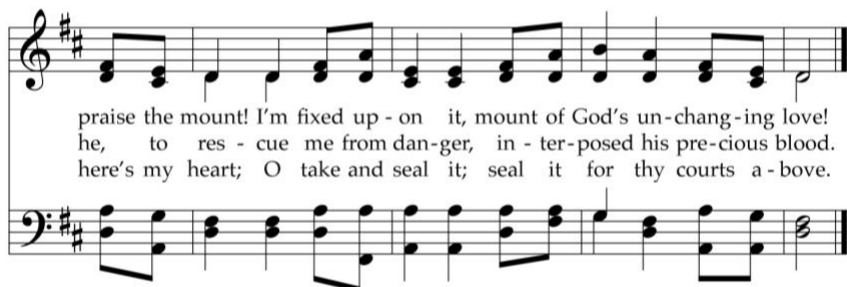
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

# 173 A Woman and a Coin



1 A wom - an and a coin: the coin is lost!  
 2 A shep - herd and a sheep: the sheep is lost!  
 3 A par - ent and a child: the child is lost!  
 4 Dear God, you sought us when the world was lost;



How much it means to her, what time and toil,  
 Far from the flock, the one in hun - dred cries,  
 The par - ent feeds on mem - o - ries and hope,  
 you gave your on - ly son at what a cost;



what part it was to play in her bright dreams!  
 then, risk - ing life, the shep - herd's voice and staff!  
 the prod - i - gal on husks and one last chance.  
 your Spir - it wel - comes home the tem - pest - tossed:



Am I that trea - sured coin worth search - ing for?  
 Am I that trea - sured sheep worth dy - ing for?  
 Am I that trea - sured child worth wait - ing for?  
 now we can be all you were dream - ing of.



I'm found, and you re - joice! What love! What love!  
 I live, and you re - joice! What love! What love!  
 I'm home, and you re - joice! What love! What love!  
 We're safe, and you re - joice! What love! What love!

This text is a summary and interpretation of the three parables of Jesus recorded in Luke 15:3–32. The order has been partly rearranged (the second and first are interchanged) to create an ascending order of significance and to provide a context for the well-known third parable.

## 39

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
 날 마 다 자 비 를 배 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주





## 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

### **THIS MORNING WE WELCOME THE REV. RYAN GACKENHEIMER**

to preach and lead us in worship. Ryan was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 2008, a graduate of Eden Theological Seminary. He grew up in Indiana, attending DePauw University for undergraduate and Gonzaga University for graduate school. Ryan loves spending time outdoors, especially with his family, the Rev. Abby Gackenheimer and son, Keadyn. Ryan has served UCC ministries in Vermont and Connecticut.

*Ushers: Kevin Wolgemuth, Sharon Tingley  
Reader: Sue Morrill • Deacon: Lorna Edmundson*

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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## 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

**Church School Coordinator:**  
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:

Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries: Mission Partners in Colombia — Justapaz (Mennonite Center for Justice, Peace, and Nonviolent Action), and the Peace Commission of the Evangelical Council of Colombia • Xiomara Cintrón-García, Global Ministries Mission Co-worker in Colombia.

#### Continuing concerns:

Linda Estabrook, recovering from a hip fracture • Baby Sid, grandson of Susie Belcher, born with esophageal atresia, 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 • for an end to gun violence • 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 — Frank Swaye, 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

Roberta “Bobbie” Edmundson Rose •  
Mary Theresa Feen • Families and friends of more  
than 61,846 beloveds who have died due to Covid-  
19 disease in the last four weeks, including 13,074  
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.

Friends and family now serving our country in the  
armed forces • All those serving or living in war or  
conflict zones around the world.

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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!

**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 is the 39<sup>th</sup> annual CROP Walk since Pastor Dick and Joanne Taber brought the  
event to Northwest Connecticut (and neighboring areas of Massachusetts and New  
York). 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>.



*Please Recycle this Bulletin!*



## This Week at Salisbury UCC

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### SUNDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER

10AM Worship  
followed by fellowship &  
refreshments in the Parish Hall

11:30AM Music Committee meeting

4PM Introduction to Centering Prayer  
(Church library)

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### MONDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

4PM Centering Prayer via Zoom  
(contact E. Epperson)

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### WEDNESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study

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### THURSDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

7PM Choir Rehearsal

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### FRIDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER

8:45AM Men's Bible Study

### SEPTEMBER 18TH IS WELCOME BACK SUNDAY!

Sunday School resumes, led by Holly Tierney •  
we begin a four-week Season of Creation, remembering God's saving work in the  
marvel-filled universe of ocean, land, flora, fauna, climate, and cosmos •  
the Board of Deacons is preparing a feast for our fellowship •  
the Visioning Team invites us to talk together  
about our hopes for this Beloved Community.



*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: 8:30am – 1:30pm, Monday-Friday