

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Let All Things Now Living
Handbell Choir

WELCOME

✠ **HYMN #643** “Now Thank We All Our God”
(✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who looks with kindness on us.

**ALL: We are inheritors of the promises
made long ago to our ancestors.**

Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who gathers us here in this place.

**From across the street, from halfway around the world,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.**

Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who leads us into fullness of life.

**Scoffers and sojourners, watchers and wigglers,
we gather to remember Whose we are,
and sing out our praise!**

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

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!

Words: Trad. Latin American; trans. By S.T. Kimbrough, Jr., adap. Music: Trad. Latin American; harm. By Carlton R. Young. Trans. and harm. © 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

CALL TO REFLECTION

ONE: We know that we have not lived as God hopes. Yet however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us offer our prayers of confession and need to the One who waits for us.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty and tender God — the deep within all; the encompassing heart of all — we enter now into your kin-dom, your community of wholeness, a realm of peace.

**We bring our hunger,
and the hunger of the world.**

**We bring our inner stranger,
and the exiled of the world.**

**We bring our hurting selves,
and the hurting of the world.**

**We bring our separation from you,
caused by what we have done and what we have not done.**

We open ourselves to your healing forgiveness.

Inspired by your grace, we dare to imagine integrity in our inner life,
our relationships, our planet, and all the ways we live together.

**We dare to imagine the reign of Christ,
love's Servant and love's Self:
your heart given freely
to heal and renew each of us and all the world.**

(We unburden ourselves in silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God searches for the lost,
and finds us;
God invites the hungry to the table,
and feeds us;
God sends Jesus,
and frees us from death's prison;
God forgives all who sin,
and heals us with mercy and grace.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

RESPONSIVE CANTICLE

Luke 1:68-79

ONE: “Blessed are you, the Most High God of Israel—
for you have visited and redeemed your people.

**ALL: You have raised up a mighty savior for us of the house of David,
as you promised through the mouths of your holy ones,
the prophets of ancient times:
salvation from our enemies
and from the hands of all our foes.**

You have shown mercy to our ancestors
by remembering the holy Covenant you made with them,
**the oath you swore to Sarah and Abraham,
granting that we, delivered from the hands of our enemies
might serve you without fear, in holiness and justice,
in your presence all our days.**

And you, my child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you shall go before our God to prepare the way for the Promised One,
**giving the people the knowledge of salvation
through forgiveness of their sins.**

Such is the tender mercy of our God,
who from on high will bring the Rising Sun to visit us,
**to give light to those who live
in darkness and the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.”**

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

⌘ **HYMN #367**

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
All attending Church School may leave as we sing the hymn.

ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR

OFFERTORY

THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

Jennifer Kronholm-Clark

Each week, offerings not specifically designated for the Church (including any checks with “Light of Service” or “LOS” in the memo line) 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 the Salisbury Housing Trust.

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

Thanks Be to Thee

G.F. Handel

⌘ **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, you have blessed us with riches beyond counting.
We pray to live in the confidence of your abundance:
enough for everyone, everywhere, for fullness of life.
Bless each offering that we have placed before you,
and bless the mission and ministries to which they are given.
Thy kin-dom come! Thy will be done!
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

New Testament, p. 244
New Testament, p. 108

SERMON

“Some Assembly Required”

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✘ **HYMN #109**

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

MERLE'S TUNE

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Nun danket alle Gott

Sigfrid Karg-Elert



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: Janet Kaufman and Kevin Wolgemuth

Reader: Terre Lefferts • *Deacon:* Barbara Collins

Handbell Choir: Betsy Beck, Larry Burcroff, Heather Davidson, Karin Noyes, Jennifer Oberto, Steve Ohlinger, Lynn Reifsnyder, Sue Spring, Gordon Whitbeck, Jennifer Weigel • Mary Davidson, *director*

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House to the glory of God by Jennifer Weigel.

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

Sunday School Coordinator:

Holly Tierney

Sunday School Assistant:

Jennifer Kronholm-Clark

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 Taylor Rapp, Global Ministries Mission Co-worker who serves with Social Services of Dominican Churches, Dominican Republic.

Continuing concerns:

John Lomanto, recovering from surgery • Margaret Haubrich, in memory care • The people of Ukraine and all striving to end war • All those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world.

For those in treatment for cancer — John Lomanto, Jenny, Frank Swaye, David Douyea,

MingMing, Deborah Merwin, Keith Blanton and others — prayers for healing and strength.

Family & Friends who have passed away

Families and friends of more than 40,216 beloveds who have died due to Covid-19 disease in the last four weeks, including 9,261 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 (jinelson@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, 20 NOVEMBER

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

11:30AM Board of Trustees meeting

MONDAY, 21 NOVEMBER

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club
3PM Choir rehearsal

TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

10AM Tai Chi class
4PM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
5:15PM Hand Bell Choir

WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

9A-4P Red Cross Blood Drive

THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving Day; Church offices closed

FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER

Church offices closed

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

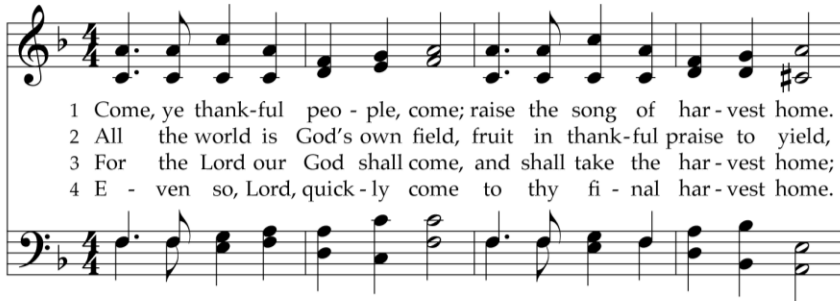
who won - drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth - ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

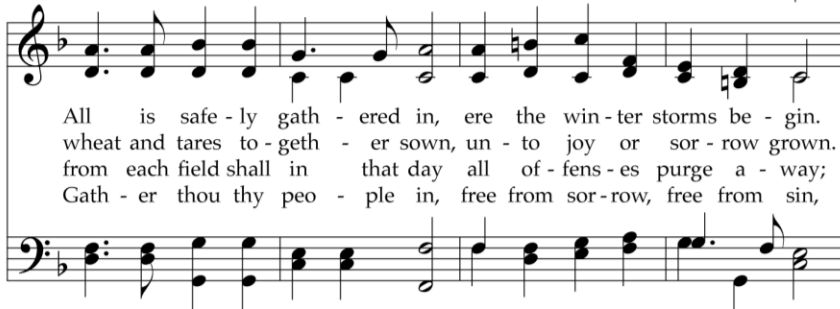
with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

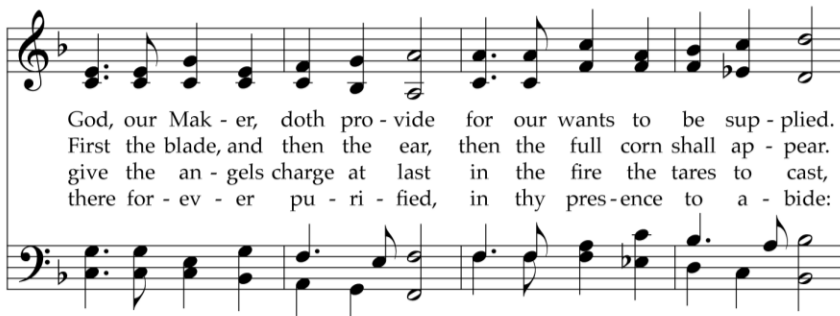
367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



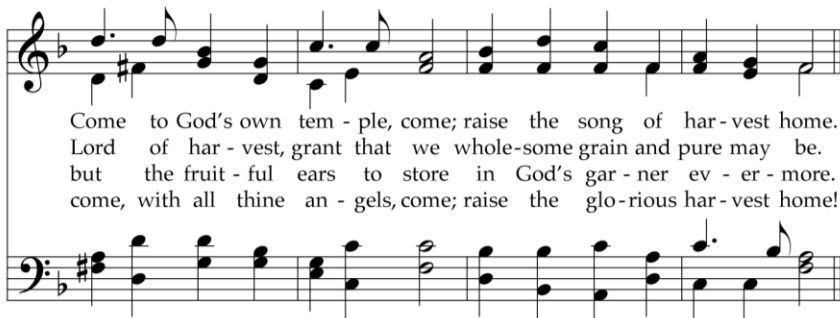
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

109 Blest Be the God of Israel

Song of Zechariah



1 Blest be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;
 2 God from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;
 3 On those who sit in dark - ness the sun be - gins to rise,



who vis - its and re - deems us, who grants us lib - er - ty.
 a Sav - ior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.
 the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
 Be - fore him goes the her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
 God guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.



God shall ful - fill that prom - ise and bring the peo - ple peace.
 the proph - et of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of day.
 O bless our God and Sav - ior with songs that nev - er cease!

This 20th-century British paraphrase of the Song of Zechariah (Luke 1:68–79) broadens the implications of what John the Baptist's father says in order to affirm that God's work is ongoing. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

HAPPY
Thanksgiving

A decorative graphic for Thanksgiving. The word "HAPPY" is in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "Thanksgiving" is written in a large, elegant, blue cursive script. The text is surrounded by various autumn-themed illustrations: a large orange maple leaf above "HAPPY", a cluster of red berries on a brown stem to the left of "Thanksgiving", several yellow and orange leaves scattered around the word, and a green leafy branch to the right of "Thanksgiving".

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.

30 Main Street | P.O. Box 392 | Salisbury, CT 06068 • 860-435-2442

email: welcome@salisburyucc.org • web: salisburyucc.org

Office Hours: 8:30am – 1:30pm, Monday-Friday