

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

✠ **HYMN #144**

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

CRANHAM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Hymnal, p. 35

OFFERTORY

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

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist

J.S. Bach

✘ **DOXOLOGY**

**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**

**By these gifts, Gracious God, may those who have little be
 clothed with your abundant grace; may the hungry be fed with food
 that strengthens them and hope which gives them new life; may all
 who are searching discover that they are your beloved children. In
 Jesus' name we pray: Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

Old Testament, p.

ANCIENT AND MODERN TESTIMONY:

Thoughts for Young and Older Minds
 on How God's Children Should Now Live

PASTORAL PRAYER

✘ **HYMN #141**

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

PERSONENT HODIE

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Vom Himmel Hoch, da komm' ich her

Pachelbel



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

Today's worship service is planned and led by members of the Board of Deacons

Ushers: Sharon Tingley, Janet Kaufman

Deacon: Patricia Palmer

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House to the glory of God,
by Janet Offensend

*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.

In the Bleak Midwinter

144

1 In the bleak mid-win - ter, frost - y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

‡ in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 ‡ wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

141 On This Day Earth Shall Ring



1 On this day earth shall ring with the song
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three
 4 On this day an - gels sing; with their song



chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth; ox and ass be -
 to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be -
 earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, born on earth to



save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.
 side him from the cold would hide him. *Id - e - o - o - o,
 fore him, praise him and a - dore him.
 save us; peace and love he gave us.



id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

*Therefore, glory to God in the highest.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this Latin carol for Christmas may have roots several centuries older than its 16th-century emergence, the text was all in one language until its 20th-century translator chose to adopt the original last two lines of the fourth stanza as a unifying refrain in all stanzas.

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
Sexton: Richard Tietjen
Stewardship & Database Mgr: Kelly Rybczyk

Church Officers: Betsy Beck, *moderator*;
Jennifer Weigel, *treasurer*;
Jennifer Oberto, *clerk*

Pastor and Teacher: The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

This Week at Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 1 JANUARY

10AM Worship
followed by fellowship in the Parish Hall

MONDAY, 2 JANUARY

New Year's observance; church offices closed
11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 3 JANUARY

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

WEDNESDAY, 4 JANUARY

12:30PM Staff Meeting
4PM Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY, 5 JANUARY

4PM Board of Christian Action meeting
7PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, 6 JANUARY

8:45AM Men's Bible Study
12noon Meetinghouse Music & Meditation



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-Thursday