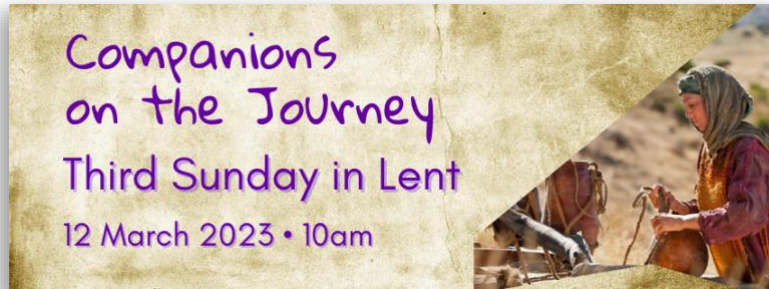


The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Angel's Farewell from The Dream of Gerontius

Edward Elgar

WELCOME

⌘ **HYMN #401**

“Here in This Place”

GATHER US IN

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We come, our souls thirsting for God,
our spirits longing for refreshment and sustenance.

**ALL: We come to the One who supplies every need;
we come to the One who gives us living water.**

We come, with prayers in our hearts,
and with words too tender to speak.

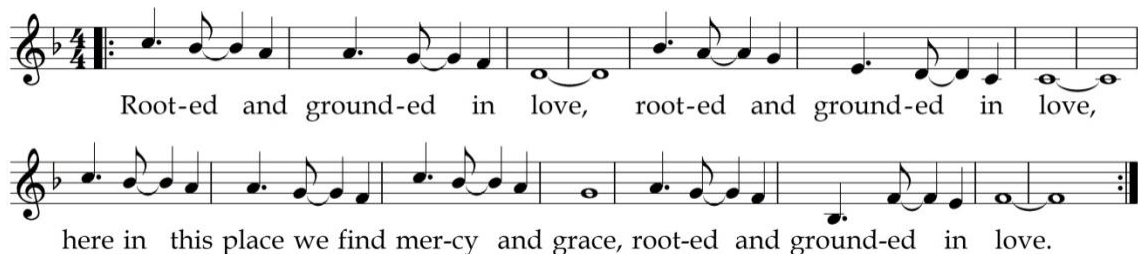
**We come to the One who listens to our hearts,
who carries our suffering through eternity.**

We come, with our brokenness and loss,
with our hope to be made whole.

**We come to the One who knows all our secrets,
who brings peace to all of us - and to each of us.**

RESPONSE IN SONG**“Rooted and Grounded in Love”**

Barbara Hamm



Root-ed and ground-ed in love, root-ed and ground-ed in love,
here in this place we find mer-cy and grace, root-ed and ground-ed in love.

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CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Walking the dog, reading a bedtime story, recycling newspapers — in every moment, in every place, God is there. Let us confess how often we do not see God in our lives, praying together:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of eternity,
you know how often we travel down the rocky roads of doubt and fear.
We pester others with worries; we hurl bitter words at those we love.
We have chances to offer ourselves in service,
but our own troubles prevent us from seeing a neighbor’s need.
We could share the living waters with the world,
rather than store it in jars for safe-keeping.
Fountain of Grace, you turn towards us, to meet us wherever we are.
You break us open, so we might be made whole.
In Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior,
our thirst for hope and joy is quenched.**
(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God does not disappoint us. God forgives our sins, makes whole our lives, and sends us out, renewed and refreshed, to serve in love.

In Jesus Christ, living water breaks through all our hard and bruised places, in such abundance that we don’t have enough buckets to hold it all. Thanks be to God! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG**“Rooted and Grounded in Love”**

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 95

ONE: O come, let us sing to the Most High;

ALL: Let us make a joyful noise to our stronghold and our deliverance!

Let us come into God's presence giving thanks;

Let us sing songs of joy to the Holy One!

For the Almighty is the great God,

The God above all gods.

The depths of the earth are in the hands of the Holy One,

So, too, are the heights of the mountains.

The sea belongs to God, Who made it,

And the dry land, which the hands of the Creator have formed.

O come, let us honor the Most High,

Let us kneel before the Holy One, our Maker!

For this is our God,

And we are the people God formed,

The sheep in God's care.

“O that today you would listen to the voice of the Author of Life!

Do not be fainthearted like your ancestors in the wilderness,

“Doubting My presence,

“Testing My intentions and My powers,

Though they had seen My works.

“For forty years I was angry at that generation saying,

‘They are a people whose hearts go astray,

‘And they do not commit themselves to My ways.

‘They will not be able to enter my safe harbor.’”

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

✕ **HYMN #440**

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

ABERYSTWYTH

All attending Sunday School may leave as we sing the hymn.

OFFERTORY

THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

Peggy Hayes

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 Equus Effect (Sharon, CT).

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

Go Not Far From Me, O God

Zingarelli

✠ 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

**Gracious God, by your grace may our gifts provide
nourishment to those who thirst for justice,
strength to those who hunger for hope,
a community to those living in loneliness.
This we pray in Jesus' name: Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 17:1-7

John 4:5-42

Old Testament, p. 79

New Testament, p. 115

SERMON

"A Companion in Thirst"

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✠ HYMN #543

"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

GREEN TYLER

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist

Dietrich Buxtehude

Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om fly,
 2 Oth - er ref - uge have I none; hangs my help - less soul on thee.
 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.
 4 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin.

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the temp - est still is high.
 Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone; still sup - port and com - fort me.
 Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
 Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in.

Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past.
 All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness.
 Thou of life the foun - tain art; free - ly let me take of thee.

Safe in - to the ha - ven guide. O re - ceive my soul at last!
 Cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.
 False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.
 Spring thou up with - in my heart. Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Originally titled "In Temptation," these four stanzas (of five) call to mind how a spiritual and emotional tempest can move from turmoil to tranquility. This tune was first used with this text in a cantata by the composer in 1910, and since then has become the standard one.

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

543

O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.



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, Sharon Tingley

Reader: Charlie Noyes • Deacon: Lorna Edmundson

Fellowship time hosts: Karin and Charlie Noyes

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.

Officers, Boards, & Committees of the Church, June 2022 – May 2023

Underline indicates first term of service.

Moderator: Betsy Beck '24 **Treasurer:** Jennifer Weigel '23 **Clerk:** Jennifer Oberto '24
Pastor: The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Janet Kaufman '23 Mary Davidson '24 Kathy Mera '25

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Theresa Carroll '23 Janet Kaufman '24 Sue Morrill '25
Lorna Edmundson '23, *chair* Patricia Palmer '24 Barbara Collins '25
John Estabrook '23
Kathy Mera '23

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Moderator, Treasurer, Pastor, and elected members:

Roger Crain '23 Louise Brown '24 Gordon Johnson '25
Janet Accardo '23, *chair* Dan Edmundson '24 Janet Offensend '25
Kerry Noble '24

BOARD OF RELIGIOUS ED. Moderator, Sun. Sch. Coord., Pastor, and elected members:

Linda Estabrook '23 Emily Elliot '24 Holly Tierney '25
Jennifer Good '23

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN ACTION Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Peggy Heck '24 Barbara Wiggins '25
Leanne Larson '24 Jano Fairservis – *Emeritus*
Karin Noyes '24

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Jane Capecelatro '23 Linda Estabrook '24 Susan Belcher '25
Lee Collins '23 Theresa Carroll '25
Lyndell Giffenig '23 Sara Wardell '25

MUSIC COMMITTEEModerator, Music Minister, Pastor, and elected members:

Emily Elliot '23 Mary Davidson '24 Louise Brown '25
Peggy Hayes '23, chair Terre Lefferts '24 George Faison '25
Peg Heck '25

USHERS COMMITTEE

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Becky Belcher '23 Ken Edholm '24 Sharon Tingley '25
Laura O'Niel '23 Janet Kaufman '24 Deborah Moore '25
Joanne Taber '23, chair Sarah Morrison '24 Kevin Wolgemuth '25

DELEGATE TO UCC CONFERENCE & LITCHFIELD NORTH ASSOCIATION: Charlie Noyes

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (October 2022-April 2023)

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Mary Davidson, Gordon Johnson, Janet Kaufman, Karin Noyes, Holly Tierney

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

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 Mission Co-worker Martha Mensendiek, serving alongside the mission committee of the Kyoto Kyoku (district) of the United Church of Christ in Japan.

Continuing concerns:

For the survivors of the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria; for those working in rescue, relief, medical, and trauma care; for the thousands who are mourning the deaths of beloveds.

Lee Collins, foot surgery • Kiau Loi, recovering from stroke • Annie Stuto, heart surgery.

Margaret Haubrich, in memory care • all affected by gun violence, especially survivors, those tending to the traumatized, and those advocating for safety
• The people of Ukraine and all striving to end war

• All who serve or live in war or in conflict zones around the world.

For those in treatment for cancer — Jenny, Frank Swaye, David Douyea, MingMing, Deborah Merwin, Keith Blanton and others — prayers for healing and strength.

Family & Friends who have passed away

Art Eddy

Families and friends of more than 28,018 beloveds who have died due to Covid-19 disease in the last four weeks, including 9,451 in the US.

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray for the Spirit's strong presence with all who grieve.

Thanksgivings

The safe arrival of William Robert Heck, born to Morgan and Matt Heck, grandson of Peggy and Dave. Hallelujah!

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!

This Week at Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 12 MARCH

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

11:30AM Music Committee meeting

MONDAY, 13 MARCH

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 14 MARCH

10AM Tai Chi class

4PM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

5:15PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, 15 MARCH

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study

5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 16 MARCH

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

FRIDAY, 17 MARCH

8:45AM Men's Bible Study

SATURDAY, 18 MARCH

9:30AM Salisbury Band meeting



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