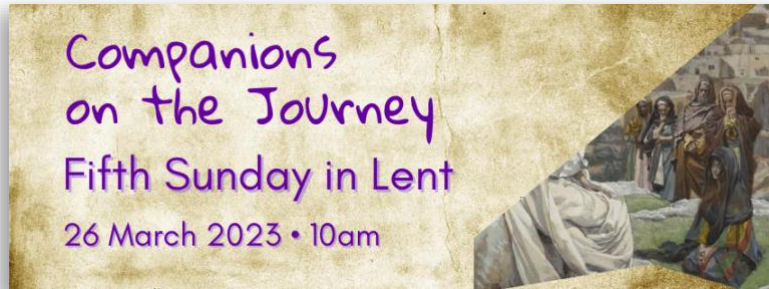


# The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## HYMN SING

## WELCOME

✠ **HYMN #250** “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”  
(✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

HYMN OF PROMISE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

## LITANY FOR LENT

ONE: In the buds on the trees, in the flowers poking their heads out of the dirt:

**ALL: we see how you love us, God of steadfast love.**

In the tears of a father worried over his child’s illness;

in the woman who anoints her grandbaby with talcum powder:

**we see how you love us, our Resurrection and our Life.**

In the tender touch of a child on the head of his baby sister;

in the birds which rush into the sky before spiraling down;

in the words we are given to offer to the empty-hearted:

**we see how you love us, Breath of our souls.**

*(Silence is kept)*

Creator of life:

**bring us light, we pray.**

Mourner of the dead:

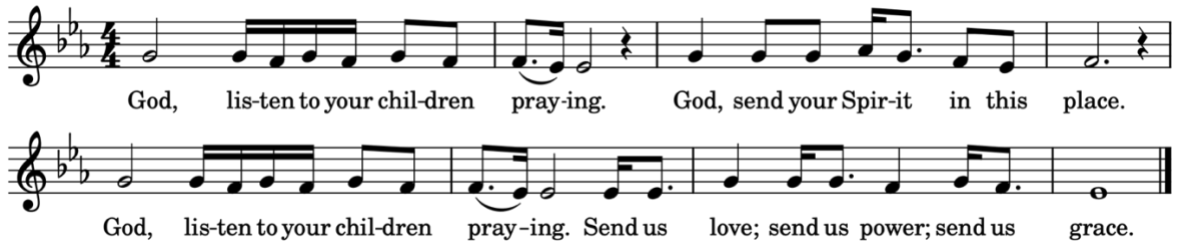
**take away our grief, we pray.**

Refresher of dry lives:

**bind us to God forever, we pray.**

**RESPONSE IN SONG** “God, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Ken Medema



God, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. God, send your Spir-it in this place.

God, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

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**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

**UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**We are scared, God of our lives. There, we have admitted it.  
Our days are spent in isolation, even when we are with family.  
We wonder if you are with us or, like Jesus,  
are you taking your sweet time to come into our emptiness?  
Yet, the good news is that you are indeed with us, God of our days.  
Yet, the good news is that you have come, Jesus our Brother, to weep  
with us and over us, to roll away those stones, to call us into life.  
Yet, the good news is that you cradle us in your peace,  
Spirit of Compassion: rocking us to sleep on troubled nights;  
opening our eyes to the grace of each morning;  
filling us with love and hope we can share.  
Yet, the good news is still good news,  
and so may we trust, believe, hope, and live as your people. Amen.**  
*(Silence is kept)*

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

One: Can our hope live? Put your hope in God, dear friends, for God offers us love which never fades, life which never ends.

**All: We wait for God, and God does not fail us. God's hope, God's love, and God's grace are forever. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven, we are made new! Amen.**

**RESPONSE IN SONG** “God, Listen to Your Children Praying”

K. Medema

**RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 130**

ONE: Out of the depths I cry to You, O Holy One.

**ALL: God Most High, hear my voice!**

Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy!

If You, O Blessed One, watch for wrongdoing,

**God, who will survive?**

But You forgive,

**And thus You are held in awe.**

I wait for the Comforter,

**My whole being waits;**

I hope in God's word.

**I wait for the Almighty,**

More eagerly than those keeping watch, who wait for the morning,

**More eagerly than those keeping watch, who wait for the morning.**

O people, put your hope in our Creator!

For with the Author of Life there is unfailing love,

**And great power to free us.**

**A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

✘ **HYMN #785**

**"In Deepest Night, In Darkest Days"**

ROSE MARY

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

**OFFERTORY**

**THE LIGHT OF SERVICE**

Emily Elliot

*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 **Musicians On Call**.*

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

*Ave Verum*

Robin Stopford

### ✘ 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

**With you as our guide and by sharing our gifts, we can indeed anoint others with grace, prepare feasts for the hungry, welcome the stranger, and love those we have thought of as enemies. Bless these gifts, and send us to serve others, we pray: Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ezekiel 37  
John 11:1-45

*Old Testament, p. 987  
New Testament, p. 127*

### SERMON

“Companions in Grief”

Pastor John A. Nelson

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### ✘ HYMN #157

“Lord of the Dance”

LORD OF THE DANCE

### BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

### POSTLUDE

*Christ lag in Todes Banden*

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:* Janet Kaufman, Deborah Moore

*Reader:* Becky Belcher • *Deacon:* Lorna Edmundson

*Fellowship time:* **The Unbirthday Party!**

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 Bulb There Is a Flower 250

## Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D) F (Em) Gm

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7) C7 (D) F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7) (G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (F#) (Bm)  
 F7 Bb Gm F Dm Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 Bb Gm F Dm Gm C7 F

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."  
 Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

## 785

## In Deepest Night

Capo 1: (D) (Em7) (D)

1 In deep - est night, in dark - est days, when harps are hung,  
 2 When friend was lost, when love de - ceived, dear Je - sus wept,  
 3 When through the wa - ters winds our path, a - round us pain,

(Em7) (Bm) (D) (G)  
 Fm7 Cm E-flat A-flat

no songs we raise, when si - lence must suf - fice as praise,  
 God was be - reaved; so with us in our grief God grieves,  
 a - round us death, deep calls to deep, a sav - ing breath,

(D) (Dmaj7)(E) (Em7) (G)(A7)(Dsus)(D)  
 E-flat E-flatmaj7 F Fm7 A-flat B-flat E-flat sus E-flat

yet sound - ing in us qui - et - ly there is the song of God.  
 and round a - bout us mourn - ful - ly there are the tears of God.  
 and found be - side us faith - ful - ly there is the love of God.

If we are honest about the range of human experience, not everything we sing in church can be loud or joyful. The author describes this hymn as "a song of quiet hope in the middle of intense sorrow." It speaks eloquently of God's presence with us through our most difficult times.

TEXT: Susan Palo Chervien, 1995  
 MUSIC: David Schwoebel, 2008  
 Text © 1995 Susan Palo Chervien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)  
 Music © 2008 Celebrating Grace, Inc.

ROSE MARY  
 8.8.8.8.6

# 157 I Danced in the Morning

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)  
F Dm Am Dm

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I  
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but  
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The  
4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's  
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †

(Em) (A)  
Gm C

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I  
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I  
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They  
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They  
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)  
F Dm Am Dm

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At  
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They  
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and  
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but  
live in you if you'll live in me, †

(Em) (A7) (G) (D)  
Gm C7 Bb F

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.  
came with me and the dance went on.  
left me there on a cross to die.  
I am the dance and I still go on.  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.



JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

*Refrain* (F#m) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (D) (Bm)  
Am Dm Am Dm F Dm

Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

(Em) (A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)  
Gm C F Dm F C7 F

Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be,

(Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)  
Gm C7 F B<sup>b</sup> F

and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

## 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.)

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#### New concerns:

Debbie Martin, recovering from injuries from a serious accident

Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries: for the people of Angola, and mission partners in the Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola and the Council of Christian Churches in Angola.

#### Continuing concerns:

Baby Sid & family, facing another surgery •  
Kiau Loi, recovering from stroke.

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

#### Family & Friends who have passed away

Patricia Habacker • MingMing • Art Eddy

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

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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!

# Holy Week



Sunday, April 2

## ***Palm-Passion Sunday***

**10 am** *Worship*

Maundy Thursday, April 6

## ***Communion & Tenebrae***

**7 pm** *Worship*

Good Friday, April 7

## ***Ecumenical Worship***

**7 pm** *Trinity Episcopal Church, Lime Rock*

Sunday, April 9



## ***Easter Sunday***

**6:30 am** *Ecumenical Sunrise Service*

**Town Grove, Lakeville**

**9:45 am** *Hand Bell Prelude*

**10 am** *Easter Worship*



*The Congregational Church of Salisbury*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

[www.SalisburyUCC.org](http://www.SalisburyUCC.org) · 860-435-2442

## This Week at Salisbury UCC

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### SUNDAY, 26 MARCH

10AM Worship  
followed by **The Unbirthday Party!**  
In the Parish Hall

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### MONDAY, 27 MARCH

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

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### TUESDAY, 28 MARCH

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

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### WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH

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

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### THURSDAY, 30 MARCH

5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

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### FRIDAY, 31 MARCH

8:45AM Men's Bible Study  
3PM Souper Suppers

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*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](mailto:welcome@salisburyucc.org) • web: [salisburyucc.org](http://salisburyucc.org)

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