

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

⊗ **HYMN #234**

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

ST. KEVIN

Verses 1, 3, 4

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Where shattered hearts are made whole,
where wounded souls are healed,
where life is stronger than death:

ALL: there, the stone has been rolled away.

Where the lonely become our friends,
where a stranger is welcomed home,
where hope is stronger than despair,
there, we find Jesus walking.

Where closed wallets are opened,
where the anxious find serenity,
where love is stronger than hate:

there, Jesus is opening our eyes.

The stone has been rolled away!
Jesus is our companion on the journey!
Our eyes are opened to the needs of others!
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Alleluia! Christ is with us!

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Weave”



Weave, weave, weave us to-gether. Weave us to-gether in u-ni-ty and love.



Weave, weave, weave us to-gether. Weave us to-gether, to-gether in love.

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

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of resurrection power,
break through the closed doors of our certainty
to encourage our wonderings and our questions.
Break through the walls of our fear of others,
that we might make room for all, at your table.
Break through our doubts and confusion,
that we might come to know your presence
more deeply in our lives and in our world.
When we tend to judge ourselves for disbelief and questions —
and when we judge others for believing differently than we —
open the closed places of our hearts
so we may recognize you, Risen God,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

(We pray in silence)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Christ Jesus walked with disciples who didn't recognize him — and still he brought good news, new understanding, a holy meal. Even when we don't recognize him, our Risen God meets us with joy and grace, acceptance and sustenance. We are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia; Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Weave”

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

ONE: I love the Holy One,

ALL: For God Almighty has heard my voice and my cry for mercy.

Because the Most High has listened to me,

I will call upon my God as long as I live.

The bonds of death encompassed me;

The anguish of the grave laid hold of me;

I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.

Then I called upon the goodness of the Most High,

"O Holy One, I pray, save my life!"

How can I repay the generosity of the Almighty?

I will lift up the cup of deliverance,

And call out the renown of the Most High,

I will pay my vows to the Holy One in the presence of all the people.

In the sight of the Creator the death of faithful ones is grievous.

O God Most High, I am Your servant;

I am Your servant, born of Your servant.

You have undone the cords that bound me.

I will offer thanks to You,

And call out the renown of the Most High,

I will pay my vows to the Holy One in the presence of all the people,

In the presence of the Most High,

In your midst, O City of God.

Hallelujah!

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

⌘ HYMN #231

“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”
All attending Sunday School may leave as we sing the hymn.

SUO GAN

OFFERTORY

THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

*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 **Northwest Hills Refugee Resettlement Committee**.*

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

O, for the Wings of a Dove

Felix Mendelssohn

⌘ 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

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. In Jesus’ name: Amen.

MODERN TESTIMONY

“Born Anew”

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

ANCIENT TESTIMONY

Luke 24:13-35

New Testament, p. 109

SERMON

“The Flame Inside”

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✕ HYMN #242

“Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded”

IN DIR IST FREUDE

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Litanies

Jehan Alain



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.*

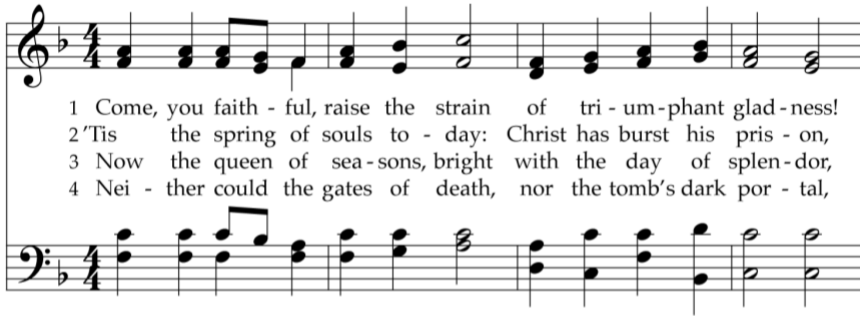
*As an **Open and Affirming** Congregation, we commit to work toward ending ignorance, fear, hatred, prejudice, and discrimination against any person.*

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here!*

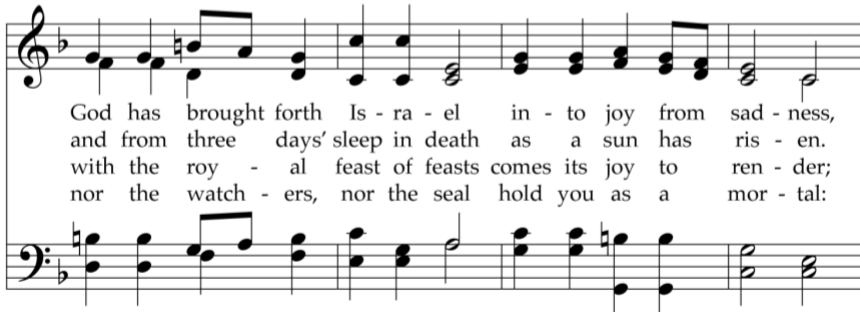
If you are visiting us, Welcome! Please sign our guest book and introduce yourself to our Pastor or to one of the Deacons. Fill out a welcome card in the pew to join our email list. Assistive Listening Devices are available; please ask an usher for assistance.

Kindly set phones to silent (unless you’re expecting a call from Jesus).

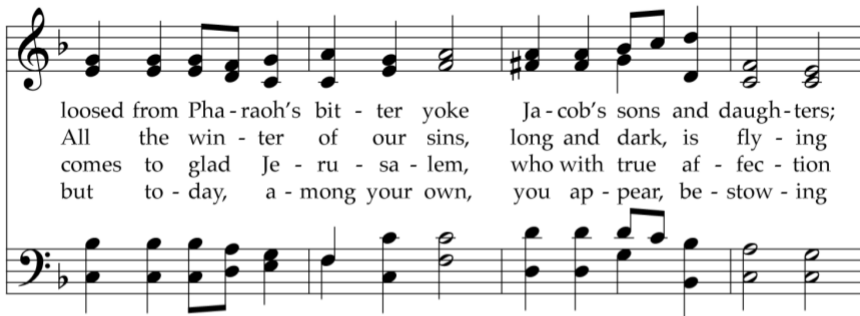
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain 234



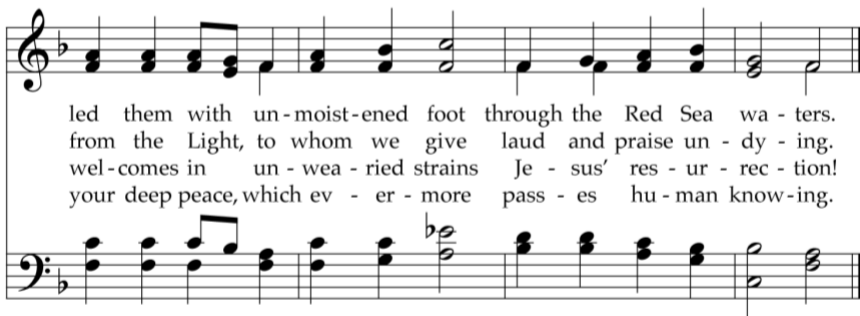
1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal:



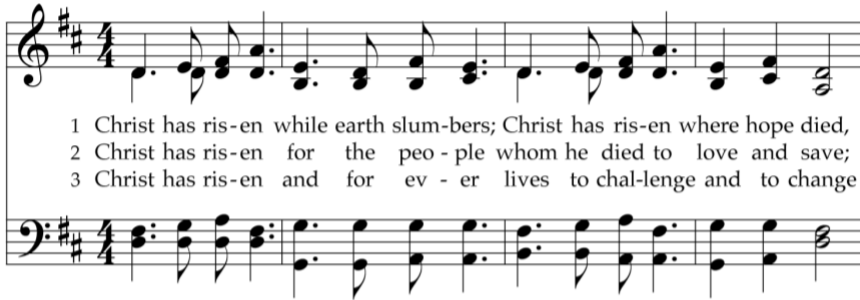
loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing



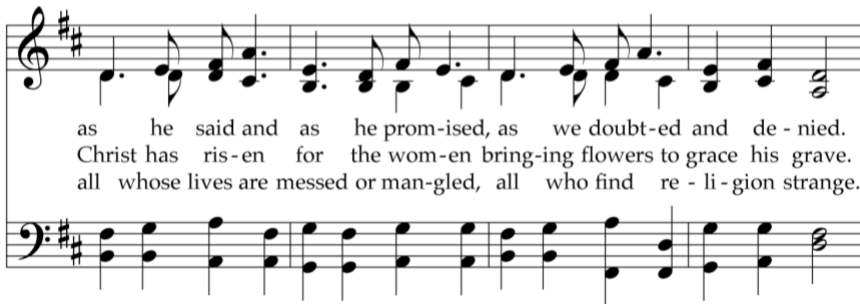
led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

One of the many ancient hymns translated into English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.

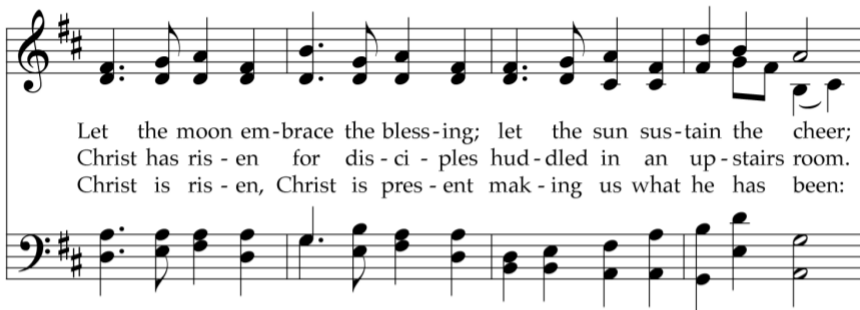
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231



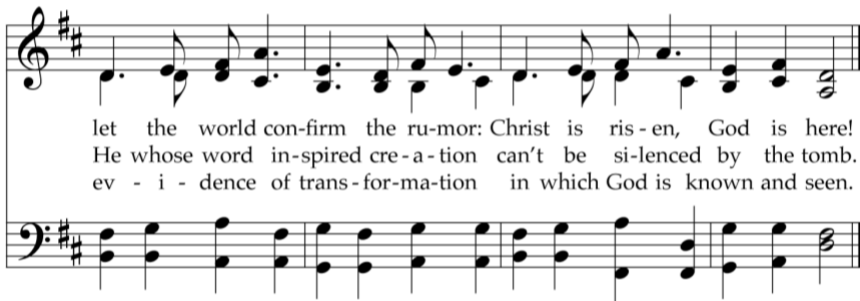
1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-enge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud - dled in an up - stairs room.
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

242 Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded

Day of de-light and beau-ty un-bound-ed, tell the news, the

gos-pel spread! Day of all won-der, day of all splen-dor, praise Christ

ris-en from the dead! 1 Sing of the sun from dark-ness ap-
2 Sing now of mourn-ing turned in-to

pear-ing; sing of the seed from bar-ren earth green-ing;
danc-ing; sing now the mys-tery, hope of our glo-ry;

sing of cre-a-tion, al-le-lu-ia! Sing of the
sing with thanks-giv-ing, al-le-lu-ia! Sing now of

This joyful Easter hymn brings together many images and responses evoked by Christ's Resurrection. As the second stanza affirms, it does turn mourning into dancing (Psalm 30:11), for this 20th-century text was written to fit the rhythms of this 16th-century Italian dance-song.

stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor

wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Janet Kaufman, Sharon Tingley

Reader: Eileen Epperson • *Deacon:* John Estabrook

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

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 concerns:

Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries: for the people of Lebanon — shaken by broken and unkept promises; impoverished spiritually and materially by economic breakdown and political dysfunction; covered by waves of tragedy, and paralyzed by the designs of the powerful — and for the churches committed to serving them.

Continuing concerns:

Debbie Martin, recovering from injuries from a serious accident • Baby Sid recovering from 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.

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 (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, 23 APRIL

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

11AM Green Expo in the Parish Hall

11:30AM Board of Religious Education
meeting

MONDAY, 24 APRIL

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

4PM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

TUESDAY, 25 APRIL

10AM Tai Chi class

5:15PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL

11AM Noble Horizons Chapel Service

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY, 27 APRIL

4PM Strategic Visioning Team
5:30PM Choir Rehearsal
5:30PM Project SAGE Board meeting

FRIDAY, 28 APRIL

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

SATURDAY, 29 APRIL

10:30AM Memorial Service for Robin Dee

Call to Meeting

The 278th Annual Meeting, Part II, of the Congregational Church of Salisbury, United Church of Christ, will be held following the 10am worship service on Sunday, 30 April 2023, for the purpose of:

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 278th Annual Meeting, Part I, of 30 October 2022
2. Presentation of Reports from Boards and Committees
3. Presentation from the Strategic Visioning Team
4. The Election of Officers, Boards, and Committees
5. Any other business that needs to come before the congregation.

All Covenant Partners of the Church are requested to attend and vote. All friends of the church are encouraged to attend.



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