

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



HYMN SING

WELCOME

⌘ **HYMN #661** "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" SPARROW
(⌘ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | LORD'S PRAYER (debts) Hymnal, p. 35

CALL TO WORSHIP

<p>ONE: The world belongs to God, How good it is, how wonderful, Love and faith come together, If Jesus' disciples keep silent, Open our lips, O God,</p>	<p>ALL: the earth and all its people. to live together in unity. justice and peace join hands. the stones themselves would shout aloud! and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.</p>
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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.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

ONE: When we act out of fear: **ALL: O God, have mercy.**

When we act to keep busy: **O God, have mercy.**

When we act alone,
despairing of your help
mistrusting your gifts
in our sisters and brothers: **O God, have mercy.**

When we act without joy: **O God, have mercy.**

For unripe actions,
taken in our time, not yours: **forgive us, God.**

For decisions made in haste
without waiting on your word: **forgive us, God.**

For our conviction
that it all depends on us: **forgive us, God.**

O God, give us your love, **which casts out our fear.**

Give us patience, **to wait upon your time.**

Give us joy, **sign of your life with us.**

Be our light, O God: **you are our salvation.**

(We pray in silence)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God is the love that over and around us lies;
the grace that is totally unearned;
and the healing that makes the earth whole.

Thanks be to God! We are forgiven and made new: alleluia; amen!

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Weave”

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 42:1-5

ONE: As a deer longs for flowing water,
So my soul longs for You, O God.

MANY: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come into God's presence?

**My tears have been my food day and night,
While people taunt me saying, "Where is your God?"**

As I pour out my soul I remember

**how I used to go with the throng, the festive throng,
to the house of God, with glad shouts, and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.**

Why are you downcast O my soul,
Why so troubled within me?

Put your hope in God;

**For I shall again sing with joy to the Eternal One,
my ever-present help, my God.**

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

✕ **HYMN** (*insert*)

"The God of Sarah Praise"

LEONI

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 **Silver Lake Camp and Retreat Center**.*

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 "The Road You Came In On" Tim Hughes and Bob Smith

*There's a road where you can walk and almost touch the sky
Where you can let the troubles of your life pass you by*

*The silver water shimmering, feels like coming home
Memories fill your spirit, and you know you're not alone.*

*It's the road you came in on, the path you walk along
That brought you to this loving, sacred place
God is working through all the people who
Fill our lives with hope and care and grace*

*In the field, lying back, watching the fireflies
A million diamonds dazzle in a midnight summer sky
A shooting star blazing bright, quickly disappears
Brings to mind the moments spent in joy and peace and tears*

*It's the road you came in on, the path you walk along
That brought you to this loving, sacred place
God is working through all the people who
Fill our lives with hope and care and grace*

*And going home along that old, familiar way
We know the road, the lake, our friends are with us every day*

*It's the road you came in on, the path you walk along
That brought you to this loving, sacred place
God is working through all the people who
Fill our lives with hope and care and grace.*

✘ **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**

**We bring our gifts to you, God. Here is the work of our hands,
and here is the hope of our hearts. Accept them and use them,
through Christ, Love's Own Self: Amen.**

MODERN TESTIMONY

“Weightless Space”

CarolineSD

GOSPEL READING

Genesis 21:8-21

New Testament, p. 20

COMMISSIONING OF SILVER LAKE SUMMER STAFF

ONE: Our friends gathered today have agreed to serve as Silver Lake Conference Summer Staff, taking the love of God to the hundreds of children and youth who come to our beautiful Northwest Corner seeking adventure, fellowship, and God’s presence. Each of these persons has been called by God, has accepted that call, and stands before us today to witness to their willingness to serve.

(To the Silver Lake Staff)

Beloved Children of God, you have answered God’s call to provide leadership and care to the children and youth who will come to Silver Lake this summer. Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to give yourself to this task?

SILVER LAKE STAFF: I am, relying on God’s grace and help.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

SILVER LAKE STAFF: I do, relying on God’s grace and help.

Members of the congregation, you have heard the promises of our Silver Lake Summer Staff who have answered God’s call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

CONGREGATION: We celebrate the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to keep you in our prayers, honor your leadership, and support your ministry.

Let us pray. Eternal God, you have called these persons to serve you in a ministry that has the capacity to transform lives and send healing into the world. You have entrusted this good work to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on these beloveds, that they may serve with honor and faithfulness. May their example prove worthy for us to follow, as we bind ourselves in the ministry of Christ, Love’s Own Self, to the glory of your name. Amen.

⌘ **HYMN**

“Do Lord, Do Remember Me”

SILVER LAKE STYLE

Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me, x3
Way beyond the blue.

I've got a home in Gloryland that outshines the sun, x3
Way beyond the blue.

This little light of mine oh Lord, I'm going let it shine, x3
Way beyond the blue.

Shine all over Silver Lake, YEAH! I'm going to let it shine, x3
Way beyond the blue.

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

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).

661 Why Should I Feel Discouraged?

His Eye Is on the Sparrow



1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged? Why should the shad-ows come?
2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," his ten-der word I hear,
3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,



Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and home,
and rest-ing on his good-ness, I lose my doubts and fears;
when song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me dies,



when Je-sus is my por-tion? My con-stant friend is he:
though by the path he lead-eth but one step I may see:
I draw the clos-er to him; from care he sets me free:



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me;



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.

Refrain

I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, (I'm hap-py) I sing be-cause I'm free, (I'm free)

This hymn based on Jesus' saying about God's care for all creatures (Matthew 10:29-30/Luke 12:6-7) began with the refrain's last line, inspired by a woman who had endured much illness. It was first sung in public at the Royal Albert Hall, London, during evangelistic services in 1905.

The God of Sarah Praise

David Bjorlin, b. 1984

LEONI
from the *Yigdal*

The God of Sa - rah praise, the God of dreams long dead,
The God of A - brah'm praise, the God of all who roam,
The God of Ha - gar praise, the God of those op - pressed—

who brings forth un - ex - pect - ed life, dis - arm - ing dread.
who guides us in - to for - eign lands and makes our home.
who sees the lost and o - ver - looked and calls them blessed.

Though grief lasts through the night, joy ris - es with the sun;
When dark - ness shrouds our path, the stars, as pledg - es shine.
Though wan - der - ing a - lone through des - erts of de - spair,

God leaves us laugh - ing in sur - prise at death un - done.
God's cov - e - nant will be ful - filled by love's de - sign.
God leads us to a well of hope and meets us there.

Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Sarah Morrison, Sharon Tingley
Reader and Deacon: Barbara Collins
Fellowship time host: Charlie Noyes

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House by Angela Lomanto, in joyful celebration of Pastor John's 26th anniversary of ordination.

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*;
Janet Offensend, *treasurer*;
Jennifer Oberto, *clerk*

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



Please Recycle this Bulletin!



The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting in Grace • Transformed by Love • Serving with Joy

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