



The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting in Grace • Transformed by Love • Serving with Joy

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

5th Sunday after Pentecost • Sunday, 2 July 2023

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune

John Stanley

WELCOME

⌘ **HYMN #339**

“Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Sing praises to our God — our teacher, our servant, our hope, our life —

ALL: who heals us and makes us whole.

Sing praises to our God, faithful children of the Holy One:

whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.

Sing praises to our God, faithful children of Holiness; praise God’s holy name:

God’s gracious reality is near to us; God’s peace resides in our hearts.

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.

AN INDEPENDENCE DAY REFLECTION

ONE: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her. For thus says YHWH: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of YHWH is with all who give themselves wholly to God. (from Isaiah 66)

***ALL (sung): O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain:
America! America!
God grant that we may be
a sisterhood and brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.***

God of love and mercy,

**You have lavished your creative wonder on this land,
entrusting us with an abundance of natural beauty and resources.**

Mighty Creator, may we always remember that this earth is yours and we are its caretakers.

**We have partly treasured, but also greatly abused your creation.
Give us the strength of will to correct our ways, Holy One, that we
may use what you have given us with care and thanksgiving.**

***(Sung) O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
whose stern, impassioned stress
a thoroughfare for freedom beat
across the wilderness:
America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.***

God of love and mercy,

**You shower us with grace and not condemnation,
with love and not hate, with acceptance and not fear.**

Holy One, may we always remember that righteousness is more than law:
it is your love, reflected in our living.

Give us the wisdom to perceive when for good or ill we have failed to live into your promise of a beloved community. Grant us the courage of our pilgrim ancestors' best vision, to challenge every injustice with the wisdom we learn from you.

*(Sung) O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life:
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
'til all success be nobleness,
and ev'ry gain divine.*

God of love and mercy,

**You have filled this nation with peoples from all races and cultures,
blending us into a country blessed with diversity and strength.**

Source of all, remind us that patriotism, courage, and love of country are qualities we find in all neighbors, whether our families have been here for generations or have just arrived.

Open our eyes to the subtleties of prejudice that place limits on our understanding of citizen, stranger, and newcomer to our land. Open our hearts and minds that we may perceive and honor and welcome you in every person, and make our land a place of deep hospitality.

*(Sung) O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears:
America! America!
God shed full grace on thee:
a nation blessed with none oppressed,
true land of liberty.*

God of love and mercy,

You have blessed us with the vision of a holy city, where everyone who loves, belongs. May we live for your vision, and make it our own.

Instill in us the humility which comes with the knowledge that we have done nothing to deserve the blessings we have, but they come as your unearned gift to all people.

Correct us, and direct us, and enlighten us, that we may be servants to the world and to all peoples. We ask this in Jesus' name, who is our God yet servant to all: Amen.

***(Sung) America! America!
God grant that we may be
a sisterhood and brotherhood
from sea to shining sea!***

OFFERTORY

ONE: With a word, God made all that is. With a word, Jesus released God's healing power. With a word, God even renews us, forgives us, and sets us free to sing our praise and serve our neighbors. We give ourselves to the transforming power of God's Word: our tithes and offerings, a token of our thanksgiving.

**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.

ANTHEM

Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Wesley

✠ 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

God, all that we have is yours, given into our care. Guide us in the use of all that we bring, that these gifts may contribute to building your realm of mercy and justice. In Jesus' name we ask it: Amen.

ANCIENT TESTIMONY

Matthew 10:40-42

New Testament, p. 13

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

All God's people

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

Hymnal, p. 35

The Sacrament of Communion

INVITATION

APPROACH

ONE: In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being,

ALL: So that God could give form to the world.

At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being,

So that the world could receive the Living Word.

Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being,

So that the Word of Life could be everywhere encountered.

Entering these gifts of bread and wine the Spirit blesses this time being,

**So this encounter with the Spirit may
comfort, challenge, and transform us.**

CONFESSION

Creator God, your Spirit brings us many different gifts:

forgive us when we have coveted only the spectacular ones ...

(We unburden ourselves in silence)

Your Spirit speaks to us through many different voices:

forgive us when we have cut off the disconcerting ones ...

(silence)

Your Spirit offers us many different insights:

forgive us when we have welcomed only the comfortable ones ...

(silence)

Your Spirit invites us into many different moments of possibility:

forgive us when we have closed down the costly ones ...

(silence)

Spirit of the living God, beyond time, and yet here with us now –

give us the wisdom to receive and treasure all your gifts,

the discernment to hear and respond to your voice,

the understanding to see and follow your patterns,

and the courage to recognize and seize your moments.

**So may we grow in knowledge of Christ's realm,
deepen in dependence on its grace,
and love in accordance with its measures. Amen.**

COMMUNION NARRATIVE

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

CONSECRATION

And as we share these gifts of grace: come, Holy Spirit! Take and transform them:
**that we may know their comfort and their challenge,
and find ourselves, and our time, transformed by heaven itself.**

SHARING THE MEAL

We celebrate an open communion and welcome every person to the table. We understand the sharing of the bread and the cup in Jesus' name to be a reenactment of an ancient vision of God's feast for all people. We don't require you to be a member of our church, or any church, to participate with us in this feast of grace: all that is needed is that you desire God's nurture. (We use gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice in an effort to remove barriers to anyone's participation in the sacrament.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ONE: May the Spirit who birthed creation and enabled Incarnation
ALL: continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity;
May the Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness
stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ;
May the Spirit who transformed the disciples
grace and gift us for the task of building God's realm;
May the Spirit whom Jesus bequeathed
**continue to comfort and discomfort us
until justice prevails, peace reigns, and love directs all. Amen**

✕ **HYMN #340**

"This Is My Song"

FINLANDIA

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Armed Forces Medley

339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

340

This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt.

MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Text St. 1-2 © 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA

11.10.11.10.11.10

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.



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: Kevin Wolgemuth, Sharon Tingly

Deacon: Sue Morrill

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2022 (lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com); used by permission.

This Week @ Salisbury UCC

SUNDAY, 2 JULY

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

MONDAY, 3 JULY

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club
4PM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

TUESDAY, 4 JULY

Offices closed for Independence Day
6:30PM Tai Chi class

WEDNESDAY, 5 JULY

12:30PM Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, 7 JULY

12noon Meetinghouse Music & Meditation



Please Recycle this Bulletin!



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