

The Congregational Church of Salisbury
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Solemn Melody

Henry Walford Davies

WELCOME

✘ **HYMN #821** “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”
(✘ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

**ALL: It is a small seed,
but has some surprises in store for us.**

When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.

God’s transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.

**Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us
that they may grow into deeds of service to others in your name:
Amen.**

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Sanctuary”



Lord, pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar-y, pure and ho-ly, tried and



true. With thanks-giv-ing, I'll be a liv-ing sanc-tu - ar-y for you.

Words and Music: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs © 1982 Whole Armor/Full Armor Music, admin by The Kruger Organization. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Lord of mustard seeds and yeast, we come to you this day, seeking your Word and will for us. Make us people who care deeply about the well-being of others. Give us courage to be yeast for the rising of hope and peace throughout the world. Open our hearts to your redeeming love, for we ask this in Christ's Name: Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 105:1-11

ONE: O give thanks to the Creator,
Rely on the integrity of God Most High,

ALL: Proclaim the deeds of the Almighty among the peoples.

Sing to the Holy One,
Sing acclaim to God;

Tell of all the wonderful works of the Most High.

Delight in God's trustworthiness;

Let the hearts of those who seek the Blessed One rejoice.

Look to the Author of Life;

Turn to God's strength;

Seek the presence of the Creator continually.

Remember the wonderful works that God has done,

The signs of authority and acts of justice.

O you who live in covenant with the Most High
are offspring of God's servants Abraham and Sarah,

And children of Jacob, to whom great promises were made.

**It is the Holy One who is the Sovereign, our God;
Whose justice pervades the earth.**

It is the Holy One who is mindful of the covenant forever,
Of the promise made for a thousand generations,

**The covenant with Abraham and Sarah, the promise sworn to Isaac,
Confirmed to Jacob as a decree,
To the people as an everlasting covenant,
Saying, "To you I will give an inheritance;**

To you I will give sustenance, security and a future."
Hallelujah!

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

✕ **HYMN #450**

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

OFFERTORY

ONE: The best moment for giving and receiving God's renewing grace is now. The best moment for offering and accepting God's life-giving mercy is now. The best possible moment for praising God with our generosity is right now.

**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 *Adagio from Toccata Undecima*

Georg Muffat

✕ **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 offer our gifts to you, Steadfast Love, not because you need them, but so others might be as blessed as we are by your presence, your power, and your peace. Amen!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:44-53

New Testament, p. 191
New Testament, p. 18

SERMON

“The Detectorists”

The Rev. Janet McKinstry

PASTORAL PRAYER

✘ **HYMN #829**

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

OLIVET

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Bryn Calfaría

Ralph Vaughn Williams

821

My Life Flows On

How Can I Keep from Singing?

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)
 Bb Eb Ab Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

TEXT: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt.
 MUSIC: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927
 Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press

SLANE
 10.10.10.10

My Faith Looks Up to Thee 829

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way; nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Originally a poem of private reflection, this text was offered to the composer when he asked the author if he had written anything that could be set to music for a new hymn and tune collection. This was the first tune written for these words and has proved the most enduring.

TEXT: Ray Palmer, 1830
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1831, alt.

OLIVET
 6.6.4.6.6.6.4



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: Allison Gray, Joanne Taber

Reader: Theresa Carroll • Deacon: Sue Morrill

WE WELCOME BACK THE REV. JANET MCKINSTRY to preach and lead us in worship. Pastor Janet is a UCC minister in the Berkshire Association. Currently she is serving as pastor of the Tyringham (MA) Union Church and lives in Great Barrington. She is a fiber artist, creator of marionettes, and storyteller which she often uses to bring to life the scriptures. You may find her work at janetmckinstry.com and on Etsy.

(Pastor John is on vacation, July 15-23.)

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2023 (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: Lorianne 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

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.)

Continuing concerns:

Margaret Haubrich, in memory care • all affected by gun violence, especially survivors, those tending to the traumatized, and those advocating for safety
• the peoples of Sudan and Ukraine • neighbors who serve or live in war or in conflict zones around the world • for peacemakers.

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

Friends and family now serving our country in the armed forces • All those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world.

Family & Friends who have passed away

Angelo Lomanto • Jason Titunik • Shirley Decker

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!



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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting in Peace • Transformed by our Meeting with Joy
Please Recycle this Bulletin

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