



# 19th Sunday after Pentecost

8 October 2023, 10am



**PRELUDE**

*De Torrente*

Antonio Vivaldi

**WELCOME**

⌘ **HYMN #687**                      “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”  
(⌘ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

St. Anne

**ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Psalm 19*

ONE: The dominion of the Holy One is all-embracing,  
restoring fullness of life.

**ALL: The teachings of the Most High are trustworthy,  
Making the simple wise.**

May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts  
be acceptable to the Holy One,  
**for God is our Rock and our Redeemer.**

**RESPONSE IN SONG**

“Lead Me, Guide Me”



Lead me, guide me a-long the way; For if You lead me, I can-not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with Thee: lead me, O Lord, lead me.

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## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

### UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

If we were to name all the gods we have before you, Rock of Redemption, we would be here for a very long time. We place our hopes in politicians, or pundits, though they are as broken as we are. We misuse your name so much during the uncertain and terrifying days, we have trouble speaking to you in prayer at night. We are so busy being worried and fearful, we often miss seeing how creation witnesses to your goodness and grace.

Forgive us, God our Hope. Even in our uncertainty, may we trust that your love never abandons us. Even in our fears, may we know that your presence never leaves our side. Even when our faith falters, may we know that your grace is the most valuable gift we have, and we can open our emptiness, our hearts, our lives to the healing and loving presence of Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior.

*(Silence is kept)*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

**Loved, we are sent to love those who have been forgotten.**

**Forgiven, we are freed to offer mercy to kind and cruel alike.**

**Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### RESPONSE IN SONG

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

### RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 19

ONE: The heavens declare the brilliance of God;

**MANY: The skies proclaim God’s handiwork.**

Day after day they pour forth speech;

**Night after night they disclose understanding.**

Yet there is no speech, nor are there words;

**Their voice cannot be heard;**

Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,

**And their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens The Almighty has pitched a tent for the sun.

The sun comes forth with eagerness,

like one betrothed emerging from the wedding canopy,

seeking the beloved;

**Like a champion the sun runs its course with joy.**

It rises from one end of the heavens, and journeys to the other end;

**Nothing can hide from its heat.**

The dominion of the Holy One is all-embracing,

**Restoring life.**

The teachings of the Most High are trustworthy,

**Making the simple wise.**

The designs of the Eternal One are life-giving,

**Rejoicing the heart.**

The word of the Redeemer is radiant,

**Lighting up the eyes.**

Faithfulness to the Creator brings enduring strength;

**God's ways are faithful and loving,**

More to be desired than gold, even much pure gold;

**Sweeter also than honey, than honey from the comb.**

Your ways are the passage to life;

**All other paths are raging with peril.**

But who can keep always on course?

**Prevent me from wandering.**

Let me not be beguiled by the arrogant,

who boast of their own powers.

**Then I shall ever lodge my trust in You,**

And keep to Your ways.

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**

**be acceptable to You, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

## **A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

✘ **HYMN #816**

“If Thou but Trust In God to Guide Thee”  
All attending Sunday School may leave as we sing the hymn.

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

**OFFERTORY**

**THE LIGHT OF SERVICE**

*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 gather our monthly offering to the **Salisbury Housing Trust** and **Salisbury Housing 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.*

**ANTHEM**

“The Heavens are Telling” from *Creation* Franz Josef Haydn

*The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
The wonder of his work displays the firmament;*

*Today that is coming speaks it the day,  
The night that is gone to following night.*

*The heavens are telling the glory of God ...*

*In all the lands resounds the word,  
never unperceived, ever understood.*

*The heavens are telling the glory of God ...*

✘ **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**

**Source of blessings, all that we “own” is yours, given into our charge  
for the care of your world. May what we offer in these moments be  
the very blessing, the very hope, the very sustenance that others need.  
We ask it in Jesus’ name: Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
 Philippians 3:4b-14

*Testament, p.*  
*Testament, p.*

**SERMON**

“Back to Basics”

Pastor John A. Nelson

**PASTORAL PRAYER**✕ **HYMN #733**

“We All Are One in Mission”

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

**BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN****POSTLUDE**

“L'autunno” from *Le Quattro Stagioni*

Vivaldi



## 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).**

# 687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine  
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guard while life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

# If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful  
2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful  
3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine

heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -  
hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's  
own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of

tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in  
plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our  
grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er

God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.  
in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.  
yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

# 733 We All Are One in Mission

1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
 2 We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.  
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
 Our min - is - tries are dif - ferent; our pur - pose is the same:  
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
 so ev - ery folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

A Lutheran pastor wrote this text in response to a bishop's letter that said, "Our mission is to touch the lives of others with Christ's love." This theme is made stronger by recognizing that shared purposes do not require the denial of diversity but are enriched by it.

TEXT: Rusty Edwards, 1985, alt.

MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELIN

7.6.7.6.D



## Today's Worship Leaders

*Ushers:* Deborah Moore and Joanne Taber

*Reader:* Tony Good • *Deacon:* Pat Palmer

*Fellowship time hosts:* Barbara Collins and Rosanne Lamson

Fall Festival Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House  
by Sara Wardell & Nancy Baker

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2022  
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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  
**Youth Group leader:** Sarah Lesch  
**Youth Group assistant:** Dan Baker

### 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

## Church Officers, Boards, & Committees, June 2023 – May 2024

Underline indicates first term of service.

### OFFICERS:

**Moderator:** Betsy Beck '24      **Treasurer:** Janet Offensend '25      **Clerk:** Jennifer Oberto '25  
**Pastor and Teacher:** The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Mary Davidson '24      Kathy Mera '25

### BOARD OF DEACONS

Janet Kaufman '24  
Patricia Palmer '24

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Sue Morrill '25  
Barbara Collins '25

Theresa Carroll '26, *chair*  
John Estabrook '26  
Tony Good '26  
Don Mayland '26

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Moderator, Treasurer, Pastor, and elected members:

Louise Brown '24  
Dan Edmundson '24  
Kerry Noble '24

Janet Accardo '25, *chair*  
Gordon Johnson '25

Lee Collins '26  
Roger Crain '26  
Carr Ferguson '26

**BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Moderator, Sun. School Coord., Pastor, and elected members:

Emily Elliot '24

Julia Barbato '26  
Jano Fairservis '26

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN ACTION** Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Peggy Heck '24  
Leanne Larson '24  
Karin Noyes '24, *chair*

Barbara Wiggins '25

Kathy Mera '26

Jano Fairservis – *Member emerita*

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

TBD

**MUSIC COMMITTEE** Moderator, Music Minister, Pastor, and elected members:

Mary Davison '24  
Terre Lefferts '24

Louise Brown '25  
George Faison '25  
Peg Heck '25

Peggy Hayes '26, *chair*  
Emily Elliot '26

**USHERS COMMITTEE**

Moderator, Pastor, and elected members:

Janet Kaufman '24  
Sarah Morrison '24

Deborah Moore '25  
Sharon Tingley '25  
Kevin Wolgemuth '25

Becky Belcher '26  
Gordon Johnson '26  
Allison Gray '26  
Joanne Taber '26, *chair*

**DELEGATE TO UCC CONFERENCE & LITCHFIELD NORTH ASSOCIATION:** Charlie Noyes

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** *To be elected at Annual Meeting, 29 October 2023*

## 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:

*Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries, for mission partners in Nepal: Share and Care Nepal • Samari Utthan Sewa (Samaritan Upliftment Service)*

#### Continued concerns:

Margaret Haubrich, in memory care

Neighbors around the world recovering from catastrophic wildfires, floods, and hurricanes • 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 — Deborah Lifton • Peter Kiernan, Jenny, Frank Swaye, David Douyea, Deborah Merwin, Keith Blanton — prayers for healing and strength.

**Family & Friends  
who have passed away**

Karen Parsons • Sally Noyes

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray for the Spirit's strong presence with family and friends 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!

## This Week at Salisbury UCC

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### SUNDAY, 8 OCTOBER

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

11:30AM Music Committee meeting

**LAST DAY OF FALL FESTIVAL**

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### MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER

*Church offices closed – Indigenous Peoples' Day*

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

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### TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER

*Church offices closed – staff away*

5:15PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

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### WEDNESDAY, 11 OCTOBER

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study

5:30PM Board of Deacons meeting

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### THURSDAY, 12 OCTOBER

5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

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### FRIDAY, 13 OCTOBER

8:45AM Men's Bible Study



***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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