

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

✠ HYMN #12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Here in this place, with these people,
we come to worship the living God.

**ALL: In you, O God, we hope;
in you, Creator of *shalom*, we live.**

Here in this sacred space, in these very moments,
we pour our hearts into prayer and song.

**In you, Christ of the Way, we rejoice;
in you, dear Companion, grace is as near as your heart.**

Here, on this day of gentleness and beauty,
there is room to remember brokenness and pain, grief and despair,
and call on the healing power of God.

**In you, O Spirit, we find our way;
in you, Teacher of hope, we learn the cost and joy of discipleship.**

RESPONSE IN SONG "God, Listen to Your Children Praying" Ken Medema

God, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. God, send your Spir-it in this place.

God, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

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CALL TO RECONCILIATION

ONE: Called to have the same mind as Christ, we often spend too much time thinking about all those ways which then lead us astray. But, if we confess our sins — our waywardness, our distraction, our failings — God removes their power from us strengthens us to follow. Join me as we pray together, saying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You call us to your abundance, inviting God, yet our busy lives keep us from responding. You remember every word we utter, every prayer we whisper, yet we forget so many of the ways you care for us. You would make your gentleness known through us, yet we lash out in anger and fear towards others.

Forgive us, God of all hope, we pray in the name of your servant Christ Jesus. In him, we can live in your way. Through him, we can learn the dreams you have for us. With him, we can open our arms and embrace all the people we meet.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Forgiven by God, we can begin to reflect on all those ways in which we can live justly, act honorably, love completely. This is good news!

MANY: We are fed with grace, and nourished with joy, so we may go and bring hope and peace to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG "God, Listen to Your Children Praying"

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23

ONE: Honor the Holy One!

ALL: O give thanks to the Most High, for God is good;
The Almighty's steadfast love endures forever.

**Who can recount all the mighty deeds of the Creator,
or fully proclaim God's honor?**

Happy are those who do justice,

Whose actions always reflect God's compassion.

Remember me, O Holy One, when You smile upon Your people;

Come to my aid when You deliver them;

That I may see the thriving of those who live in covenant with You,

That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your people,

That I may take joy in Your people.

We, like our ancestors before us,

Have been unfaithful to our God;

We have gone astray;

We have worked malice.

They made a calf and bowed down to this idol cast from metal.

**They exchanged the grandeur of the Most High
for the image of an ox that eats grass.**

They forgot God, their Savior,

**Who had done great things and wondrous works
in the land of their captivity,**

And awesome deeds by the Red Sea.

In their oblivion they would have come to destruction, had not Moses,

The Holy One's agent of liberation

stood in the chasm before the Almighty,

To turn them away from the path to devastation.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

✠ **HYMN #824**

"Near to the Heart of God"

MCAFFEE

All attending Sunday School may leave as we sing the hymn.

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 complements our church’s mission. This week, we share our gifts with the **International Committee of the Red Cross**, for its work in Israel and Gaza.*

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 “He, Watching Over Israel,” from *Elijah* 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

**May not only our gifts, but our lives, be the grace and hope which
bring healing to the broken, as well as food and nourishment to all
who hunger and thirst for justice and peace. In Jesus’ name, we pray:
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Philippians 4:1-9
Exodus 32:1, 7-14

*New Testament, p. 242
Old Testament, p. 97*

SERMON

“Consequences”

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✘ HYMN *(insert)*

“Lead On, O Cloud of Presence”

LANCASHIRE

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

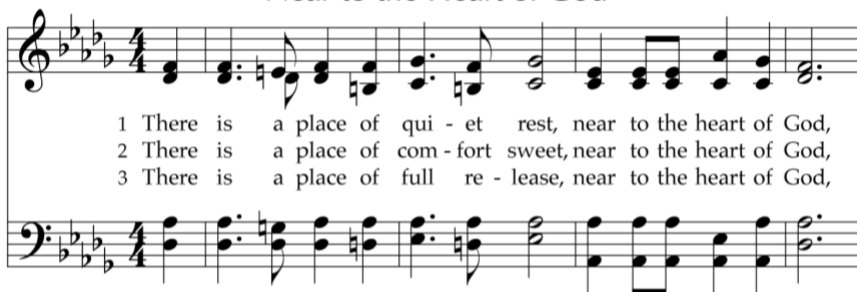
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

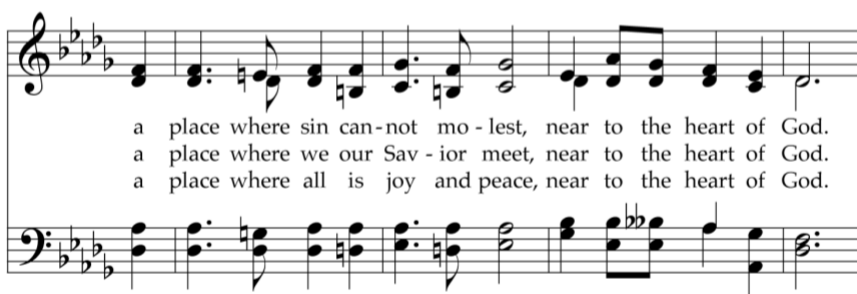
The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest 824

Near to the Heart of God



1 There is a place of qui - et rest, near to the heart of God,
2 There is a place of com - fort sweet, near to the heart of God,
3 There is a place of full re - lease, near to the heart of God,

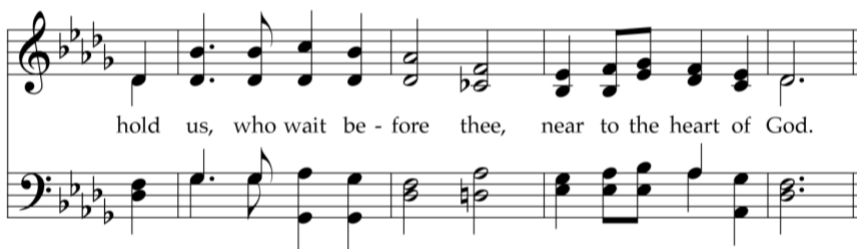


a place where sin can - not mo - lest, near to the heart of God.
a place where we our Sav - ior meet, near to the heart of God.
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

Refrain



O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er, sent from the heart of God,



hold us, who wait be - fore thee, near to the heart of God.

A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6 D

1. Lead on, O cloud of Pres - ence, the ex - o - dus is come:
2. Lead on, O fier - y Pil - lar, we fol - low yet with fears,
3. Lead on, O God of free - dom, and guide our pil - grim way,

in wil - der - ness and de - sert our tribe shall make its home.
but we shall come re - joic - ing though joy be born of tears.
that we may trust the prom - ise through strug - gle and de - lay.

Our bon - dage left be - hind us, new hopes with - in us grow;
We are not lost, though wan - d'ring, for by your light we come,
We pray that those who fol - low will live to share that land

We seek the land of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow.
and we are still God's peo - ple: the jour - ney is our home.
where jus - tice dwells with mer - cy and love is law's de - mand.

Text: Ruth Duck, *Because We Are One People*, 1974, rev. 2018, © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1836, *Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship*, 1867.
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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: Sharon Tingley and Kevin Wolgemuth
Reader: Jeanette Weber • Deacon: Patricia Palmer*

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.

Cover art: portion of "The Golden Calf" by James Jacques Joseph Tissot (1836-1902), gouache on board, The Jewish Museum, NYC

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: 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.)

New concerns:

Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries,
for mission partners in

the Democratic Republic of Congo:

Church of Christ in Congo • Congo Protestant
University – Kinshasa • Community of Disciples of
Christ in Congo • the Rev. Bryan Parrish, Mission
Co-worker

For peace in Israel/Palestine

Linda Ryan, recovering from surgery

Continued concerns:

Peace in Armenia/Azerbaijan • 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

Bob Salluzzo • 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.

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, 15 OCTOBER

- 10AM Worship
*followed by fellowship & refreshments
in the Parish Hall*
- 11:30AM Board of Trustees meeting

MONDAY, 16 OCTOBER

- 9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER

- 5:15PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER

- 12:30PM Staff Meeting
4PM Women's Bible Study
5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 19 OCTOBER

- 5:30PM Project SAGE Board meeting

FRIDAY, 20 OCTOBER

- 8:45AM Men's Bible Study

SATURDAY, 21 OCTOBER

- 12-5PM Donna Schaper 50th ordination
anniversary



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