The Congregational Church of Salisbury UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



HYMN SING

WELCOME

★ HYMN #263 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" CORONATION
(★ The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Our lives scattered on the floor of the world, our limits pushed by stress and its best friend, impatience, we come:

ALL: For here, God would gather us, bringing us to the realm of peace.

Wondering if truth is fake or worth pursuing, questioning whether anyone is worth following or believing, we come:

For here, God would feed us with wisdom, sending the One who leads us to the realm of hope.

Questioning the motives of everyone in power, doubting that justice can be found anywhere, we come:

For here, God brings us to worship with sisters and brothers, scooping us up from every place we have strayed, and binding us with joy.



TEXT: Trad. Latin American; trans. By S.T. Kimbrough, Jr., adap.

MUSIC: Trad. Latin American; harm. by Carlton R. Young. Trans. and harm. © 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik.

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RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty and tender God — the deep within all; the encompassing heart of all — we enter now into your kin-dom, your community of wholeness, a realm of peace:

We bring our hunger, and the hunger of the world. We bring our inner stranger, and the exiled of the world. We bring our hurting selves, and the hurting of the world.

We bring our separation from you, caused by what we have done and what we have not done.

We open ourselves to your healing forgiveness.

Inspired by your grace, we dare to imagine integrity in our inner life, our relationships, our planet, and all the ways we live together:

We dare to imagine the reign of Christ, love's Servant and love's Self: your heart given freely to heal and renew each of us and all the world.

(We unburden ourselves in silent prayer.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God searches for the lost,

and finds us;

God invites the hungry to the table,

and feeds us;

God sends Jesus,

and frees us from death's prison;

God forgives all who sin,

and heals us with mercy and grace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

"We Sing of Your Glory"

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 95:1-7a.

ONE: O come, let us sing to the Most High;

ALL: Let us make a joyful noise to our stronghold and our deliverance!

Let us come into God's presence giving thanks;

Let us sing songs of joy to the Holy One!

For the Almighty is the great God,

The God above all gods.

The depths of the earth are in the hands of the Holy One,

So, too, are the heights of the mountains.

The sea belongs to God, Who made it,

And the dry land, which the hands of the Creator have formed.

O come, let us honor the Most High,

Let us kneel before the Holy One, our Maker!

For this is our God,

And we are the people God formed,

The sheep in God's care.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

Hymnal, p. 35

₩ Hymn #274

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd All attending Sunday School may leave as we sing the hymn.

PICARDY

OFFERTORY

ONE: We cultivate a habit of giving, knowing that some of God's people are counting on our generosity. Even more, God invites us to give as a sign and symbol of our gratitude. All that we have is a gift from God, the source of every blessing! Think of that with wonder, and return a portion of God's gifts with joy. Dare to trust that all our offerings, of heart and wallet, are spreading the hope that is ours by God's grace.

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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Virgil Thompson

My Shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back
When I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk thru the shades of death,
Thy presence is my stay;
A word of Thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.

Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, Doth still my table spread; My cup with blessings overflows; Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be mine abode,
And all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest
While others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest,
But like a child at home.

♣ 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

Generous God, add your blessing to our offering, that in our gratitude for you someone soon might know that your compassion, hope, grace, and fullness of life is for everyone. We ask in Jesus' name: Amen.

MODERN TESTIMONY Gratitude Melody Beattie

ANCIENT TESTIMONY Ephesians 1:15-23 New Testament, p. 234

SERMON "Endless Energy, Boundless Strength" Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

➡ HYMN #384 "We Are Going to See the King" SOON AND VERY SOON

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE Nun danket alle Gott Sigfried Karg-Ehlert



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).

263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



This 18th-century text celebrating the sovereignty of Christ has been through several expansions and contractions before reaching its present form. It is set here to the oldest American hymn tune in continuous use since first published in 1793, which was written for it.

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb 274 and Shepherd



When it was first published, the author called this text "Christus Paradox," because so many attributes of Christ stand in tension with each other. Mindful of the works of Søren Kierkegaard, she drafted it on a commuter bus after "a particularly bad day" of prison ministry.



This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3–4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Joanne Taber & Kevin Wolgemuth Reader: Barbara Collins • Deacon: Janet Kaufman

Flowers have been placed in the Meeting House by Betty Dobrwado

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

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

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 Fiji: Pacific Conference of Churches • Pacific Theological College

Continuing concerns:

Peace in Israel/Palestine, Armenia/Azerbaijan, Sudan, Ukraine

Mark Capecelatro, recovering from surgery • Bob Hubby, recovering from surgery • 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 • neighbors who serve or live in war or in conflict zones around the world • for peacemakers.

For those in treatment for cancer — Peter (and Janet) • Deborah Lifton, Peter Kiernan, Jenny, Frank Swaye, David Douyea, Deborah Merwin, Keith Blanton — prayers for healing and strength.

Family & Friends who have passed away

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, 26 NOVEMBER

10AM Worship

followed by fellowship &

refreshments in the Parish Hall

11:30AM Board of Religious Education

2:30PM Youth Group 5PM Sunday Supper

MONDAY, 27 NOVEMBER

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

TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER

9AM Taichi class

5:15PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4PM Women's Bible Study

5:30_{PM} Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER

5:30PM Choir Dress Rehearsal

FRIDAY, I DECEMBER

8:45AM Men's Bible Study 12NOON First Friday Music

SATURDAY, 2 DECEMBER

10AM Choir rehearsal (if needed)



Upcoming Holiday & Christmas Concerts

| Saturday, 2 December, 4PM Salisbury UCC Meeting House | Salisbury Association Holiday Concert |
|---|--|
| Sunday, 3 December, 3PM Salisbury UCC Meeting House | Salisbury UCC Christmas Concert: "Joyful Melodies" |
| Sunday, 10 December, 3PM St. James Place, Great Barrington, MA | Berkshire Lyric: "The Holly and the Ivy" |
| Saturday, 16 December, 4PM St. Paul's Church, Stockbridge, MA Sunday, 17 December, 4PM Trinity Church, Lakeville, CT | Crescendo Holiday Concert: "Carols for the Earth: Festive Old and New Holiday Music with an earth-conscious message" |
| Sunday, 16 December, 3PM First Cong. Church, Stockbridge, MA | Berkshire Lyric: "Home for Christmas" |



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