

# The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## PRELUDE

*Liebster Jesu, wir sind Hier*

J.S. Bach

## WELCOME

### ✘ HYMN #401

“Here in this Place”

GATHER US IN

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



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness

2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who

3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the

4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings

yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,

bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,

light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;

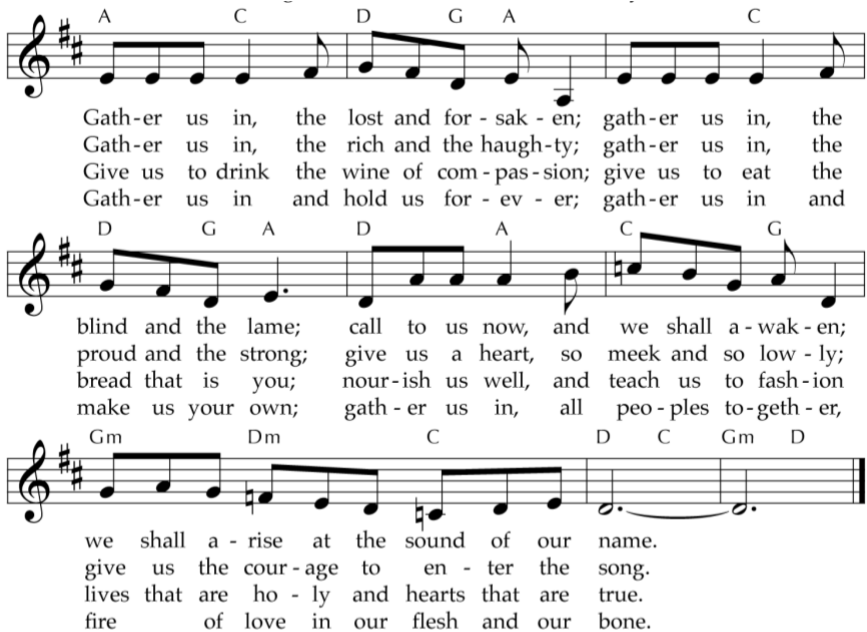


brought here to you in the light of this day.

called to be light to the whole hu-man race.

call us a-new to be salt for the earth.

now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and  
 blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly;  
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,  
 we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

TEXT and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1979  
 Text and Music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

GATHER US IN  
 10.9.10.10.D

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

### CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God, be in our gathering, that we may know you and sing your praise.

**MANY: God, be in our praying,  
 that we may find comfort where there is trouble.**

God, be in our singing, that we may feel the sweet rhythms of your presence.

**God, be in our Sabbath rest,  
 that we may revere the wonder of your creation.**

God, be in our coming in and going out,

**that we may bind up the brokenhearted, set free the oppressed,  
 and bring bread to a hungry world. Amen.**

## RESPONSE IN SONG

## “Jesus, We Are Here”


JESUS, TAWA PANO

1 Je - sus, we are here; Je - sus, we are here; Je - sus,

Leader: Wel - come, Je - sus.  
we are here; we are here for you.

2 Savior,... 3 Teacher,... 4 Spirit,...

TEXT and MUSIC: Patrick Matsikeniyiri, 1990

Text and Music © 1990, 1996 Patrick Matsikeniyiri (admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik) 

JESUS, TAWA PANO

Irregular

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

It really is easier to play favorites, rather than treating everyone equally. We find it simpler to classify others as ‘them,’ instead of discovering what makes them beloved in God’s eyes. We hang onto fear, when we could grasp hold of God’s enduring love. Let us confess together all we have done, and not done, which brings hurt to others, and harm to ourselves, as we pray together,

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**How glibly we say we trust you, Holy One, and how quickly our fears silence our words. You tell us that we will find you at the side of the poor and vulnerable, while we seek stability and cozy places. You stand behind the counter serving the hungry at the soup kitchen, while we stock our freezers and pantries. We look with pity at those whose hands are dirty, but your hand of mercy pulls them into your embracing love.**

**Forgive us, O Lord, and lead us into lives of service for others.  
Surround us with your transforming love; surround us with your  
transporting grace; surround us with your transcending peace;  
surround us with the Spirit of Christ Jesus, our Teacher and Savior.**

(Silence is kept)

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Be strong, do not fear! God comes, to fill your parched souls with living water, to open your eyes to the grace which is yours.

**God comes, for no other reason than to save us. This is indeed good news. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

#### **RESPONSE IN SONG**

“Jesus, We Are Here”

p. 2

#### **RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 146**

ONE: Hallelujah!

**ALL: Honor the Holy One, O my soul!**

I will acclaim the Almighty as long as I live;

**I will sing thanks to my God all my life long.**

Do not put your trust in the great, who are but mortals,

**Who are formed from the earth, and who cannot sustain.**

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;

**And on that day their plans come to nothing.**

Happy are those whose help is the God

who restores unity and keeps covenant,

**Whose hope is in the Almighty, their God,**

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

**Who keeps faith forever;**

Who secures justice for those who are wronged;

**Who gives food to the hungry.**

The Holy One sets the prisoners free;

**The Holy One gives sight to the blind.**

The Holy One lifts up those who are oppressed;

**The Holy One loves those who journey in faithfulness.**

The Holy One watches over the stranger;  
**And upholds the weak and the powerless,**  
But the way of the wayward turns from life  
and leads to ruin.

**The Holy One will reign forever,**  
Your God, O people of the Most High,  
for all generations.

**Hallelujah!**

## A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

✕ **HYMN #395**

**“Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word”**

LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your word we have come a -  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est  
3 Glo - rious Lord, your - self im - part, Light of Light, from

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed, till your Spir - it breaks our night,  
God pro - ceed - ing. Touch our lips and ears and heart;

and in glow-ing faith be near you. By your gos - pel  
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and  
help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your

true and ho - ly, teach us, Lord, to love you sole - ly.  
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.  
church now rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Originally conceived to be sung before the sermon, this hymn assumes a congregation that assembles regularly, and it needs to be placed near the beginning rather than the end of worship. The simple repetitive tune reinforces the text's sense of receptivity and expectation.

TEXT: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.  
MUSIC: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1664; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 18th cent., alt.

LIEBSTER JESU  
7.8.7.8.8.8

## 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 **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.*

|   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>ANTHEM</b>   | <i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i> | John Rutter  |
| 1. <i>For the beauty of the earth,<br/>For the beauty of the skies,<br/>For the love which from our birth<br/>Over and around us lies:</i>              |                                    | 2. <i>For the beauty of each hour<br/>Of the day and of the night,<br/>Hill and vale and tree and flower,<br/>Sun and moon and stars of light:</i> |
| <i>Lord of all, to thee we raise<br/>This our joyful hymn praise.</i>   |                                    | <i>Lord of all, to thee we raise<br/>This our joyful hymn praise.</i>  |
| 3. <i>For the joy of human love,<br/>Brother, sister, parent, child,<br/>Friends on earth, and friends above,<br/>For all gentle thoughts and mild:</i> |                                    | 4. <i>For each perfect gift of thine<br/>To our race so freely given,<br/>Graces human and divine,<br/>Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n:</i>    |
| <i>Lord of all, to thee we raise<br/>This our joyful hymn praise.</i>   |                                    | <i>Lord of all, to thee we raise<br/>This our joyful hymn praise.</i>  |

⌘ **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**

**All that we call “ours” comes from you, Holy One: we are stewards of your bounty. Here we return a portion and ask your blessing: may our offerings be used to sow your justice, to feed the hungry, to share your joy, and to bring relief to afflicted neighbors near and far. Amen.**

|                          |                       |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>MODERN TESTIMONY</b>  | “You Can Sit With Us” | Elizabeth Tambascio      |
| <b>ANCIENT TESTIMONY</b> | James 2:1-10, 14-17   | <i>New Testament, p.</i> |
| <b>SERMON</b>            | “Ask Your Neighbor”   | Pastor John A. Nelson    |
| <b>PASTORAL PRAYER</b>   |                       |                          |

1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.  
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
 Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
 for I am with you till the age shall end,  
 bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"  
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1985  
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906  
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

SINE NOMINE  
 10.10.10 with alleluias

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**BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

“Presto” from *Sonata no. 6 in F*

L.v. Beethoven





## Welcome to Church!

Gathered in 1744, the Congregational Church of Salisbury is an Open and Affirming member of the United Church of Christ, in a “net zero” building powered by clean energy. Our church 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: Joanne Taber, Sharon Tingley  
Reader: Dean Haubrich • Deacon: Tony Good  
Fellowship time hosts: Board of Deacons*

Today’s liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2024 (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  
**Youth Group Leader:** Sarah Lesch  
**Youth Group Assistant:** Dan Baker

### Holding the Parts Together

**Church Administrator:** Jennifer Oberto  
**Sexton:** Richard Tietjen

**Church Officers:** Charlie Noyes, *moderator*;  
Janet Offensend, *treasurer*; Liz Wing, *clerk*

**Pastor and Teacher:** The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

## 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 the people of Hungary and for mission partner,  
the Reformed Church in Hungary.

David Stoneman (uncle of Jenn Oberto), metastatic  
cancer.

### Continuing concerns:

Margaret Haubrich • Fr. Danny Lennox, family  
health crisis

Peace in Israel/Palestine, Ukraine, Haiti, Myanmar,  
Sudan, the Sahel region

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In treatment for cancer —

Shawn Dreyer • Deborah Moore • Stephanie (and  
husband Brent) • Peter (and Janet) •  
Deborah Lifton • Peter Kiernan • Jenny •  
David Douyea • Deborah Merwin — 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.

**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 SEPTEMBER

10AM Worship  
*followed by fellowship & extravagant refreshments in the Parish Hall!*  
11:30AM Music Committee meeting

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### MONDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club  
7PM Corn Food Pantry Board meeting

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### WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)  
12:15PM Staff Meeting  
2:30PM Board of Deacons meeting  
4PM Women's Bible Study

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### THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

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### FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

8:45AM Men's Bible Study



[tiny.cc/NWCT-CROP-WALK/](https://tiny.cc/NWCT-CROP-WALK/)



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*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-Friday