

# The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

### ✠ HYMN

### “Many Gifts, One Spirit”

KATHERINE

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



1. God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space, When we fear the fu - ture,  
2. God of ma - ny col - ors, God of ma - ny signs, You have made us dif - ferent,  
3. Fresh - ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night, You are still cre - at - ing



give to us your grace. In the midst of chang - ing ways give us still the grace to praise.  
bless - ing ma - ny kinds. As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.  
end - less love and light. This we see, as sha - dows part, ma - ny gifts from one great heart.

#### *Refrain*



Ma - ny gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in ma - ny ways. In our dif - fer - ence is blessing,



from di - ver - si - ty we praise One Giv - er, one Lord, one Spir - it, one Word, Known in ma - ny



ways, hal - low - ing our days. For the Giv - er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Martin Luther King, Jr., adapted*

ONE: I say to you, seek God, and discover God, and make God a power in your life.

**ALL: Without God, all of our efforts turn to ashes  
and our sunrises into darkest nights.**

Without God, life is a meaningless drama with the decisive scenes missing.

**But with God, we are able to rise  
from the fatigue of despair to the buoyancy of hope.**

With God, we are able to rise from

the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy.

**We were made for God, and our hearts will be restless  
until we find rest in God. Let us worship God!**

### RESPONSE IN SONG

Hal Hopson, 1972



Come Spir-it, come, our hearts con-trol; our spir-its long to be made whole.



Let in-ward love guide ev-ery deed; by this we wor-ship and are freed.

*Text and Music © 1972 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.*

### RESPONSIVE LITANY FOR RENEWAL

ONE: God, you have sent us Jesus, your living Word,  
to teach us how to live in your way.

**ALL: Help us to hear, help us to learn, help us to change.**

Jesus showed us how to celebrate life, how to live faithfully, how to love boldly.

**Help us to hear, help us to learn, help us to change.**

Your Spirit reminds us that the Gospel calls each of us to lives of compassion,  
even at the risk of our comfort and our old certainties.

**Help us to hear, help us to learn, help us to change.**

Your prophet, Martin Luther King, Jr., renewed your dream for all people: to live  
together as brothers and sisters, and to dismantle all that crushes lives and spirits.

**Help us to hear, help us to learn, help us to change**

Still, we often ignore your words, the example of Jesus, the challenge from those who cry out prophetically in our own time.

**Help us to hear, help us to learn, help us to change.**

*(Silent reflection)*

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God has said, “I will speak up for your good. I will never be silent until you are safe and secure.” So be assured: God will call you by name: “My Delight.”

**God’s steadfast love extends to the heavens, and reaches down to touch our hearts. Thanks be to God who forgives and saves us! Amen.**

## **RESPONSE IN SONG**

“Come Spirit, Come”

O WALY WALY

## **RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 36:5-10**

ONE: Your steadfast love, O Holy One, reaches to the heavens,

**MANY: Your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your graciousness is like the mighty mountains,

**Your justice like the great deep;**

You save humans and animals alike, O Holy One.

**How cherished is Your steadfast love, O God!**

All people may take shelter in the shadow of Your wings.

**They feast on the abundant fare of Your house,**

And You give them drink from the river of Your delights.

From You springs forth the fountain of life;

**By Your light we see light.**

Maintain Your faithful care for those devoted to You,

**And lavish Your blessings upon those who trust in You.**

## **A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS**

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

*Hymnal, p. 35*

There Is a Balm in Gilead

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

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

*Fine*

1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but  
 2 Don't ev - er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend, and  
 3 If you can-not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can

then the Ho-ly Spir - it re-vives my soul a - gain. There is a  
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll not re-fuse to lend. There is a  
 tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all." There is a

*to Refrain*

This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

## 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 **Volunteers in Medicine**.*

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

*Come, Gracious Spirit*

Simon Browne (1720)

Scottish melody, arr. Dale Wood

*Come, gracious Spirit, heav’nly Dove,  
With light and comfort from above;  
Be thou our guardian, thou our guide,  
O’er every thought and step preside.*

*The light of truth to us display,  
And make us know and choose thy way;  
holy fear in every heart,  
That we from God may ne’er depart.*

*Lead us to Christ, the living Way,  
nor let us from his pastures stray;  
Lead us to holiness, the road  
That we must take to dwell with God.*

*Lead us to heav’n, that we may share  
A fuller joy forever there;  
Lead us to God our final rest,  
To be with him forever blest.*

### ✠ DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit ever more;**

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**One God of grace, whom we adore! Amen.**

✘ **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Sometimes, we believe the gifts we offer do not matter. But when they are combined with all the other gifts — of healing, of hope, of compassion, of your heart — they can become rivers of grace and justice flowing through the lives of everyone around us. We offer our gifts to you in this hope, as we pray in Jesus' name: Amen.**

**MODERN TESTIMONY**                      from *A Knock at Midnight*                      Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**GOSPEL READING**                      I Corinthians 12:1-11                      *New Testament, p. 211*

**SERMON**                                      “Activated!”                                      Pastor John A. Nelson

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

✘ **HYMN #733**                                      “We All Are One in Mission”                      ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

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 WALDVÖGELEIN  
7.6.7.6.D

All rights reserved. Reprinted & streamed  
under OneLicense.net A-725033.

## BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

## POSTLUDE



## 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: Janet Kaufman & Kevin Wolgemuth  
Reader: Karin Noyes • Deacon: Theresa Carroll  
Fellowship time hosts: Liz Wing & Steven Wolf*

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  
**Sunday School Assistant:** Stephanie 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.)

---

### New concerns:

*Weekly prayer from UCC Global Ministries,*  
for the people of Brazil and for our mission  
partners: Association of Community Health  
Educators Rio de Janeiro • Evangelical  
Congregational Church of Brazil

For the effectiveness of the ceasefire between  
Israel and Gaza, and for an end to the devastation  
of civilian lives.

### Continuing concerns:

- All affected by the wildfires around Los Angeles:
- those whose family and friends have perished;
    - those who do not know if beloveds have survived;
  - Mimi Estes's daughter Lisa, Carr Ferguson's granddaughter Marianna, and numerous other family and friends whose homes have been destroyed;
  - first responders and community leaders

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

Trinidad Proffitt

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

### Thanksgiving for church leaders:

*Board of Trustees:* Janet Accardo, Gordon Johnson,  
Lee Collins, Roger Crain, Carr Ferguson,  
Susan Hassler, Kerry Noble

---

**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, 19 JANUARY

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

---

### MONDAY, 20 JANUARY

- MLKjr Day: Church offices closed*
- 11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

---

### WEDNESDAY, 22 JANUARY

- 9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
- 11AM Chapel Service, Noble Horizons
- 12:15PM Staff Meeting
- 2:30PM Board of Deacons meeting
- 4PM Women's Bible Study
- 5:30PM Choir Rehearsal

---

### THURSDAY, 23 JANUARY

- 11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

---

### FRIDAY, 24 JANUARY

- 8:45AM Men's Bible Study

---

### SUNDAY, 26 JANUARY

- 10AM Worship and Sunday School
- 2:30PM Youth Group
- 5PM Sunday Supper



*Please Recycle this Bulletin!*



*The Congregational Church of Salisbury*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Meeting in Grace • Transformed by Love • Serving with Joy*

30 Main Street | P.O. Box 392 | Salisbury, CT 06068 • 860-435-2442

*email: [welcome@salisburyucc.org](mailto:welcome@salisburyucc.org) • web: [salisburyucc.org](http://salisburyucc.org)*

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