

THE CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF SALISBURY

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

6 October 2019 • 10:00AM

17th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday



CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Everett Amos

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

INTROIT

“Come into His Presence with Thanksgiving”

Johnny Yarrington

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come.

MANY: Let us be God’s community.

Come with love.

The steadfast love of God never ceases.

Come with curiosity.

We are one body, one planet, one Church.

Come with hope.

As we gather with the bread and the cup, justice is served.

ALL: Let us worship!

✠ **HYMN #515**

“I Come with Joy”

DOVE OF PEACE

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit*

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

O Source of Justice, we are Your One Body, called to follow Jesus to create beauty and justice on Your One Body, Your planet. As we gather today around this table, as we experience your Word, may we be awakened to see how suffering hurts the entire body and how beauty enlivens us all. Strengthen us. Draw us in to witness your vision, and forgive us for those moments when we choose to turn away, rather than towards those places and people in our world crying out for justice. Forgive us when we resist this call to mercy and love. Forgive us when we forget that we are, indeed, One Body, called to be Christ's hands and feet, Christ's voice.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

GLORIA #584

"Glory, Glory, Glory"

WE FEAST AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday, honoring the One who binds us together as one Christian community around the planet and calls us to live out our faith as One Body. Let us call out and lift up the deeds and acts of the Church we are thankful for.

The Congregation calls out thanksgivings from their lives and the life of the Church.

PASTORAL PRAYER | SILENT PRAYER | LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Come, Holy Spirit. Continue to pour out your life-giving, healing power on us, and on this meal that nourishes us. As we share this food and drink, may we become, for each other, the hope that Jesus has awakened in us. In this meal we celebrate the promised banquet when all shall be fed abundantly, and all shall drink from the river of the water of life. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

*The bread on the communion plate is gluten free.
The communion wine is non-alcoholic*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ONE: Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need,

**ALL: here we have tasted your goodness
and hungered for a world more just.**

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

here we have heard your call to be a people of healing community.

Though daily we touch our limits,

here we have received the fullness of your grace.

Send us forth, O God,

in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

✠ **HYMN #530**

“One Bread, One Body”

ONE BREAD ONE BODY

Children (PreK–8th grade) attending Church School may leave as we sing the hymn.

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

SCRIPTURE READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 37:1-9

ONE: Do not rage because of the faithless;

MANY: Do not be envious of those who do wrong, yet prosper;

For they will soon fade like the grass,

And like green plants soon wither away.

Trust in the Almighty, and do good;

And you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

Take delight in the Author of Life,

Who will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Most High;

Trust in God, Who will act:

The Most High will make your faithfulness shine like the light,

And the justice of your cause like the noonday.

Be patient and wait for the Holy One;

Do not be disheartened over those who thrive while oppressing others,

Give up anger, abandon fury;

Do not rage—it can only do harm.

For those who pursue their own ends will not share in God's bounty,

**But those who look to the Eternal One
shall inherit creation and its blessings.**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:5-10

SERMON

“A ‘big’ Enough Table”

Abby Gackenhaimer

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

OFFERTORY

ONE: As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, Gracious God, who holds nothing back from us but is generous and gracious with all that is yours.

**ALL: All: Let us gather our gifts with grateful praise,
and offer them to God's purposes.**

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

“The 23rd Psalm

Bobbie McFerrin

✠ **CREATION 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**

**Embolden us, O God, as people of your global village to trust a new
creation is possible. May our sharing be a symbol of that trust. Amen.**

✠ **HYMN #511**

“Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven”

LLANFAIR

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN (Hymnal, #600)

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in C Major”

J.S. Bach



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 here today 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 today, 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 be put on our email list — and please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship following worship. Assistive Listening Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance!

**Please set cell phones and pagers to silent mode
(unless you're expecting a call from Jesus)**

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Bob Maxwell

Deacon: Bob Maxwell

Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary to the Glory of God.

Prayers in today's service are adapted from *Beauty and Suffering: God's Holy Planet, A Service of Holy Communion for World Communion Sunday*, by the Rev. Ashley Goff. Used with permission.

TODAY WE WELCOME TO THE PULPIT THE REV. ABBY GACKENHEIMER. A native of Kalispell, Montana, where she discerned a call to become a minister, Rev. Abby graduated Eden Theological Seminary (St. Louis, MO) in 2008 with a Master of Divinity. She was ordained in 2009 when called as pastor to New Haven Congregational Church in Vermont where she served for six and a half years. During her years in Vermont she also served as the Protestant chaplain with the Cooperative Christian Ministry at the University of Vermont. In Connecticut, she has served as the Interim/Transitional Minister for The Congregational Church of Plainville and the First Congregational Church of Kent. Rev. Abby resides at Silver Lake Conference Center with her husband, Rev. Ryan and son, Keadyn.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Ministers: All Participants in the Life of the Congregation

Worship & Music

Music Minister: Dr. Jack Bowman
Bell Choir Director: Mary Davidson
Technical Minister: Lee Collins

Education & Youth

Christian Education Minister: Barbara Collins
Youth Minister: Jennifer Surdam

Holding the Parts Together!

Administrative Assistant: Kathleen Wiggins
Finance and Communications Assistant:
Melissa Adam
Sexton: Cory Wiggins
Church Officers: Betsy Beck, *moderator*;
Jennifer Weigel, *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.)

Continuing concerns:

Sally, facing health issues • Deryl Godshall, recovering from injury • those whose lives are devastated by hurricanes and other natural disasters • Jenn Oberto, recovering from surgery • survivors of mass shootings, and those working to combat the crisis of gun violence • Henry • Sally Dowling • Carole Fraher • Peter Kuhbach • Sherrell Andrews • Dale Sapp • Sean Clegg • Roberta Fay • J. Kevin Carroll • Evan Adsit • Marty Sorenson • Terry Roy & family • Petee Robinson • Dick Taber • Tom Splaine • Joe K. • Peter & Linda • Paula & Herman • Anne & Bill • Pauline • Sonya's mother • Christine Becker.

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:

Jane Swanson • Ted Stanfield • Leonard Kaufman • Charles Bachman • Diane Franson • Jimmy Bowman

We thank God for the gift of life, and pray God's tender mercy on family and friends who are grieving.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PASTORAL VISIT, please call the church office (860-435-2442) or email Pastor John (jnelson@salisburycongregationalchurch.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, OCTOBER 6

10AM Worship and Church School
12PM Fall Festival Set Up

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

5:15PM Church Council Meeting
5:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

9AM Staff Meeting
11AM Worship at Noble Horizons
5:30PM Deacons' Meeting
7:15PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

4:30PM Women's Bible Study

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

7:45AM Men's Bible Study

OPPORTUNITIES

FALL FESTIVAL Plans are well underway for the upcoming Fall Festival on October 11-13. However we still need volunteers to help the days before and during the Festival.

Here's the schedule for October 7-13:

- Monday-Thursday — Help unpack and arrange items for the Treasure Trove.
- Monday-Thursday — Bring quilts to display in the Meeting House.
- Friday — Help arrange the Hot Dog Tent in the morning
- Friday and Saturday — Bring home-made jams, pickles, and granola to Parish Hall by 9 am.
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday — Volunteer to be a greeter, wrapper, money-collector, or hot dog seller for two hours during the Festival.
- Sunday — Help pack up unsold items, fold quilts, and clean up at 3 pm.
- We would be very grateful for your helping hands and smiling faces — contact Kathy Mera (kmera@snet.net) or Jeanette Weber (weberjeanettec@gmail.com) to volunteer!

CALLING ALL QUILTERS This year celebrates the Eighth Annual Quilt Exhibit. Each year's exhibit has been a huge success and wonderful to behold, with quilts of all sizes and designs, draped over the pews throughout the church. There will be examples of different quilt block designs, a step-by-step demonstration of how the Jacob's Ladder quilt block is cut and assembled, and an in-the-making rainbow quilt being specially made for the church. All quilts are welcome in the exhibit — whether made by you, given to you by your favorite aunt, purchased — or received -- as an anniversary or wedding gift and that special "who-knows-where-it-came-

from?" group. Please bring your quilt(s) to the church and drape over a pew any time during the week of October 7th (although some rearranging may be necessary). Cards will be available for you to provide your name and contact information as well as anything that you know about your quilt's "story".

BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 4:30PM in the Parish Hall Library.

Men's Bible Study meets on Fridays at 7:45AM in the Parish Hall.

All are welcome!

If you are interested in participating in either Bible Study, please contact Pastor John.

275TH ANNIVERSARY On **Sunday, November 24**, we will have an all-church Celebration to commemorate the Church's 275th Anniversary. Mark your calendar an exuberant worship service and a boisterous birthday party! For that day, we are collecting *stories of service to our neighbors, near and far*. Can you share how you have put your faith in action? Please contact Pastor John or the church office.



The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey: you are welcome here.

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www.salisburycongregationalchurch.org

Office Hours: 9am – 2pm, Monday-Friday