

*The Congregational
Church of Salisbury*
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

7 February 2021 • 10:00AM
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME!

Welcome to the Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC! While we refrain from meeting in person during the COVID-19 crisis, we continue to share in worship together, virtually. This bulletin will guide you through the process of joining us in worship.

HOW WE WILL WORSHIP TOGETHER

Today's service will be held over Zoom, which is videoconferencing technology available free of charge online. Zoom allows us to see one another throughout the service. To prevent background noise, you will be put on 'mute' for the majority of the service. Even when we can't hear you, you are invited and encouraged to speak your part in the responsive readings, sing boldly, and participate fully.

PREPARE FOR OUR ONLINE WORSHIP

1. Visit zoom.us/download to find the Zoom app for desktop, laptop, or smartphone
2. For desktop computer users, make sure your webcam is plugged in
3. To practice, join a test meeting: visit zoom.us/test and click "join."

If you are not able to use a smartphone or computer, you can also call in via any regular phone (see below).

JOIN WORSHIP ONLINE

Link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/954580657>

Or join Worship by Phone:

Call (646) 876-9923. When prompted, enter this meeting ID: 954 580 657

You may also watch the service on our YouTube channel, which has better audio quality (though we'll miss visiting with you in the Zoom meeting!):

www.youtube.com/channel/UCBLRqeZ9Gxj7828rN9sp7og/

REFLECTING AS WE GATHER

“A Rattlesnake, if cornered will become so angry it will bite itself. That is exactly what the harboring of hate and resentment against others is — a biting of oneself. We think we are harming others in holding these spite and hates, but the deeper harm is to ourselves.”

— E. Stanley Jones, American Methodist Christian missionary 1884-1973

“When will our conscience grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?”

— Eleanor Roosevelt

“Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realize our need of one another.”

— Archbishop Desmond Tutu

WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

PRELUDE “Sonata for Glass Harmonica – I” *Johann G. Naumann*

GREETING

INTROIT “Rooted and Grounded in Love” *Barbara Hamm*

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We gather to worship God, whose creative imagination never fails:

ALL: For the sake of God, we will search for the outcasts.

We gather to praise our God, whose steadfast love never weakens:

For the sake of Jesus, we will lift up all who have fallen.

We gather to offer our best to God, who walks with us through eternity:

For the sake of the Holy Spirit, we will walk with the weary.

HYMN #792 “There Is a Balm in Gilead” SPIRITUAL

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

One: We are foolish enough to think God does not really know us, hear our words, see the mistakes we make, and the heartache we cause. But God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God is filled with forgiving grace. So let us offer our lives and hearts to God:

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: Holy God, Maker of all

ALL: Have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life

Have mercy on us.

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

(Prayer in silence)

Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

**Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Rooted and Grounded in Love”

Barbara Hamm

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c

ONE: Hallelujah!

ALL: How good it is to sing honor to our God;

For the Holy One is gracious,

And a song of acclaim is fitting.

The Most High rebuilds the holy city;

And gathers up the outcasts.

The Almighty heals the brokenhearted,

And binds up their wounds.

The Holy One determines the number of the stars;

And gives to each its name.

Great is our Creator, and abundant in power;

God's wisdom is beyond measure.

The Holy One lifts up the downtrodden;

And brings the oppressors down to the dust.

Sing to the Most High with thanksgiving;

Make melody on the lyre to honor our God,

Who covers the heavens with clouds,

Prepares rain for the earth,

Makes grass grow on the hills.

Who provides food for the beasts of the field,

And for the raven's brood when they cry.

The Author of Life does not prize the strength of the horse,

Nor value the speed of the runner;
But the Holy One delights in those who trust in God,
In those who put their hope in God's unfailing love.
Hallelujah!

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*depts*)

MODERN TESTIMONY

From "The Souls of Black Folk"

W.E.B. Du Bois

"The nineteenth was the first century of human sympathy, — the age when half wonderingly we began to descry in others that transfigured spark of divinity which we call Myself; when clodhoppers and peasants, and tramps and thieves, and millionaires and — sometimes — Negroes, became throbbing souls whose warm pulsing life touched us so nearly that we half gasped with surprise, crying, "Thou too! Hast Thou seen Sorrow and the dull waters of Hopelessness? Hast Thou known Life?"

ANCIENT TESTIMONY:

Mark 1:29-39

SERMON

"Silence and Speech, Race and Gospel"

John A. Nelson

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

PASTORAL PRAYER | SILENT PRAYER

OFFERTORY

One: We grow in our knowledge of God; we grow in service; we grow in our faith. May we not seek to grow in our giving, as well? In the time we give? In the resources we give? In the love we give? Let us ponder this growth — and may God's grace-full spirit cause our tithes and offerings to be a blessing to both giver and receiver.

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

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Pastorale"

Samuel Wesle

✕ 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**

You lift us to our feet so we can walk with you, Loving God, and you fill us with your gifts so we may pour them out for those around us. Take what we offer and use them in that kin-dom work which strengthens the weary, feeds the hungry, and gives hope to the despairing. Amen.

WE FEAST AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION

PREPARATION

ONE: We gather now as one body, joined around the table.

ALL: Here we celebrate God's presence among us united in Christ's spirit, broken and whole all at once;

Nourished and hungry, loving and lonely,
sinner and forgiven; we make one circle of knowing,
believing, rejoicing, being,
as God lights and rests among us.

INVITATION

This is the table of the Heavenly Feast,
the joyful celebration of the saints of God.

**Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of life,
to drink the cup of the new covenant.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. She who comes to me shall never hunger; he who believes in me shall never thirst."

**In the beginning,
God provided every plant yielding seed
and every tree with seed in its fruit for food.**

When the Israelites were in the wilderness, God fed them with miraculous food.

**When the crowds were hungry, Jesus fed over five thousand
with two fish and five loaves of bread.**

THE MEAL

On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said,

**"This is my body which is for you;
do this remembering me."**

After supper Jesus took the cup and said,

**"This is the cup of the new covenant;
whenever you drink it, do so remembering me."**

JOYS AND CONCERNS ✘ PRAYERS ✘ THE 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

COMMUNION HYMN

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

J. Berthier

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.

You have filled us, O God:

inspire us to live in love and to share your *shalom!* Amen.

HYMN #645

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN ZART

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

“Sonata for Glass Harmonica – II”

J.G. Naumann



Participants in Today's Celebration

Worshippers:

Members and Friends of the Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC

Salisbury UCC Choir;

Jennifer Oberto, *cantor*

Dr. Samuel Lord Kalcheim, *music director*

Bob Maxwell, *reader*

Karin Noyes, *online host*

The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson, *preacher*