

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

WELCOME

⌘ **HYMN #367** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
(⌘ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who looks with kindness on us.

**ALL: We are inheritors of the promises
made long ago to our ancestors.**

Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who gathers us here in this place.

**From across the street, from halfway around the world,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.**

Blessed be the Holy One our God,
who leads us into fullness of life.

**Scoffers and sojourners, watchers and wigglers,
we gather to remember Whose we are,
and sing out our praise!**

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

We sing of your glo - ry, we praise you a - gain,
We sing of your won - der and mer - cy a - gain,

for you are e - ter - nal. A - men, a - men!
for you are e - ter - nal. A - men, a - men!

Words: 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. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

CALL TO REFLECTION

ONE: We know that we have not lived as God hopes. Yet however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us offer our prayers of confession and need to the One who waits for us.

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 silence)

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!	Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“We Sing of Your Glory”

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm 46

ONE: God is our refuge and strength,

ALL: An ever-present help in time of trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should crumble,

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Though its waters roar and foam,

And the mountains tremble with the surging.

There are streams from the river of life that bring joy to the city of God,
the holy habitation of justice and peace.

God is present in the midst of that city;

It will not fall;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar,

Governments totter;

The voice of The Holy One issues forth,

Earth yields.

The Almighty is with us;

The God Who keeps covenant is our security.

Come, see what God does.

Does the Eternal One cause devastation on the earth?

No! God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
Breaking the bow, and shattering the spear;

Burning the shields with fire.

“Throw down your weapons and know that I am God!

“I reign most high among the nations,

“I am sovereign in the earth.”

The Almighty is with us;

The God Who keeps covenant is our security.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

✘ **HYMN #643**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET

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

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 **Corner Food Pantry**.*

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: *Christ is the World’s Light*

Fred Pratt Green, WORDS (ADAPT.)

Lloyd Larson, CHORAL SETTING

1. *Christ is the world’s light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!*
2. *Christ is the world’s peace, Christ and none other:
no one can serve him and despise another;
who else unites us, one in God Creator?
Glory to God on high.*

3. *Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other:
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother;
Christ who redeems us, reigns with God Creator:
Glory to God on high.*

4. *Give God the glory, God and none other:
give God the glory, Spirit, Christ, Creator:
give God the glory, God in every "other":
Glory to God on high.*

✘ **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**

**God, you have blessed us with riches beyond counting. We pray to live
in the confidence of your abundance: enough for everyone,
everywhere, for fullness of life. Bless each offering that we have placed
before you, and bless the mission and ministries to which they are
given. Thy kin-dom come! Thy will be done! In Jesus' name, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 1:68-79
Colossians 1:11-20

*New Testament, p. 70
New Testament, p. 244*

SERMON

"Paradise Now"

Pastor John A. Nelson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✘ **HYMN #109**

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

MERLE'S TUNE

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.

Kindly set phones to silent (unless you're expecting a call from Jesus).



Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Anne Williams & Joanne Taber • *Reader:* Ron Collins
Deacon: Dave Heck • *Fellowship host:* Hospitality Committee

Today's liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2025 (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

Faith Formation

Sunday School Coordinator: Holly Tierney
Sunday School Assistant: Stephanie Tierney
Youth Group Leader: Dan Baker
Youth Group Assistant: Sarah Lesch

Holding the Parts Together

Church Administrator: Catherine Chatham
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 Lesotho and for our mission partners: the Lesotho Evangelical Church and the Christian Council of Lesotho.

Continuing concerns:

Kathy Mera, recovering from surgery •
Holly Henderson-Fisher • The Joya family •
Mary Davidson • Charlie Youngblood •
Andrea Bargabos • Jim Bell • Margaret Haubrich
Beloveds in treatment for cancer

Immigrants and asylum seekers in our country

Friends and family now serving in the armed forces
All those serving or living in conflict zones.

Family & Friends

who have passed away

Sara Jane Elliot • Eliot Brown

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:

Church Council: Charlie Noyes, Liz Wing, Janet Offensend, Pastor John, David Baranowski, Holly Tierney, Kathy Mera, Bob Maxwell, Betsy Beck, Janet Accardo, Theresa Carroll, Barbara Wiggins, Louise Brown, Emily Elliot, Joanne Taber

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, 23 NOVEMBER

10AM Worship and Sunday School
*followed by fellowship & refreshments
in the Parish Hall*

12NOON Trivia Game & lunch with St. John's
Episcopal (Parish Hall)

MONDAY, 24 NOVEMBER

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER

5:30PM Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship
(St. John's Episcopal Church)

WEDNESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

THURSDAY, 27 NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving Day • Church offices closed

FRIDAY, 28 NOVEMBER

Church offices closed



HAPPY
Thanksgiving



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 • web: salisburyucc.org

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