

The Congregational Church of Salisbury
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

“Gymnopédie no. 1”

Erik Satie

WELCOME

✠ **HYMN # 663** “Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

MANY: Maker of Heaven and Earth.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the Earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness.

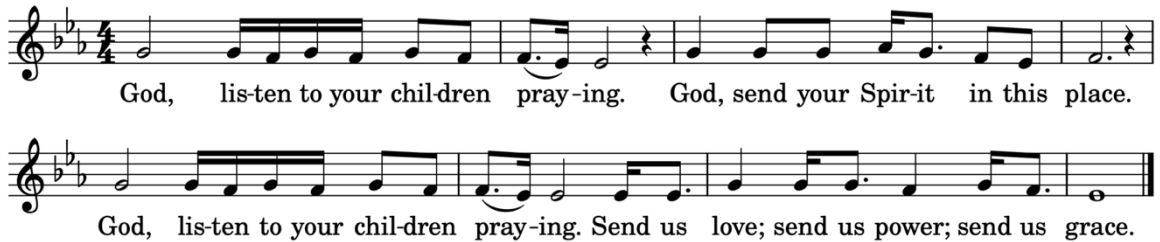
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

And also, with you.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“God Listen to Your Children Praying”

Ken Medema



CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Holy One,

Every day of our lives, we are uncertain about so much and we lean toward early solutions. We prefer comforting words to mindful and truthful ones. We reach for quick assurance without committing to searching for divine guidance in new thoughts and new visions.

You know, Holy One, that true and lasting peace, in our lives and in the world, unfolds over time. We have chased voices, often our own, that tell us what we want to hear. Help us slow down and be still to discern what wants to happen next.

Jesus, you call the merciful blessed. Now we release all annoyances, disappointments, regrets, anger and resentments that we have guarded and rehearsed. You bless the pure in heart, yet our loyalties are divided. Help us focus on what is most crucial in our lives and the life of the world.

May we now be freed of everything stale and worn in our lives. Cleanse our hearts, renew our spirits and reorient our lives toward love.

Amen.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Hear the good news! God's mercy is deeper than our failure, and God's faithfulness is stronger than our fear

In Christ, mercy is not withheld until we are worthy – it is given so that we may be made new

The God who tests truth over time is also the god who keeps promises across generations.

By Grace, we are forgiven. Our hearts are renewed.

We are freed to walk freshly on the long path of mercy, justice and peace.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE IN SONG “God Listen to Your Children Praying”

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm #13

ONE: How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

ALL: How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,

And my enemy will say, “I have overcome this weak one,” and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

But I trust in your unfailing love.

My heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the Lord's praise, for He has been good to me.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

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

Hymnal, p. 35

✧ **HYMN #293**

“Loving Spirit”

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 “**Pride in the Hills.**”*

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

“God be in my Head”

Henry Walford Davies

✠ 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

We come before You with our hearts full of deep thanksgiving for the abundant blessings You have poured into our lives. Thank You for the unfailing love all around and through us. Bless You for Your grace, and the privilege of being part of your family.

As we give back a portion of what the abundance of the universe has so graciously provided, please bless these offerings. May they be multiplied and used in advance Your kin-dom, support our community, and share Light with those in need.

We dedicate these gifts – and our very lives – to Your service. May everything we do bring honor and glory to Your Goodness and Love.

In the presence of Christ, we pray, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 28: 5-9

Old Testament, p.893

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5: 7-12

New Testament, p.5

SERMON

“Hearing what the Spirit is Saying Now”

Rev. Dr. Eileen Epperson

PASTORAL PRAYER

✠ **HYMN # 308**

“O God, In Whom All Life Begins”

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Loch Lomond

Hans-André Stamm



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: Sarah Morrison & Karin Noyes

Reader: Lorna Edmundson • *Deacons:* Dean Haubrich & Lisa Snow Naumann

Fellowship host: Church Council & Hospitality Committee

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*

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 Laos and for our mission
partners.

Continuing concerns:

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

•

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

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PASTORAL VISIT, please call the church office (860-435-2442) or email Catherine Chatham (catherine@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, 28 JUNE

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

MONDAY, 29 JUNE

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 30 JUNE

2PM Parish Hall in use

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
10am: Trail Magic
12:15PM Staff meeting

FRIDAY, 3 JULY

12noon First Friday Music in the Meeting House

SUNDAY, 5 JULY

10AM Worship and Sunday School
11:30AM Church Council meeting

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

