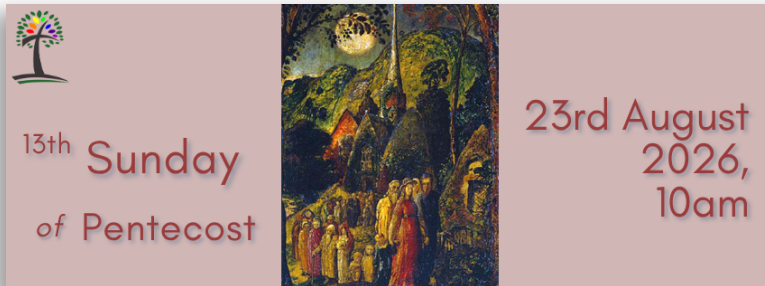


The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

Concerto 5 in D
Performed on violin by Vincent Baranowski

Friedrich Seitz

WELCOME

✠ **HYMN #664**

“Morning has Broken”

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there with them.”

ALL: Gathered or scattered we are here to worship to pray and to sing.

We are gathered to give thanks.

We are gathered to delve deep and to dream aloud.

We are gathered to share.

We come one with another this day, offering ourselves in our fulness and our longing.

We are gathered to receive the still, small voice.

[A moment of silent prayer]

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Sanctuary”

BY JOHN THOMPSON & RANDY SCRUGGS

*Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you
Make me ready, for love and service
Open my heart, to you
Fill and guide me with a thirst for justice
Aim me straight and see me through*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We would like to keep our sins hidden and our failures a secret. Yet God would not have us keep silent, but rather speak our confessions out loud, to release our burden and open ourselves to God's mercy and grace.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

All: Sometimes the world seems too big for us, God. Help us to not fall prey to fears and misgivings. Help us seek your Word in the midst of the clatter and banter . . . allow your light of truth to offer us the way. Grace us with the love of one another and spirits open to the real. We are your children, Holy One.

One: You are blessed creatures of God. Before we were, God knew us. God's blessings flow in and through us with forgiveness in spite of ourselves.

Thanks be to God. Amen

Thanks be to God. Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG

“Sanctuary”

BY JOHN THOMPSON & RANDY SCRUGGS

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm #138: 1-8

ONE: I give thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

ALL: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

MUSIC PERFORMANCE: “Marceau de Concours” by Gabriel Faure performed by Isabella Deng on the flute

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

✠ **HYMN #462**

“I Love to Tell the Story”

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 Sharon Audubon Center

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

“Arabesque no.1”

Claude Debussy

Performed by Lucas Liu on the piano

✠ 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

Gracious and Holy God, bless these gifts as given. Empower them with your loving spirit, embolden them with your love, and allow us to use them for all. In gratitude and trust we live into each moment in your name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 29: 1-7

Old Testament, p.894

GOSPEL READING

Romans 12: 3-13

New Testament, p.196

SERMON

“The Road You Came in On”

Rev. Mark Diters

PASTORAL PRAYER

✕ **HYMN #760**

“Bring Many Names”

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE

“Csárdás”

Vittorio Monti

Performed on flute by Isabella Deng



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: Sharon Tingley & Anne Williams

Reader: Dave Heck • *Deacon:* Myra Brandt

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

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 Ecuador and for our mission
partners.

Continuing concerns:

• Gene Carroll • Pat Lowell • Janet Kaufman •
Barb Brown

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 at 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, 23 AUGUST

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

MONDAY, 24 AUGUST

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST

2PM Parish Hall in use
5:30PM CROP walk informational meeting

WEDNESDAY, 26 AUGUST

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
12:30PM Staff meeting

FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST

8:45AM Men's Bible study- on pause until
September 4th
3 PM Rehearsal- Memorial service

SATURDAY, 29 AUGUST

3 PM Rehearsal – Memorial Service
4 PM Priscilla Wolf Memorial Service

SUNDAY, 30 AUGUST

10AM Worship



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

