

The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



PRELUDE

“Trio Sonata in D minor”

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

✠ HYMN #1

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS | JOYS AND CONCERNS | SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Hallelujah! Sing to God, a brand-new song, praise him in the company of all who love him!

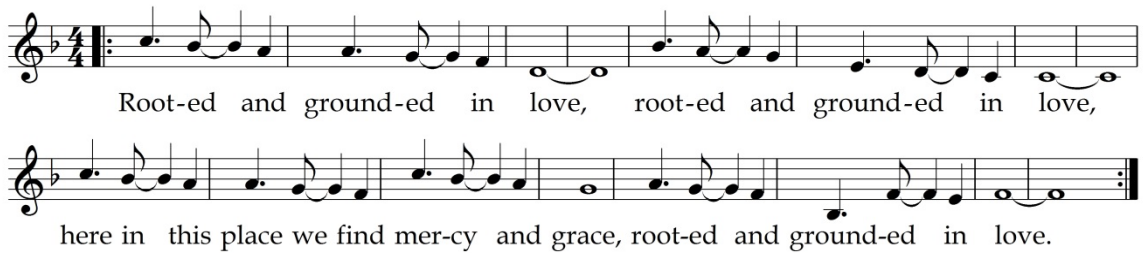
ALL: Let all Israel celebrate their sovereign Creator, Zion’s children exult their king. Let them praise his name in dance, strike up the band and make great music!

Let true lovers break out in praise, sing out from wherever they’re sitting.

Shout the high praises of God, brandish their swords in the wild sword-dance.

Hallelujah! Sing to God a brand-new song!

Praise him in the company of all who love him!

RESPONSE IN SONG**“Rooted and Grounded in Love”****Barbara Hamm**

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COMMON CONFESSION

ALL: We are never thankful enough, God. In the midst of it all, we miss the mark. We long for easier ways and lighter loads. Forgive us for our shortcomings be they large or small. Forgive us our silence when words are called for and for our words when silence would be wise. Grant us mercy and offer your favor. Help us see our errors and our sins in full and grant us forgiveness.

(Prayer in silence)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God blesses you and keeps you, God has known you from the beginning and will love you until the end. Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal, p. 35

RESPONSE IN SONG**“Rooted and Grounded in Love”****Barbara Hamm****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 CROP Walk for Hunger

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

“Brother James’ Air”

Gordon Jacob

✠ 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, your Holy gifts are so plentiful, and your call is so clear. Bless
these human gifts offered and further them in hope, joy and grace.
Multiply their power and fill them with your love. In Christ we pray,
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 13: 8-14

New Testament, p. 197

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18: 15-20

New Testament, p. 24

SERMON

“Owing Love”

Rev. Mark Diters

PASTORAL PRAYER

✠ HYMN #69

“I the Lord of Sea and Sky”

TUNE NAME

We Feast at God's Table

INVITATION

RESPONSIVE THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is good and right to give God our thanks and praise.

O God, we thank you for the rich blessing of your Creation, and come to offer our whole selves as you call us to live for your realm of *shalom*.

Thanks be to you, O Holy One, for the goodness you have poured into all things. Our hearts fill with joy and wonder as we answer your call to be your people.

BLESSING THE ELEMENTS

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.

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.

And so we breathe out hope as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

We celebrate an open communion and welcome every person to the table. We understand the sharing of the bread and the cup in Jesus' name to be a reenactment of an ancient vision of God's feast for all people. We don't require you to be a member of our church, or any church, to participate with us in this feast of grace: all that is needed is that you desire God's nurture. (We use gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice in an effort to remove barriers to anyone's participation in the sacrament.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

**ALL: here we have tasted your goodness
and been fed by your vision of fullness of life for all creation.**

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

here we have heard again your call to live as a Beloved Community.

Though daily we touch our limits,

here we have received the abundance of your grace.

You have filled us, O God:

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

✠ **HYMN #630**

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

BENEDICTION and SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

"Concerto in G minor"

George Friedrich Handel



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

Today’s Worship Leaders

Ushers: Allison Gray & Anne Willams

Reader: Joanne Hayhurst • Deacon: Don Mayland • Communion servers: Myra Brandt & Trevor Rees

Fellowship host: Liz Wing & Steven Wolf

Today’s liturgy is adapted and reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies* by the Rev. Thom Shuman © 2025 (lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com); 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 India 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, 6 SEPTEMBER

10AM Worship
*followed by fellowship & refreshments
in the Parish Hall*
11:30AM Church Council meeting

MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER

Labor Day – Church offices closed
11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club
7pm: Corner Food Pantry Board meeting

TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER

2PM Parish Hall in use

WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER

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

THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club
4:30PM Prayer Shawl ministry
5:30PM Choir rehearsal

FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER

8:45AM Men's Bible study

SUNDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME!
10AM Worship and Sunday School
11:30AM Music Committee meeting



Please Recycle this Bulletin!



The Congregational Church of Salisbury

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting in Grace • Transformed by Love • Serving with Joy

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email: welcome@salisburyucc.org • web: salisburyucc.org

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