The Congregational Church *of* Salisbury

United Church of Christ



Prelude "Les Baricades Mysterieuses" Francois Couperin

Welcome

✠ **Hymn** #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
(✠ *The congregation may rise, in body or in spirit.*)

Announcements | Joys and Concerns | Silent Prayer

Call to Worship - Psalm 96: 1-6

One: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the Earth.

All: Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

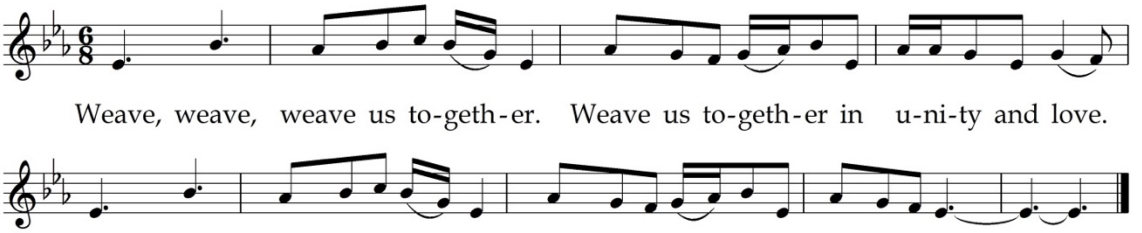
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him.

Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

RESPONSE IN SONG "Weave" Rosemary Crow



WORDS and MUSIC: Rosemary Crow, 1979. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725033.

COMMON CONFESSION

ALL: We beg your pardon, gracious God. We confess that we all too often seek our own prospering. We all too often disregard the needs of others. Holy One, we beg your pardon. Empower us to see our shortcomings and seek to do better. For we are your children, and though we wander from your way, we know you are with us.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: Believe in God's love, for it will move mountains. God's love engages, envelopes, and encourages . . .we are God's children, God's beloved and embraced. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE IN SONG "Weave" Rosemary Crow

RESPONSIVE PSALTER: Psalm #100

ONE: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the Earth.

ALL: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God It is he that made us and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

And his faithfulness to all generations.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*) *Hymnal, p. 35*

✠ **HYMN** #329 "God is Our Refuge and Our Strength"

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 World Central Kitchen.

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 is Seen" Alice Parker

✠ **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, creator of all things, through your mercy you have blessed us with these gifts; ourselves, our time and our possessions. Use us and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, in Christ's name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS	Isaiah 45:1-7	*Old Testament, p.825*
GOSPEL READING	Matthew 22: 15-22	*New Testament, p.30*

SERMON "Don't Pass the Buck" Rev. Mark Diters

PASTORAL PRAYER

✠ **HYMN** #435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

BENEDICTION and **SUNG AMEN**

POSTLUDE "Italian Concerto – Allegro" J.S. Bach

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: Peggy Hayes & Karin Noyes

Reader: David Heck • *Deacons:* David Heck & Lisa Naumann

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 Congo and for our mission partners.

Continuing concerns:

Janet Kaufman • Ann Burcroff • Ben Waxman • People facing or recovering from surgery •

All those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world and innocent citizens who have been displaced.

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, 18 October

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

Monday, 19 October

11:30AM Duplicate Bridge Club

Tuesday, 20 October

2PM Parish Hall in use

Wednesday, 21 October

9:15AM Centering Prayer (via Zoom)
4PM Choir rehearsal

Thursday, 22 October

9AM Home School meet-up
12:00PM Staff meeting
1:30 PM Feel the Warmth dinner - Bridgeport
5:30 PM Project Sage board meeting

Friday, 23 October

8:45AM Men's Bible study

Sunday, 25 October

10AM Worship and Sunday School
11:30AM Annual meeting

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, Thursday, Friday