



# *Salem Lutheran Church*

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

**A Reconciling in Christ (Open and Affirming) congregation  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**May 24, 2020**

**9:30 AM**



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[www.facebook.com/salembridgeport](https://www.facebook.com/salembridgeport)  
[YouTube](#) –  
**Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT**

# Gathering

## WELCOME

In the name of the risen Christ, welcome to virtual church!  
We are glad to have you worship with us!

You can find us at our website: [www.SalemBridgeport.org](http://www.SalemBridgeport.org) ,  
on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SalemBridgeport](http://www.facebook.com/SalemBridgeport) ,  
and on our [YouTube Channel](#): Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, CT.

You can enable closed captioning in Facebook  
by going to Settings / Accessibility / Subtitles & Captioning on your device.  
You can enable closed captioning in YouTube  
by clicking on the 3 dots in the upper right corner and going to Captions.

Links to this worship bulletin, to the sermon, to our donate page,  
and to other resources are included on our website and FB page.

As we worship, please note that unless otherwise indicated,  
parts in normal font are read by the pastor, leader or lector  
**while responses in bold font are read by the congregation.**

## INTRODUCTION

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

## Word

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

## **PSALM 47:1-2,5-9**

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a joyful sound.

<sup>2</sup>For the LORD Most High is to be feared: a great king over all the earth,

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

<sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.

<sup>7</sup>For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with a song.

<sup>8</sup>God reigns over the nations; God is enthroned on high.

<sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## **GOSPEL – Luke 24:44-53**

The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Luke!      Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to his disciples,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of Our Lord!

Praise to you, O Christ!

**HYMN OF THE DAY****Alleluia! Sing to Jesus****ELW # 392**

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."
  
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

### **BLESSING**

Let us bless the Lord **Thanks be to God**  
Almighty God, bless us, defend us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.  
**AMEN.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

#### **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

**ELW # 855**

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Lord of love--behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of heaven, one with the Father known,  
And the blest Spirit, through him given from yonder triune throne!  
All hail redeemer, hail, for thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail, throughout eternity!

## **BENEDICTION**

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with wounded heart open up your heart to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you. Amen

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing**

**ELW # 393**

1 A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 "You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky."

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship*

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## **Announcements**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic,  
our building at 3160 Park Avenue has been closed until further notice  
and in-person worship and meetings cancelled.*

*Even though the church building is closed, if we can help in any way,  
please know that you can still call the church office at 203-330-3300 and leave a message  
and your message will be picked up remotely and your call returned.  
Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441.*

*Pastor Marjo and our Office Manager, Karl, will be working primarily from their homes.  
Pastor Marjo plans to come in on Sundays to stream worship  
and Karl plans to come in once a week  
to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely.*

*Worship will be streamed from the sanctuary via FacebookLive and YouTube  
at 9:30 on Sunday mornings.  
Please join us!*

**TENTATIVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

*5/24 – Worship with the New England Synod  
with dialog sermon by Pr. William Barter and Pr. Angelika Zollfrank ,  
both of whom work as chaplains in mental health ministries.*

*5/31 – Celebrate Pentecost with a joint drive in service  
with Genesis Gospel Café & New Direction Ministries, complete with communion.*

*6/7 – Celebrate Trinity Sunday with the ELCA with a sermon by Presiding Bishop Eaton.*

*6/14 – Salem may try our first Zoom worship.*

*6/21 – Worship with the New England Synod with sermon by Bishop Hazelwood.*

*If you can't watch at 9:30 Sundays,  
video worship services will be saved to Facebook and YouTube  
so you can watch them later.*

*You can enable closed captioning in Facebook  
by going to Settings / Accessibility / Subtitles & Captioning on your device.*

*You can enable closed captioning in YouTube  
by clicking on the 3 dots in the upper right corner and going to Captions.  
Links to this worship bulletin, to the sermon, to our donate page, and to other resources  
are included on our website and FB page.*

*Coffee Hour, Bible Study, meetings and other events  
are being held online via Zoom.*

*Just go to our website at [SalemBridgeport.org](http://SalemBridgeport.org),  
click on the Resources tab,  
then on Calendar.*

*On the calendar just find the day and click on the event  
and a zoom invitation will appear.*

*Sometimes you may have to click on “(+2 more)”  
in order to see additional events that don't fit in the calendar square.*

*If your Salem committee or group would like to meet via Zoom, please contact Karl by emailing him at [salemsec123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salemsec123@sbcglobal.net) or by leaving a message on the church phone, 203-336-3300.*

*Please email announcements, prayer requests, thanksgivings and God-sightings to the Church Office at [salemsec123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salemsec123@sbcglobal.net) so they can be distributed to the congregation.*

*Even though the building is closed, our ministry continues with online worship, Bible study, and outreach programs.*

*We encourage you to continue to support Salem as generously as you can.*

*Also, in order to protect our staff and volunteers from having to spend time in the building, handling cash and checks, we strongly urge you to make your donations online.*

*Just click on the donate tab at [SalemBridgeport.org](http://SalemBridgeport.org), and follow the instructions. It takes less than 5 minutes the first time and you can set it up for automatic payments if you want.*

*If you need help accessing Facebook or our website or donating online, please call Karl so we can get you the help you need.*

*And if you need pastoral care – even just to talk – please don't hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441.*

## **COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Nicolaus Copernicus, died 1543; Leonhard Euler, died 1783; scientists**

**Sunday, May 24, 2020**

These two men were both scientists who helped to explain the wonders of God's universe. Copernicus is best known for promoting the idea that the sun, not the earth, is at the center of our solar system. Euler was one of the founders of pure mathematics, and contributed to many other fields.

**John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2020**

Gifted both as a systematic theologian and as an interpreter of scriptures, Calvin embraced the Reformation, and as a preacher in Geneva, Switzerland, brought a theocratic government to it. He is regarded as the father of the Reformed churches.

**Jiri Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637**

**Friday, May 29, 2020**

Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

### **CREDITS**

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