



Salem Lutheran Church

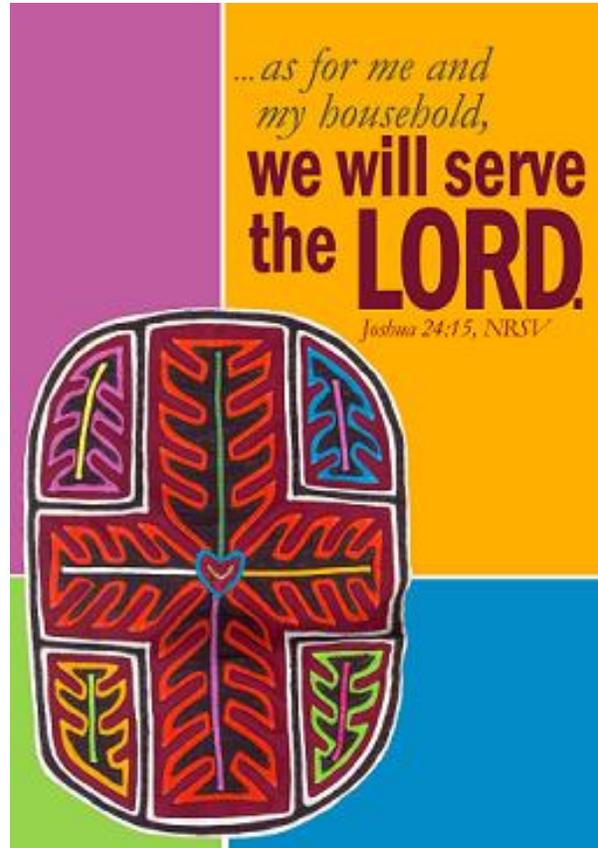
shalom - salaam - salem - peace

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*for those with
hearing challenges*

13th Sunday
After
Pentecost

August 22, 2021
9:30 AM



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YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Gathering

GATHERING READINGS

As you prepare for worship, we encourage you to read and reflect on these lessons.

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of YHWH are upon the righteous, and God’s ears are open to their cry.

The face of YHWH is against those who do evil,

to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry, and YHWH hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.

Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from every one.

God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.

Evil will bring death to the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,

and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

GATHERING SONG

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Text: based on Philippians 2:10-11, German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.; Meter 6 6 6 6 6 6 D

Music: O SEIGNEUR, from Trente quatre pseumes de David, Geneva, 1551

The Text and Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by the Plymouth Choir & Congregation of First Plymouth Church, Lincoln NE, 02/19/17

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPO7t8TcY5k> [2:11]

- 1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Alive at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 2 Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 3 Let earth’s wide circle round in Joyful notes resound: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Performance at Trinity Lutheran, Reading, PA, by David Lutz, piano & Karen Eddinger, organ, 07/17/16

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksf1v_plTBc [3:39]

- 1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!
When evening shadows fall, this rings my curfew call: may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 2 When mirth for music longs, this is my song of songs: may Jesus Christ be praised!
God's holy house of prayer has none that can compare with "Jesus Christ be praised!"
- 3 No lovelier antiphon in all high heav'n is known than "Jesus Christ be praised!"
There to the eternal Word the eternal psalm is heard: oh, Jesus Christ be praised!
- 4 Let all of humankind in this their concord find: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound: may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face, sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's whole creation o'er, today and evermore shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Arrangement and Performance (all vocals!) by Dan Hefner, 09/03/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0U4ZU4rYxo> [5:04]

- 1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Alive in work and prayer to Jesus I repair; “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 2 To God, the Word on high, the host of angels cry: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Let mortals too upraise their voice in hymns of praise “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 3 The night becomes as day when from the heart we say, “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
The pow’rs of darkness fear when this sweet song they hear: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 4 The earth’s wide circle round, in joyful notes resound: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
The air and sea and sky from height to depth reply: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 5 Then let us join to sing to Christ, our loving King: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Be this th’eternal song through all the ages long: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the God who brings us out of slavery,
leads us through the wilderness of life, and has a promised land just waiting for us –
not just in heaven, but right here on earth!

Thank you for joining us today! Thank you, those of you who are here in person with us!
And thank you, those of you out there in cyber space, wherever – and whenever! – you are!

For those of you who don't know me,
I'm Pastor Marjo Anderson of Salem Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, CT.
To find out more about our ministry or to contact us,
you can go to our website SalemBridgeport.org, to our Facebook page, SalemBridgeport,
and to our YouTube channel, Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT.

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –
which has both the order of worship and announcements – as well as other resources
are included on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

Next week on August 29th our monthly Sunday Night Alive event returns
for our first in-person gathering since the pandemic.
Please join us from 6:00-9:00 in the picnic grove
for food, fellowship, fun, and music at Caribbean Night as we learn about another culture.
And if you want to help plan an event to share Salem's Swedish culture, please let me know!

Every Wednesday we have 2 zoom events – 12:00 noon prayer and 6:30 Bible study.
The links are on the Calendar on our website at Salembridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

This Thursday at 7:30 we urge you to join the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport
on zoom as we discuss the last part of Jemar Tisby's book, "How to Fight Racism".

If you walk, or run, or bike, please make your steps count
and help Camp Calumet Lutheran's annual fund-raising appeal, Walk the Walk 2021.
Sign up at <https://calumet.org/giving/walkthewalk>
by paying the \$25 registration fee and joining "TEAM God at the Center".
Then just email me at marjoanderson@aol.com
and let me know how many miles you have walked from July 1 – August 15.
So far, Calumet's 1,730 participants from 75 congregations and 38 other groups
have already walked 147,500 towards the 200,000 mile goal,
Statistically we should be at 150,000 by now, meaning we need to up our game by just a little, so
PLEASE join our team! Just see me after worship and I'll help you sign up.

Now as we begin our worship, will you pray with me?

God, we come together today to give you thanks and praise!
We know that you come where you are invited and stay where you are welcomed,
and so we invite you and welcome you into our midst here and now.
We thank you for our lives and for the lives of those we love.
We thank you for all the blessings that you have showered upon us.
Open our hearts and minds and bodies and souls.
Touch us with your love and fill us with your power.
We pray this in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen

OPENING SONG

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

*(as found in the ELCA worship book
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 312)*

- 1 Jesus, come! for we invite you,
guest and master, friend and Lord;
now, as once at Cana's wedding,
speak and let us hear your word:
lead us through our need or doubting,
hope be born and joy restored.
- 2 Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,
guide us into paths unknown;
bring your gifts, command your servants,
let us trust in you alone:
though your hand may work in secret,
all shall see what you have done.
- 3 Jesus, come! in new creation,
heav'n brought near by pow'r divine;
give your unexpected glory,
changing water into wine:
rouse the faith of your disciples —
come, our first and greatest Sign!
- 4 Jesus, come! surprise our dullness,
make us willing to receive
more than we can yet imagine,
all the best you have to give:
let us find your hidden riches,
taste your love, believe, and live!

Text: based on John 2:1-11 by Christopher Idle, b. 1938; Meter 8 7 8 7 8 7

Music: UNION SEMINARY BY Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

Text © 1982 by Jubilate Hymns (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188).

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Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin

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Performance by Robert Morehead, 01/13/21

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EkKuXJfO2ZM> [4:09]

Word

READINGS

John 6:56-69 *You may stand for the reading of the Gospel if you so desire.*

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”...

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?”
⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you?... ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.”...

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to trust and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Ephesians 6:1-4, 10-24 *You may be seated.*

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²Honor your father and mother — this is the first commandment with a promise: ³so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth. ⁴And, parents, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord....

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

²¹So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus will tell you everything. He is a dear brother and a faithful minister in the Lord. ²²I am sending him to you for this very purpose, to let you know how we are, and to encourage your hearts.

²³Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *You may stand for the Prayers if you so desire.*

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

So they can be heard online, these petitions will be offered by the leaders at the microphones.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church.

Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace
and strengthen them to preach your loving word.

We pray for our mission partners,

especially today for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land,

and for Salem members and families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:

David Schulz, Jean Larson, Frank Dukenski, and Sharon Norberg.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, bless fields and orchards.

Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth.

Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples.

Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions,

and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need, especially

Ed, Barbara, Bud, CathyAnn, Cindy, CJ, Darth, Dolores, Eron, Frank, Grace, Hazel, Justin,
Steve, Sue, Wayne, and all we name in our hearts.

Accompany all who are lonely & feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence.

Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open our hearts to respond to their cries.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life

such as a new job, new school, or new community, or living in a new way in your Church.

Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships,

especially with those who are different from us.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones,

especially the families and friends of Alice Cosgrove, Kenneth Dielmann, and Alf Waggener.

We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us.

Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are invited to offer your own prayer petition at this time, either silently or aloud.

The pastor concludes:

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Thanksgiving

LORD'S PRAYER *You may stand for the Lord's Prayer if you so desire.*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

OFFERING PRAYER *You may stand for the Offering Prayer if you so desire.*

Jesus, you said, "Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION *Please be seated.*

In response to God's grace,
it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.

If you are worshipping with us,
we encourage you to give to your home congregation first,
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also
so that we can continue to take our worship online
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.



Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click "donate"
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.

OFFERTORY SONG

Medley: Break Every Chain & Amazing Grace / My Chains Are Gone

*When we worship indoors please meditate on the text or sing it silently in your head,
or if you would like to sing softly, PLEASE wear a mask.*

While you may feel safe singing, not everyone feels safe having you sing.

They may not tell you that – they may just stop coming to worship.

*When we are outdoors we can sing (softly, please, unless you are masked!)
As Christians we are to put our love for God and others before our own desires,
So please, exercise patience, understanding, and love for your neighbor. Thank you.*

Performance by Bellevue Baptist Church's choir and orchestra, 04/07/15

*featuring scenes around Memphis and the rest of the world as well as depictions from the life of Christ.
Enjoy this celebratory performance of "Break Every Chain" by Bellevue's choir and orchestra featuring scenes
around Memphis and the rest of the world as well as depictions from the life of Christ.*

Feel free to share on social media!

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8PFHkaPogU> [5:35]

Break Every Chain

There is power in the name of Jesus;
there is power in the name of Jesus;
there is power in the name of Jesus
to break every chain, break every chain, break every chain....

All sufficient sacrifice So freely given such a price
Bought our redemption Heaven's gates Swing wide

There's an army rising up; there's an army rising up; there's an army rising up
to break every chain, break every chain, break every chain....

CCLI Song # 5910977

Will Reagan

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Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free; My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains, Unending love amazing grace

CCLI Song # 4768151

Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio

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Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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for our first in-person gathering since the pandemic.

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for food, fellowship, fun, and music at Caribbean Night as we learn about another culture.
And if you want to help plan an event to share Salem's Swedish culture, please let me know!

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This Thursday at 7:30 we urge you to join the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport
on zoom as we discuss the last part of Jemar Tisby's book, "How to Fight Racism".

The book makes clear how we cannot be Christian if we do not stand up against injustice,
and the discussions have been both interesting and impactful.

The zoom link will be in our Thursday email blast.

If you walk, or run, or bike, please make your steps count
and help Camp Calumet Lutheran's annual fund-raising appeal, Walk the Walk 2021.

Sign up at <https://calumet.org/giving/walkthewalk>

by paying the \$25 registration fee and joining "TEAM God at the Center".

Then just email me at marjoanderson@aol.com

and let me know how many miles you walked in July.

So far, Calumet has 1,730 participants

working together on 75 congregation and 38 other teams

and together we have already walked over 147,500 towards our 200,000 mile goal,

Statistically we should be at 150,000 by now, meaning we need to up our game by just a little,
so PLEASE join our team!

Just see me after worship and I'll help you sign up.

THANK YOU and BLESSING

Before we end the live-streamed portion of our worship,

I want to especially thank those of you out there in cyberspace who have worshipped with us.

I hope you will join us again.

If you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to talk or pray together,

you can reach me through our website or Facebook.

As we conclude our sermon series on Ephesians,

let me offer all who are worshipping with us this blessing from chp 3, vss 20-21 of that book:

Now to the One who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think,

according to the power at work within us,

to that One be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus

throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *You may stand if you so desire.*

Blessed be the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen**

God, we have failed to be the people you have called us to be. We think back to the times when we have failed to acknowledge the spiritual realm that surrounds us...
when we have heard your voice but chosen to follow our own will instead of yours...
when we have put our own desires ahead of yours...
when we have been unwilling to change into the person you've called us to be...
when we have rebelled against authority...
when we have failed to notice all the blessings you have showered on us...
when we have failed to thank you privately for answered prayer...
when we have failed to thank you publicly for answered prayer
as witness to your power and love....

Forgive us for our failings, dear God.

Draw us into deeper relationship with you through prayer and the power of your Word.

Make us gentle and humble of heart,

forgiving one another and bearing with one another in love,

making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Beloved children of God:

The God who continues to create and form you offers you all the manna your body needs.

The Christ who continues to redeem you offers you all the mercy your heart needs.

The Holy Spirit who continues to sustain you offers you all the miracles your soul needs.

The God of All Creation forgives you and loves you into abundant life. **Amen**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!

And also with you!

Open your hearts!

We open them to God and one another!

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

*During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship
or hold on to your kit until you get home.*

If you take the elements inside the church, open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet.

After the service, please dispose of your own kit either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in divine grace! **Amen!**

SENDING SONG

Lead On, O King Eternal!

(as found in the ELCA worship book *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* # 805)

*When we worship indoors
please meditate on the text or sing it silently in your head,
or if you would like to sing softly, PLEASE wear a mask.
While you may feel safe singing, not everyone feels safe having you sing.
They may not tell you that – they may just stop coming to worship.
When we are outdoors we can sing (softly, please, unless you are masked!)
As Christians we are to put our love for God and others before our own desires,
So please, exercise patience, understanding, and love for your neighbor.
Thank you.*

- 1 Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home.
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong;
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.
- 2 Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,
but deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.
- 3 Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears.
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

*Text: based on Job 7:1-7, Psalm 31:3, Zephaniah 3:14-20, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 4:9
by Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt.;
Meter 5 5 8 8 5 5*

Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM by Adam Drese, 1620-1701

Text and Tune are in the Public Domain.

Performance by Moreno Hills Church Praise Team, 05/01/21

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5jjg4q4yKM> [2:32]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Remember what God has done for you, give thanks & choose to serve that God today & always.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

(as found in the ELCA worship book, Lutheran Book of Worship # 389)

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or if you would like to sing softly, PLEASE wear a mask.
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They may not tell you that – they may just stop coming to worship.
When we are outdoors we can sing (softly, please, unless you are masked!)
As Christians we are to put our love for God and others before our own desires,
So please, exercise patience, understanding, and love for your neighbor.
Thank you.*

- 1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross,
lift high his royal banner; it must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry his army he shall lead,
till ev'ry foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.
- 2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the trumpet call obey;
stand forth in mighty conflict in this his glorious day.
Let all his faithful serve him against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.
- 3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor; each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.
- 4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long;
this day the din of battle, the next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, their crown of life shall see,
and with the King of glory shall reign eternally.

*Text: based on 1 Corinthians 15:24-26, 16:13, Ephesians 6:10-17, Revelation 2:10
by George Duffield, 1818-1888, alt.; Meter 7 6 7 6 D*

Music: WEBB by George J. Webb, 1803-1887

The Text and Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by Fountain View Academy, 04/09/17

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPJEJtUTe7E> [3:35]

Announcements

Flowers today are given by Sandra Brown in memory of her parents, Mildred & Victor Brown

You may have been vaccinated, but please bear in mind that not everyone is able to receive the vaccine due to their health condition. *Although churches may claim an exception to the government's current rule that masks be worn by all in all indoor public gatherings, the virus does not respect such exceptions. Some of our members have asked that everyone wear masks as they have people in their lives who cannot be vaccinated. PLEASE respect them and their situations.* The more cautious we are, the healthier those around us will be. As Christians Jesus calls us to love our neighbor, so, please, let's all do our part to end this pandemic. It's not about how safe WE feel, but about how safe we make OTHERS around us feel. Thank you for doing your part to help keep all at Salem as safe as possible!

During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship or hold on to your kit until you get home. If you take the elements inside the church, open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet. After the service, please dispose of your own kit either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.

Sunday Worship Services – We are now doing in-person worship with live-streaming to Facebook. *Weather permitting, we will be worshipping outdoors as much as possible this summer, so please bring a lawn chair if you can, or you are welcome to sit at the picnic tables.*

STARTING THIS WEDNESDAY at 6:30, we will be beginning a Bible Study on Worship. If you would like to be involved in worship planning at Salem, you'll need to attend this introductory class on zoom. The learning time will go from 6:30-7:15, and will be followed by communion for those who so desire. The link is here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85048710511?pwd=NWlxeTFwRkRUbXRmN3k1N2hvQWl6Zz09>

The link is also on the calendar on our website at Salembridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport ENCOURAGES ALL MEMBERS of our congregations to join in their Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) 2021 Summer Series via ZOOM. This summer we will join in facilitated conversations on Jemar Tisby's new book, How to Fight Racism. You are welcome to attend any or all of the 5-part series. every other Thursday. Each session is from 7:30-9:00 pm. **The remaining date is 8/26. Register here:** <https://ccgb.salsalabs.org/summerserie2021/index.html>

You will receive the Zoom link a week before the first session. The Zoom link will remain the same for all sessions. Check out the reviews for Tisby's book here:

https://www.google.com/books/edition/How_to_Fight_Racism/G7bWDwAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover

Next week on August 29th our monthly Sunday Night Alive event returns for our first in-person gathering since the pandemic. **Please join us from 6:00-9:00 in the picnic grove for food, fellowship, fun, & music at Caribbean Night** as we learn about another culture. And if you want to help plan an event to share Salem's Swedish culture, please let me know!

It's not too late to make your steps count! If you walk, or run, or bike, **please join Calumet's Walk the Walk 2021. Here's how:**

1. To register go to: <https://www.calumet.org/giving/walkthewalk> When you register sign up for "TEAM God at the Center". Everyone gets an official Walk the Walk 2021 T Shirt. Dogs get an official Walk the Walk 2021 bandana!

2. Report your miles from July 1 through August 15 to Pastor Marjo, your Team Captain by texting her at 203-982-3441 or emailing her at marjoanderson@aol.com.

As of August 18th 147,500 miles out of the 200,000 goal have been walked. If you need help signing up, please speak with Pastor Marjo.

And even if you don't walk, you can still help Calumet! On August 24th, go to Calumet.org/onedayofgiving and click the link to make your one time gift. Every "One Day of Giving" donor will receive an awesome boom-chicka-boom magnet!

The next Salem and Friends Breakfast & Faith Discussion, sponsored by the Salem Men, will be held the 2nd Saturday of September at 8:00. Please join us...and invite a friend!

Wednesday at 12:00 noon we meet on zoom for prayer. You can pray out loud if you want, or you can simply ask others to pray for you or for the concerns on your mind or heart.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3elll2ZmtiZEpadz09>

Meeting ID: 828 8277 7326 Passcode: 688740

One tap mobile +13017158592,,82882777326# US (Washington DC)

The link is also on the calendar on our website at Salembridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

SALEM GIVERS ARE AWESOME!!! Our Treasurer reports that our envelope giving for July was right on target – which never happens in the summer! So we thank God for you and we thank you for your generosity! One of the principles in the Bible is that the more generous we are, the more God entrusts to us so that we can be even more generous. Every gift no matter how large or small is appreciated and will enable us to continue to do God's work in this place. If you'd like help signing up for online giving please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Marjo, Karl, Ray Anderson, Jean Larson, or Nancy Headford.

Let's stay connected! Pastor Marjo and Salem's Office Manager, Karl, work primarily from their homes but generally come in once a week to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely. If we can help in any way, please know that you can call Salem's 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. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!

Please contact your Parish Nurse Carol if you would like to call, or send a card or note to one of our shut-ins. Carol will let you know if the person would prefer a call or a note. If you have extra cards that you do not need, please let Carol know.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430 Saturday, August 28, 2021

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400 Saturday, August 28, 2021

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.