

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

for those with hearing challenges

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epíphany of Our Lord

February 6, 2022 9:30 AM "Go away from me, Lord,<br/>tor I am a sinful man."uke s.\*, INFV

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## Welcome

Today's readings during this Epiphany season continue to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

At a webinar on 1/25, health directors at Yale New Haven Hospital System urged churches not to meet in person whenever the rate of Covid is 5% or higher. While we continue to meet, we do require that you wear a mask whenever you are in the building. As Christians it is our duty to provide a place where even the most vulnerable in our midst feel safe.

**Today Salem will hold its winter Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting following worship** (around 10:30). (Covid rates and pandemic permitting!) the meeting will be in-person with zoom access. At the meeting we will officially adopt the 2022 general operating budget, receive an update on the sale of the property, elect members to Salem's Nomination Committee, Financial Compliance Review Committee and delegates to the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport and the New England Synod assembly, and receive member and financial statistical reports. Zoom link is on the calendar.

**Our Southern CT Conference Zoom Meeting for pastors and lay leaders will be held TODAY at 5:30 on zoom discuss the synod program, "Collaborate, for Christ's Sake!".** Today's agenda will focus on planning a joint online Lenten program. As we work together and build relationships, we will likely find other ways to partner and/or merge ministries for the sake of the future of the Church. We invite YOU to come and join the conversation! The link is on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

**Our Wednesday 9:30-11:00 Morning Bible Study has resumed!** We praise God because this means that Grace is feeling well enough to lead it! It will meet on the first and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month from now through June 15<sup>th</sup> and will be studying the book of Romans. The link is on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgerpot.org under the Resources Tab.

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

**Our Wednesday evening Bible Study continues our study of the book of Acts and the early Church.** It was written for a time like our own in that the Church was not supported by the general culture of the day, and yet it managed to grow in both numbers and in power. It could very well be that the secret to the future of the Church lies in this ancient story! In preparation please read Acts 2, likely the most important story in the Bible after the Creation of All Things and the Resurrection of Jesus! **Please join us Wednesdays at 6:30 on zoom for a time to focus on not only the interpretation but the application of this scripture in our own lives, followed by a brief service of Holy Communion at 7:15.** The link is on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgerpot.org under the Resources Tab.

The next Salem and Friends Breakfast & Faith Discussion, sponsored by the Salem Men but open to ALL, will be held Saturday February 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. Please join us...and invite a friend! Volunteers to help prepare breakfast welcome to come at 7:00 am. Thanks!

## Gathering

#### GATHERING SONG

#### Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 777)

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give. If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."

*Refrain* Jesus, ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well. In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- 2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest. Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." *Refrain*
- *3* "Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place. Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." *Refrain*
- 4 "Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame. Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." *Refrain*
- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy; I would be your trusted friend. Come and seek the gift I offer, come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*
- 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned; lonely ways no longer roam. Come and take the gift I offer, let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: based on Matthew 11:28-30, John 4:10, by Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939; Meter 8 7 8 7 D

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985 Text © 1992, 1996 The Liturgical Press Arr. of Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 777 © 1985 Augsburg Fortress Reprinted / Streamed with permission under OneLicense A-727372

Performance #1 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Halifax Lutheran Church, 07/01/20 (110/655 in their hymn series) as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rstrg-PSWXk [4:12]

Performance #2 by Kirsten (soprano, alto) & Mike (tenor, bass) as 16 voices, 07/01/20 v1: SA unison, v2: TB unison, v3: SATB unison, v4: SATB, v5: SATB + Soprano Descant (Tenor +8ve), v6: SATB (8 voices) as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvJTcE\_TFTs [4:17]

Performance #3 by Davidson College Presbyterian Church Virtual Choir, 11/05/20 Zebulon Highboy, Organ; Linda Dumizo, Flute as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27sp74fJmY8 [4:23]

## Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

#### WELCOME

Welcome in the name of God who created each of us for a unique purpose, in the name of Jesus who shows us the Way, and in the name of the Spirit who fills us with the Abundant Life Jesus promised!

It is so good to be here!

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.

Today Salem will hold its winter Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting following worship (around 10:30). It will be an in-person meeting with zoom access.

This afternoon at 5:30 pastors and lay leaders of our Southern CT Conference are invited to meet on zoom to discuss the synod program, "Collaborate, for Christ's Sake!"

Wednesdays we meet on zoom at 12:00 noon for prayer,

and at 6:30 for Bible Study where we'll continue our look at Acts, chapter 2.

Bible Study concludes with Holy Communion at 7:15.

Links to all our events are on the Calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

Our monthly breakfast and faith discussion will be held in person this Saturday at 8:00. Also on Saturday we encourage you to attend a special event

at Fairfield University's Regina A. Quick Center:

The Metropolitan Opera HD Live production of "Fire Shut Up in My Bones"

Performances are at 1 pm and 6 pm and tickets are \$25-\$35.

Details are on the last page of our worship bulletin. :

Any other announcements?

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

God of Boundless Power and God of Endless Love,

we come to worship you and give you thanks!

We come to bless and magnify your holy name!

Open our minds that we might know your will for our lives.

Open our eyes that we might see the Way Jesus is leading us.

Open our ears that we might hear your voice on the breath, the wind of the Spirit.

Open our hearts that we might be filled with all the gifts of your Spirit:

love and joy, peace and patience, faithfulness and goodness, kindness and gentleness, and self-control.

Unite our souls into the one Body of Christ our Lord that we might be signs of your gracious love. We pray these things in the Name of Jesus and by the Power of the Spirit. Amen

### **O Holy Spirit, Enter In**

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 786)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

You may stand if you so desire.

1 O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts your work begin, and make our hearts your dwelling.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us brightly shine, your strength in us upwelling.
In your radiance life from heaven now is given overflowing, gift of gifts beyond all knowing.

- 2 Left to ourselves, we surely stray; oh, lead us on the narrow way, with wisest counsel guide us; & give us steadfastness, that we may follow you forever free, no matter who derides us. Gently heal those hearts now broken; give some token you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.
- 3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in doubt and strife be in us strongly burning, that we be faithful unto death and live in love and holy faith, from you true wisdom learning. Lord, your mercy on us shower; by your power Christ confessing, we will cherish all your blessing.

Text: based on Isaiah 11:2, Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Revelation 2:10 Michael Schirmer, 1606-1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.; Meter P M Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
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## Word

#### Please be seated.

### A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS: Isaiah 6:1-13

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw YHWH sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of God's robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above God; each had sixwings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the God of the Angel Armies; the whole earth is full of God's glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the Sovereign, the God of the Angel Armies!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

Then I heard the voice of YHWH saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

And God said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.'

Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes,

so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears,

and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed."

Then I said, "How long, O God?"

And God said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant,

and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate;

until YHWH sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again,

like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled."

The holy seed is its stump.

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 138

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; **before the gods I will sing your praise.** 

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, **because of your steadfast love and faithfulness...** 

When I called, you answered me;

## you increased my strength within me.

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth. **They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD....** 

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

You will make good your purpose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

## A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and God's grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 5:1-11 You may stand if you so desire.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch". Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets". When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people". When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

based on Luther's catechism and our baptismal promises

Let us affirm our faith together.

We believe that all that we are and all that we have comes from God as pure undeserved gift, and that therefore it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey God.

We believe that it is Jesus Christ who taught us how to live by faith, even to suffering death on the cross, in order that we might belong to him and live and serve in his kindom now and throughout eternity.

We believe that we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, but the Holy Spirit, who draws us to seek God, is poured out upon all who ask.

We believe that the purpose of the Church is to evidence the gifts and fruits of the Spirit, empowering us to worship in Spirit and in Truth, to witness to the power and grace of God in our own lives, to love those outside our own circles, and to work for justice and peace in all the world. Amen

#### PURPOSE STATEMENT

As members and friends of Salem Church, let us remind ourselves why we are here:

We are a community of Christian disciples called by the Holy Spirit. In response to God's transforming love, we share our joy through praise and service.

May it be so!

Amen!

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

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

Equip your church to proclaim the good news that we have first received: the forgiveness and grace shown to us through Jesus Christ. Send us out as apostles, sharing the hope of your salvation with a waiting world. We pray for our mission partners, especially today for GROUP Workcamps, and for Salem members and families. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Holy are you, O God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Reveal your splendor in fiery sunsets and in deep blue twilights. Teach us to recognize you in the beauty of our natural world.

#### God of grace, hear our prayer.

Soften the hearts of rulers and governments that they perceive & tend to the needs of all people. Remove corruption and the impulse toward violence.

Protect first responders and military personnel who risk their lives in service of others.

### God of grace, hear our prayer.

Your steadfast love endures forever;

do not abandon those who look to you for hope and healing.

Bless doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists, and all caregivers.

Draw near to those who are scared, sick, or in pain,

especially Barbara, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Jonathan, Steve, Sue, and all we name in our hearts. God of grace, hear our prayer.

The disciples received help from partners as they brought in an abundant catch of fish. So strengthen this congregation's partnerships with community organizations and ministries, especially with Genesis Gospel Café, Our Saviour's, and other ELCA congregations, the Ephraim Seventh Day Adventist Church, Christ Presbyterian Church, Christ's Home of Unity, Restoration, Charity and Hope, New Direction Ministries, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport. Multiply our shared efforts and bring joy to our relationships. God of grace, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for our ancestors in faith who boldly answered your call. By their example give us courage to live in faith and to proclaim your mercy until the day that you gather us into your glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

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

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen** 

# Thanksgiving

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

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 a member of another congregation, 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 HYMN Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 696) As long as you are masked, you may sing softly. You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea, day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me":
- 2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake, turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.
- *3* Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store, from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."
- 4 In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
- 5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call, give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Matthew 4:18-22, 22:37, Mark 1:16-20, 12:30, Luke 5:1-11, 10:27, John 1:40 Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Meter 8 7 8 7
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851-1922
Text and Music are in the Public Domain

# Sending

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Please be seated.

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#### 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 say good-bye to our online worshippers, let me offer all who are worshipping with us this blessing based on today's reading from Isaiah:

Though you walk in the midst of trouble, God will keep you safe. God's hand will stretch forth against the fury of your enemies and save you. God will make good the divine purpose prepared for you,

for God will not abandon the precious creation you are. Amen

## Here ends our Facebook live stream.

## Meal & Dismissal

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. **Amen** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us and reflect your love for all creation. Amen

Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **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 & 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!

#### **CLOSING HYMN**

#### In Christ Called to Baptize

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 575)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

You may stand if you so desire.

- In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race.
   In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ's death, then, rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.
- 2 In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care.
  Although we are many, we share in one bread.
  One cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.
- In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the life-giving gospel; God's love we will teach.
   By grace may our living give proof to our praise in costly compassion reflecting Christ's ways.
- 4 Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love, for you are within us, around us, above.
  Equip us for service with gifts you bestow.
  In Christ is our calling. In Christ may we grow.

Text: Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 12:4-5, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, Ruth Duck, b. 1947; Meter 11 11 11 11
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876, alt.
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#### CREDITS

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#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace Know that God's steadfast love for you endures forever!

Thanks be to God!

#### POSTLUDE

### **Give Me Jesus**

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books, <u>With One Voice</u> # 777, <u>This Far by Faith</u> # 165, and <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 770)

*1* In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

*Refrain* Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

- 2 Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. *Refrain*
- *3* Just about the break of day, just about the break of day, just about the break of day, give me Jesus. *Refrain*
- 4 Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus. *Refrain*
- 5 And when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: based on Psalm 42, Matthew 21:22, 1 Corinthians 2:2, Galatians 6:14, Philippians 1:21-24 African American spiritual; Meter Irregular
Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
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Performance by Sounds Like Reign, 08/31/17 Lindsay sings "Give Me Jesus" in the Redwood Forest. #HerHeartSings FREE Download & CDs available - https://bit.ly/2tkaoLf Free Downloads - https://tinyurl.com/2uv2rvwu Order CDs - https://goo.gl/iQVTZC Patreon - <u>https://goo.gl/mkfhZF</u>; Donate - <u>https://goo.gl/YUJ3db</u> Website - <u>http://www.SoundsLikeReign.com</u>; Check out our weekly FAMILY VLOG - https://bit.ly/2SFzY5y Subscribe on YouTube - <u>https://goo.gl/iZ88ko</u>; Instagram - https://tinyurl.com/yygt9y7a Facebook - <u>https://goo.gl/JnJf8f</u>; Email Newsletter - https://tinyurl.com/2uv2rvwu Email - <u>Updates@SoundsLikeReign.com</u>; Snail Mail - Brackin Kirkland, PO Box 1415, Rosman, NC 28772 as found at this link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmR0z4EWUjw</u> [2:59]

## Announcements

Please join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. Stay tuned for more info!

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday February 27<sup>th</sup> (time and space at Salem to be decided) for CABARET NIGHT, a Sunday Night Alive Inter-Church Event back by popular demand! Come, share your talents – a song, a story, a poem, a dance, a piece of art, a group activity – as we celebrate how we are all made in the image of an abundantly imaginative and creative God!

**Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart!** We have an amazing God who provides for us and our Congregation in so many ways. Just as a reminder, we are still collecting pledges for 2022. If you need a pledge card, extras are available next to the offering box at the entrance to the sanctuary. Or you can simply email your pledge to salemsec123@sbcglobal.net. Remember God is good so "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart".

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!

**UniteCT** - **Emergency Rental Assistance for Connecticut's Economy** - The UniteCT **Program** is administered by the Department of Housing on behalf of the US Treasury. UniteCT provides up to \$15,000 rental and electricity payment assistance on behalf of Connecticut households financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. UniteCT is stabilizing CT's rental housing market by financially supporting those households up to 80% of HUD's Area Median Income (AMI) - Select <u>here</u> for an interactive AMI map. Tenants and landlords use the UniteCT Rent Relief software to submit their own sections of the application creating a unique case file for decision making evaluation. UniteCT will provide continued rental and electric utility assistance to eligible households until all funding has been committed. There is no current end date of the program.

For more info, go to: <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT</u> You must first register to get an email invitation to start your application. Paper applications will not be accepted. Do you qualify for UniteCT funding? If you need to share your eligibility status with a new landlord or court, check your eligibility by taking this survey at <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT---Survey</u> and print the results for your records.

and print the results for your records.

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

#### Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs – 02/14 These two brothers from These lonities. Crosse

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece,

were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people.

In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

## In our continuing quest to fight back against the power and fear of racism, especially in those who say they are followers of Christ, we present these opportunities of performance and dialogue at Fairfield University's Regina A. Quick Center:

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 – 7pm (free, registration required) Fairfield University's Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation "'The Wrong Side of the World Resolution': King's Internationalism & Lessons for Today" by Robin D. G. Kelley, PhD, (2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Speaker)

*Thursday, February 3, 2022 – 7pm (\$30, \$15 Member)* Global Theatre: Performance Series curated by Cheryl Weisenfeld **"Shared Sentences"** by Houses on the Moon Theater Company" A post-show discussion will follow the performance.

Saturday, February 12, 2022 – 1pm and 6pm (\$25-\$35) The Metropolitan Opera: HD Live "Fire Shut Up in My Bones" by Terence Blanchard

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – 7:30pm (\$30, \$15 Member)* Open VISIONS Forum and The Common Ground Series presented by the College of Arts & Sciences **"Race, Liberty & Justice: Diverging Perspectives with Eyes on the Prize"** by Michael Eric Dyson, PhD & John H. McWhorter, PhD

*Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – 7:30pm (\$30, \$15 Member)* Open VISIONS Forum and The Common Ground Series presented by the College of Arts & Sciences The Annual Student Forum: **''Democracy: Choices and Challenges''** by David Brooks

*Thursday, April 28, 2022 8pm (\$30, \$15 Member)* Open VISIONS Forum **"Caste: Examining Race, Culture, & Consequences"** by Isabel Wilkerson

> Pastor Marjo Anderson and Jeanette Harris will host a discussion of this presentation and of the book in general on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 on zoom at this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89975646418?pwd=ZG5nSVVmR3NVTXc5dTAwbWtqTWdrZz09

> or go to SalemBridgeport.org/Resources/Calendar and click on the event for more information

Tickets and additional information is available at: http://www.quickcenter.com