



# Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*for those with  
hearing  
challenges*

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent*

*March 6, 2022  
9:30 AM*



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[www.facebook.com/salembridgeport](https://www.facebook.com/salembridgeport)

[YouTube](#) – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

# Welcome

**These forty days called Lent are like no other.** It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of Christ, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

**Salem is still requiring masks.** We know that some are only comfortable coming into a place where people are masked, and we want to provide an environment where they feel safe. We will continue to re-evaluate based on what happens with the pandemic and what the latest advice is concerning singing protocols.

**Welcome to WONDROUS WEDNESDAYS!** On Wednesday we have 3 wonderful opportunities to live into our mission of Encountering God, Building Relationships, and Changing Lives. The links are all on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

**\* First, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month through June, we begin with a Morning Bible Study 9:30-11:00 on zoom, led by our beloved Grace Dukenski.** There is time for sharing before we launch into our study of the book of Romans, and time for prayer at the end.

**\* Every 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 more we talk with God and the more we listen to God, the more God is able to work through us. And the more we pray TOGETHER the more the power of prayer is multiplied.

**\* On the 5 Wednesdays during Lent – March 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and April 6<sup>th</sup> – we'll gather at 6:30 ONLINE with other congregations from our conference for a Virtual Dinner Theatre Worship experience.** Bring your dinner to your desk - or your laptop to the dinner table - and enjoy your meal while participating in a kind of dinner church/cabaret theatre. The theme is "Looking for Joy in Lent", and each week's worship will incorporate a play, scripture, music, prayer, and some time to get to know one another. Each week's play will be self-contained but the same characters will return each week. We're looking for volunteers to read a part in the play. Please let Jeanette "Momma J" know if you can play a part. You can call or text her at 203-366-6778 or email her at [jharris524@yahoo.com](mailto:jharris524@yahoo.com). The worship will be streamed live to Facebook so if you can't join us in real time you can watch it later. Please invite your family and friends to this novel Lenten experience. The zoom link is on Salem's calendar under the Resources tab on our website [SalemBridgeport.org](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87987712617?pwd=eDFqZVBoTm0zYUtKTU04MDQ5U0tJQT09). Or just click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87987712617?pwd=eDFqZVBoTm0zYUtKTU04MDQ5U0tJQT09> Meeting ID 879 8771 2617, Passcode 668342, Dial by your location+1 929 205 6099 US (NY)

**This week we lost one of our own – Sue Chrien.** We invite you to gather on Thursday at 2 pm as we celebrate her life here on earth and her new life in heaven. Please keep Sue's family and friends in your prayers.

# Gathering

## GATHERING SONG      Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

*(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 808)*

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey; I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:  
you alone are our life & our peace & our love. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey. May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth & the sea & the sky join my song. Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant, to carry your cross & to share all your burdens & tears.  
For you saved me by giving your body & blood. As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

I fear in the dark & the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the family you saved by your love, we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

*Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community, tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931;  
Meter 12 14 12 12*

*Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jesus and L'Arche Community;*

*Text and Music © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress;*

*Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress*

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*Performance # 1 by Lutheran North Concert Choir ( arr. Jared Brown), 12/17/21*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUzGnysDja8> [3:18]*

*Performance # 2 by Tim McNabb of [Halifax Lutheran Church](#),, 02/20/21*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f\\_SprnZKKxc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_SprnZKKxc) [3:08]*

*Performance # 3 by Shenandoah Christian Music Camp (VA), sung at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Choral  
Festival 2015, arranged and conducted by Lloyd Kauffman, 08/16/15*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFxmIT\\_NJyo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFxmIT_NJyo) [3:01]*

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

## WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the God who created us out of joy,  
in the name of Jesus who leads us from the way of death to the way of life,  
and in the name of the Spirit who sustains and keeps us on our journey.

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](http://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](http://SalemBridgeport.org/Live).

### **Thank you to all who attended our Sunday Night Alive Inter-Church Cabaret Night.**

We had representatives from 7 different congregations there,  
including Salem, Genesis, Our Saviour's, CHURCH, Tabor,  
and even the Seventh Day Adventist congregation who is purchasing our property!  
We had a lot of fun enjoying stories, poems, songs, and the reading of a short play –  
all while getting to know each other – which is exactly what God calls us to do!

This **Wednesday at noon on zoom** we have **Prayer 'Gathering.**  
**And then at 6:30 we'll gather online with other congregations from our conference**  
**for a Virtual Dinner Theatre Worship experience.**

Bring your dinner to your desk - or your laptop to the dinner table –  
and enjoy your meal while participating in a kind of dinner church/cabaret theatre.  
The theme is "Looking for Joy in Lent", and each week's worship will incorporate  
a play, scripture, music, prayer, and some time to get to know one another.  
Each week's play will be self-contained but the same characters will return each week.  
We're looking for volunteers to read a part in the play.  
Please let Jeanette "Momma J" Harris know if you can play a part.  
The worship will be streamed live to Facebook so if you can't join us in real time you can watch it later.  
Please invite your family and friends to this novel Lenten experience.

On Thursday at 2:00 Salem members are invited to gather here to remember Sue Chrien  
as we celebrate her life here on earth and her new life in heaven.

On Saturday at 8:-- am we gather for what may be our last monthly breakfast and prayer gathering  
here at 3160 Park Avenue.

Links to all our online events are on the Calendar on our website at [SalemBridgeport.org](http://SalemBridgeport.org)  
under the Resources Tab.

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

God, you created us to experience joy and love and peace.  
But the enemy comes to steal and kill and destroy.  
Thank you for sending Jesus so that we may have life, and have it abundantly.  
Pour the Spirit into our hearts and minds and bodies and souls  
that we might produce the fruits of love and joy, peace and patience,  
faithfulness and goodness, kindness and gentleness, and self-control.  
We pray these things in the Name of Jesus and by the Power of the Spirit. Amen

## **OPENING SONG    O Lord, throughout These Forty Days**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 319)*

*As long as everyone is masked, you may sing softly.*

**O Lord, throughout these forty days  
you prayed and kept the fast;  
inspire repentance for our sin,  
and free us from our past.**

**You strove with Satan, and you won;  
your faithfulness endured;  
lend us your nerve, your skill, and trust  
in God's eternal word.**

**Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed  
and fixed your mind above;  
so teach us to deny ourselves  
that we may know God's love.**

**Be with us through this season, Lord,  
and all our earthly days,  
that when the final Easter dawns,  
we join in heaven's praise.**

*Text: based on Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13*

*by Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b.  
1930; Meter C M*

*Music: CONSOLATION by A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816;  
arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003*

*Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress;  
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House*

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# Word

## Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that Yahweh your God will choose as a dwelling.... You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to Yahweh your God that I have come into the land that Yahweh swore to our ancestors to give us.”

When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of Yahweh your God, you shall make this response before Yahweh your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to Yahweh, the God of our ancestors; Yahweh heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, Yahweh, have given me.” You shall set it down before Yahweh your God and bow down before Yahweh your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that Yahweh your God has given to you and to your house.

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—  
**you will say to the LORD,**  
**“My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”**

Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,  
**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.  
**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.  
**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.  
**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

## **A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS: Romans 10:8b-13**

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same God is God of all and is generous to all who call God’s name. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the One who is Sovereign over all shall be saved”.

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread”. Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the dominions of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only God.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**SERMON**

*Please be seated.*

*You may stand if you so desire.*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith together.

**I believe it is a matter of faith to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves.**

**I believe it is a matter of faith to recognize equally  
and love all members of God's human family  
whatever their race, creed, color, gender, marital status,  
physical or mental capacity, or sexual orientation.**

**I believe Jesus Christ came to us to free all people from sin and to make disciples –  
people willing to live Christ's discipline of love and justice for all.**

**I believe the Holy Spirit is that power within us  
that gives us courage and stamina to face the truth and to live it,  
even to die for it, as Jesus died.**

**I believe in the resurrection, the victory over death,  
the truth that is life for all in Jesus' name.**

**Glory be to God, the One-in-Three:  
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustaining Power of Love. 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

Drawn close to the heart of God,  
we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

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

Renew your church, O God.

When we have drifted from our call to repentance and to work for justice, lead us back to you.  
Encourage believers who hold the church's doors open to those who have felt excluded.

We pray for our mission partners,  
especially today for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission and the Center for Family Justice,  
and for Salem members and families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:  
Jeanette Harris, Tracy Hintz, and Josephine Hahn.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God.

Transform parched places into watered gardens  
and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring.  
Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation  
to become responsible stewards of all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew our civic life, O God.

Teach those in authority to advocate for the liberation of all who are oppressed  
and grant them courage to make difficult decisions.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew our lives, O God.

Spare your people from diseases of the body, mind, or spirit  
and send healing to those overcome by illness or grief,  
especially Barbara, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Jonathan, Steve, the family & friends of Sue Chrien,  
and all we name in our hearts.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God.

During these forty days of Lent, help us to discern and to do your will, submitting our own wills  
to yours because only by following you to death can we experience resurrection.

Deepen our faith, increase our love, and draw us into your work of healing and restoration.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give you praise, O God, for all the saints who died and yet are alive with you.

Receive us with them into your eternal embrace.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**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.

## OFFERTORYSONG

### Out in the Wilderness

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s worship book, Worship & Praise # 115)*

**Driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness; driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness;  
when the Spirit says, “Go,” you can’t say, “No.” You listen for the voice when you’re bended low;  
driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness.**

**Tempted by the devil out in the wilderness; tempted by the devil out in the wilderness;  
though you try to be strong, it’s been so long. He whispers in your ear and you know he’s wrong;  
tempted by the devil out in the wilderness.**

**Angels all around you out in the wilderness; angels all around you out in the wilderness;  
you are far from home where wild things roam. There’s danger ev’rywhere but you’re not alone;  
angels all around you out in the wilderness.**

**“You are my beloved” out in the wilderness. “You are my beloved” out in the wilderness.  
When you were baptized you realized you’d heard the voice of God from the op’ning skies:  
“You are my beloved” out in the wilderness.**

*Text: based on Matthew 4.1-11, Mark 1.9-13, Luke 4.1-13 by Jay Beech; Meter 6 7 6 7 6 4 11 6 7*

*Music: OUT IN THE WILDERNESS by Jay Beech*

*Text and Music: © 1999 Jay Beech; Text and music © 1999 Jay Beech, Baytone Music*

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# Sending

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please be seated.*

**Wednesday at noon** please join us **on zoom** for our weekly **Prayer ‘Gathering.**  
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here at 3160 Park Avenue in Bridgeport

to remember Sue Chrien as we celebrate her life here on earth and her new life in heaven.

On Saturday at 8:00 am we gather

for what may be our last monthly breakfast and prayer gathering here at 3160 Park Avenue.

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

## 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 Psalm 91:

Cling to God and God will deliver you.

Call upon God and God will answer.

God will uphold you and be with you in trouble,

God will rescue and honor you, satisfying you with long life and offering you salvation.

*Here ends our Facebook live stream.*

# Meal & Dismissal

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Holy One,  
we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.

**Have mercy on us!**

**Forgive us and turn us again to you, teach us to follow in your ways,  
assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved.

In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love.

In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **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 SONG

## On Eagle's Wings

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 787)*

*As long as everyone is masked, you may sing softly.*

**1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"**

*Refrain*

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;  
under God's wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield.**

*Refrain*

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.**

*Refrain*

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**4 For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

*Final refrain*

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand;  
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.**

*Text: based on Psalm 91 by Michael Joncas, b. 1957; Meter Irregular*

*Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS by Michael Joncas, b. 1957*

*Text and music © 1979 OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.*

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace

For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

### Guide My Feet

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
This Far by Faith # 153)*

*As long as everyone is masked, you may sing softly.*

- 1 Guide my feet while I run this race. Guide my feet while I run this race.  
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 2 Hold my hand while I run this race. Hold my hand while I run this race.  
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 3 Stand by me while I run this race. Stand by me while I run this race.  
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 4 I'm your child while I run this race. I'm your child while I run this race.  
I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 5 Search my heart while I run this race. Search my heart while I run this race.  
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

*Text: based on Psalm 139.22-24, Isaiah 40.28-31, 1 Corinthians 9.24-27,*

*Philippians 3. 12-15, 2 Timothy 4. 6-8, African American spiritual; Meter 8 8 8 10*

*Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. This Far by Faith*

*Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress*

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*Performance by First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn Choir at NYU, 03/08/09*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-WVIppNBls> [3:11]*

## CREDITS

*From sundaysandseasons.com.*

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# Announcements

## **Join the Journey as we Look for Joy in Lent!**

\* **We encourage everyone to spend the 6 weeks of Lent reading** what we have been studying in our Bible Study these last 2 months – **Acts chapters 1 & 2**. As you read this story reflect on what God is saying to YOU through this story and listen to how it applies to your life and then pay attention to how God works to transform you through this story.

\* **Palm Sunday, 9:30 April 10<sup>th</sup> – in-person at 3160 Park Ave, & streamed live to Facebook.**

\* **Maundy Thursday, 7:30 April 14<sup>th</sup> – in-person at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Rd, Fairfield, and streamed live to YouTube.**

\* **Good Friday, 7:30 April 15<sup>th</sup> – in-person at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Rd, Fairfield, and streamed live to YouTube.**

\* **After Easter we will return to our Wednesday Bible Study from 6:30-7:15**, followed by Holy Communion, 7:15-7:30 – and we’ll begin by reflecting on how God has been using Acts 1-2 to transform our lives during Lent!

**Please join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat’n’Chew, Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.** Details to come.

**Thank you to all who attended our Sunday Night Alive Inter-Church Cabaret Night.** We had representatives from 7 different congregations there, including Salem, Genesis, Our Saviour’s, CHURCH, Tabor, and even the Seventh Day Adventist congregation who is purchasing our property! We had a lot of fun enjoying stories, poems, songs, and the reading of a short play – all while getting to know each other – which is exactly what God calls us to do!

**God is SO good that we cannot help but give thanks with a grateful heart!** At last week’s congregational meeting we heard in the report of the Treasurer that your giving has remained consistently strong over these past 2 years despite the pandemic. **THANK YOU!** We also heard that we made so much money in the stock market that it more than covered our budgeted deficit! PLUS! we received \$40,000 in grants from the federal government! But the vitally important thing to note is that **ALL of these gifts are from God** who gave this year through you, through our investments, and through our government. It doesn’t matter if someday the stock market loses money. It doesn’t matter if we never get money from the government again. Why? Because if God desires to bless us financially, God can and will find a way to do it. Our trust is not in each other, nor in banks, nor in governments. Our trust is in the God of all power and love who will give us all the resources we need to do whatever it is God calls us to do. So pray that God make our mission known to us and give us the courage to do it. And then the rest is easy: Don’t worry! BE THANKFUL!

**Invitation from Joe Bales** - As I'm sure you'll remember the Salem Food Pantry ended in early 2020 with the onset of the Covid 10 pandemic. It was a very disappointing period for Salem and personally for me as we had created a great community outreach program. While our pantry has been silent a small contingent of Food Pantry volunteers have continued to be involved in meeting the needs of the hunger challenged. Today seven men meet weekly at the Brooklawn Deli for fellowship — followed by picking up food from the Bridgeport Food Bank with delivery to the PTBarnum Food Pantry. The group consists of Dr. Peter Mitchell, Fred Schaefer, Bert Andren, Ray Anderson, Tom Larson, Charlie Beaver and myself. ***YOU*** are welcome to join us and as in the past we welcome your support through monetary contributions. Your donation should be directed to Feed The People Food Pantry, c/o Roberta Marson, 240 Hanson Avenue, Bridgeport, Ct 06605. Contact Joe Bales at 203-434-6308 for additional information.

**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:**

*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>