



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*for those with
hearing challenges*

*Palm/Passion
Sunday*

*April 10, 2022
9:30 AM*



**"Blessed is the king who comes
in the name of the Lord!"**

Luke 19:38, NIV

The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
marjoanderson@aol.com
203-982-3441 (cell)

Karl Kraft, Office Manager
salemsec123@sbcglobal.net

3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: 203-336-3300;

www.salembridgeport.org
www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome to Worship!

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus". We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

Salem is still recommending 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.

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING 9:30 WORSHIP (10:30ish) ON April 24th (the Sunday after Easter) FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF VOTING ON WHETHER WE STAY AT 3160 PARK AVENUE OR MOVE TO ANOTHER LOCATION. This will be an in-person meeting ONLY. Vote will be by written ballot. We have closed on the sale of our property to the Ephraim French Seventh Day Adventist Church and we are currently renting back space from them. They have graciously offered us all that we need to stay here, including time in the sanctuary for 9:30 Sunday worship and time in the lounge following that for coffee hour and/or adult forum. They have also offered us the former music director's office for Pastor Marjo and Karl to share, half of the workroom behind what will now be their church office for such things as our copier, printers, router, and file cabinets, a section of the paper supply closet in the workroom, storage for larger items in one of the closets off the stage, as well as a temporary "staging area" in the former food pantry space for things we will be moving off-site to long-term storage. First Presbyterian in Fairfield has also made us an offer. **This is a chance for you, the congregation, to choose where you wish to worship.**

Join our Lenten Journey as we enter into this most holy of weeks

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

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

*** Easter. 9³⁰ April 17th – We will celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord right here at 3160 Park Avenue with a festive service, complete with choir, brass players and the Hallelujah Chorus!**

*** 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!**

**INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE (IMA) OF GREATER BRIDGEPORT
HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**PALM SUNDAY AT 6:00 PM APRIL 10TH 2022
at Russell Temple Church, 555 Connecticut Ave., Bridgeport**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 7:00 PM APRIL 11TH – 15TH
at Cathedral of Faith, 2319 Fairfield Ave., Bridgeport**

PALM SUNDAY -- TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Preacher – Pastor Willie Johnson, English Chapel Cathedral

Worship Leader – Pastor Willie J. Moye

Invocation – Rev. Gloria Brown

Scripture (Matthew 21:1-11) – Pastor James Logan

Hymn – O Magnify the Lord

MONDAY – JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE

Preacher – Bishop Franklin Fountain, Fountain of Youth Cathedral

Worship Leader – Pastor Michael Nembhard

Invocation – Bishop Eron Simmonds

Scripture (Matthew 21:12-17) – Bishop J. P. Diamond

Hymn – I am Thine, O Lord

TUESDAY – JESUS GOES TO THE MOUNT OF OLIVES

Preacher – Rev. A. Iona Smith-Nze, Bethel AME Church

Worship Leader – Pastor Marjo Anderson

Invocation – Pastor Elaine Thompson

Scripture (Matthew 22:39-44) – Pastor Carl McCluster

Hymn – Near the Cross

WEDNESDAY – HOLY WEDNESDAY

Preacher – Pastor Warren Godbolt, EnterChange Ministries, Bridgeport

Worship Leader – Pastor David Miller

Invocation – Apostle Robert Spencer

Scripture (Matthew 26:47-54) – Bishop W. J. Marshall

Hymn – At the Cross

THURSDAY – MAUNDY THURSDAY

Preacher – Vice-President Brenda Barnes, Faith Gospel Assembly Ministries

Worship Leader – Pastor Gabrielle Beam

Invocation – Pastor Wilburt Best, Jr.

Scripture (Matthew 26:17-29) – Overseer Kenneth Moales

Hymn – There Is Power in the Blood

FRIDAY -- CRUCIFIXION

Preacher – President William McCullough, Russell Temple CME

Worship Leader – Reverend Stanley Lord

Invocation – Rev. Greg Breland

Scripture (Matthew 27:20-31) – Pastor Alfred Jones

Hymn – Down at the Cross

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines.

In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.

Gathering

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

GREETING

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! **Hosanna in the highest!**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord!

After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it'". So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it". Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven & glory in the highest heaven!

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The Gospel of the Lord!

Praise to you, O Christ!

* BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah & king by those who spread garments & branches along his way. Bless these branches & those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Let us go forth in peace

in the name of Christ! Amen!

The assembly is invited to process into the nave.

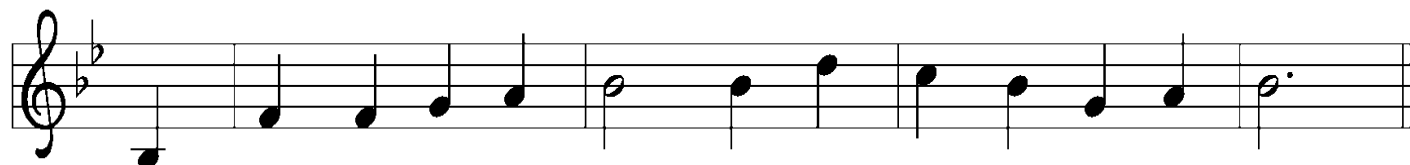
PROCESSIONAL HYMN All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW # 344

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,

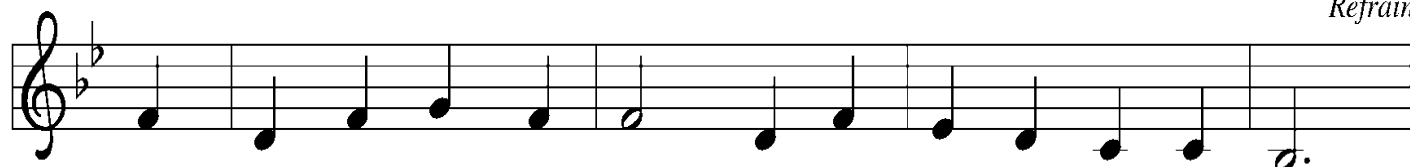


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais-ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais-es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra-cious King.

*Text: based on Psalm 8:2, 24:7-10, 118:2, Matthew 21:1-16, Mark 11:1-10, Luke 19:29-38, John 12:12-15
by Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Meter 7 6 7 6 D*

Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, ST. THEODULPH, by Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

This hymn is in the Public Domain.

Performance by The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Salem Lutheran, Bridgeport, CT, 04/05/20

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the God who calls us each according to divine purpose,
in the name of Jesus who rides into our lives when we invite him to rule over us,,
and in the name of the Spirit through whom God works to bring us from death to life!

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 am Pastor Marjo Anderson of Salem Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, CT in the US.

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.

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**FOLLOWING 9:30 WORSHIP (10:30ish) ON April 24th (the Sunday after Easter)
for the sole purpose of voting whether we stay at 3160 Park Avenue
or move to another location.**

**This will be an in-person meeting ONLY. The vote will be by written ballot.
And this is your chance to choose where you will worship.**

We invite you to observe this holy week with other Lutherans and other Christians
in our Greater Bridgeport area.

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance invites you to a service tonight

at 6:00 at Russell Temple,

and to services each evening, Monday through Friday, at 7:00 at Cathedral of Faith.

The services will be in-person

and will also be live-streamed to their YouTube channel “IMA Bridgeport”

and can be watched after the event as well.

On Thursday and Friday, 3 of our Lutheran churches in the area –

Genesis Gospel Café of Bridgeport, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Fairfield, and Salem
will be gathering at 7:30 for in-person worship at Our Saviour's.

Those services will also be live-streamed to Our Saviour's YouTube channel

“Our Saviours Lutheran Church” – just make sure you've got the one in Fairfield!

Then, I invite you to pray with me as we begin our worship.

God, you sent Jesus to rule over our hearts in love.

Help us to receive him as Lord of our lives

that we may learn to live in a kingdom not of this world

but a kingdom where we are transformed in order that you might transform the world through us.

Open our hearts and minds and bodies and souls to receive all that you have to give.

We pray this in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen

Word

Please be seated.

GOSPEL Luke 22:14 — 23:56

*The passion story in Luke's gospel is filled with human and cosmic images
of what God is doing through the death of Jesus:
restoring all creation to the grace and peace of Paradise.*

Pastor: The Passion of Our Lord according to Saint Luke:

People: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Narrator: When the hour came, [Jesus] took his place at the table, with the apostles
and said to them,

Jesus: “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;
for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

Narrator: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, said,

Jesus: “Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on
I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

Narrator: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Narrator: And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

Jesus: This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.
But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table.
For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined,
but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!”

Narrator: Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be
who would do this.
A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them
was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

Jesus: “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them;
and those in authority over them are called benefactors.
But not so with you; rather the greatest among you
must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves.
For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves?
Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.
You are those who have stood by me in my trials;
and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom,
so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom,
and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
Simon, Simon, listen!
Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat,
but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail;
and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

Narrator: Simon Peter replied,

Peter: “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!”

Jesus: “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day,
until you have denied three times that you know me.”

Narrator: Jesus spoke with the disciples,

Jesus: “When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals,
did you lack anything?”

Disciples: “No, not a thing.”

Jesus: “But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag.
And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one.
For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me,
‘And he was counted among the lawless’;
and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.”

Disciples: “Lord, look, here are two swords.”

Jesus: “It is enough.”

Narrator: He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives;
and the disciples followed him.
When he reached the place, he said to them,

Jesus: “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

Narrator: Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

Jesus: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet,
not my will but yours be done.

Narrator: Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength.
In his anguish he prayed more earnestly,
and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.
When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples
and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

Jesus: "Why are you sleeping?
Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

Narrator: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came,
and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them.
He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

Jesus: "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?"

Narrator: When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

Disciples: "Lord, should we strike with the sword?"

Narrator: Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest
and cut off his right ear.
But Jesus said,

Jesus: "No more of this!"

Narrator: And he touched his ear and healed him.
Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police,
and the elders who had come for him,

Jesus: "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit?
When I was with you day after day in the temple,
you did not lay hands on me.
But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away,
bringing him into the high priest's house.
But Peter was following at a distance.
When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard
and sat down together, Peter sat among them.
Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,

Servant-Girl:: "This man also was with him."

Narrator: But he denied it, saying,

Peter: "Woman, I do not know him."

Narrator: A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

Bystander 1: "You also are one of them."

Peter: "Man, I am not!"

Narrator: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

Bystander 2: "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean."

Peter: "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!"

Narrator: At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed.
The Lord turned and looked at Peter.
Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him,

Jesus: "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times."

Narrator: And he went out and wept bitterly.
Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him;
they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

Soldiers: "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

Narrator: They kept heaping many other insults on him.
When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people,
both chief priests and scribes, gathered together,
and they brought him to their council. They said,

Elders: "If you are the Messiah, tell us."

Jesus: "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer.
But from now on the Son of Man will be seated
at the right hand of the power of God."

Narrator: All of them asked,

Elders: "Are you, then, the Son of God?"

Jesus: "You say that I am."

Elders: "What further testimony do we need?
We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

Narrator: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate.
They began to accuse him, saying,

People: **"We found this man perverting our nation,
forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor,
and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."**

Narrator: Then Pilate asked him,

Pilate: "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Jesus: "You say so."

Narrator: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate: “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

Narrator: But they were insistent and said,

***People:* “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”**

Narrator: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

Pilate: “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”

Narrator: Then they all shouted out together,

***People:* “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”**

Narrator: (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

***People:* “Crucify, crucify him!”**

Narrator: A third time he said to them,

Pilate: “Why, what evil has he done?
I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death;
I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.”

Narrator: But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

Jesus: “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

Narrator: Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right & one on his left. Then Jesus said,

Jesus: “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Narrator: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

Leaders: “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!”

Narrator: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

Soldiers: “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

Narrator: There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

Criminal 1: “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

Criminal 2: “Do you not fear God,
since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
And we indeed have been condemned justly,
for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds,
but this man has done nothing wrong.”

Narrator: Then he said,

Criminal 2: “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Narrator: [Jesus] replied,

Jesus: “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Narrator: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon, while the sun’s light failed;
and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,
Jesus: “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Narrator: Having said this, he breathed his last.
When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurion: “Certainly this man was innocent.”

Narrator: And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle
saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts.
But all his acquaintances,
including the women who had followed him from Galilee,
stood at a distance, watching these things.
Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph,
who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action.
He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea,
and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God.
This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.
Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth,
and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.
It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.
The women who had come with him from Galilee followed,
and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid.
Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.
On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Pastor: The Passion of Our Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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.

We pray for the church, called to follow Jesus in the way of the cross.
Make us unflinching servants of the gospel.
Deliver us from hardship as we confront the forces of injustice and practice radical compassion.
We pray for our mission partners,
especially today for the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport;
and for Salem members and families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:
Grace Dukenski, Elizabeth Frohrip, and Linda Bryk.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the earth and all its inhabitants, created in love:
Train us to recognize your divine goodness in the world around us.
Rouse in us a reverence for creation, that we take greater care of its resources.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those in positions of authority called to lead with integrity and compassion:
Supply them with courage and vulnerability when challenged with new ideas.
Deliver them from fear that limits imagination and impedes justice.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those who suffer, waiting expectantly for mercy and consolation:
Accompany those who feel abandoned or betrayed, defend those who are wrongly accused,
and embrace those who are incarcerated or detained.
Heal those who are ill,
especially Barbara, Bernedette, Christiane, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Jonathan, Linda, Steve,
and all we name in our hearts.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For Christians around the world, preparing this week to journey with Jesus to the cross:
Reveal to us once again the earthshaking power
of humble service, unmerited forgiveness, and sacrificial love.
Lead us all from death to life.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We remember those who have died, who were commended into your hands.
Remember us when you come into your kingdom,
and prepare a place for each of us with you in paradise.
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.



OFFERTORY SONG

There Is a Redeemer

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Worship & Praise # 140)*

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

Verse 1

**There is a Redeemer Jesus God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God Messiah Holy One**

Chorus

**Thank You O my Father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth is done**

Verse 2

**Jesus my Redeemer
name above all names
Precious Lamb of God Messiah
O for sinners slain**

Verse 3

**When I stand in glory
I will see His face
There I'll serve my King forever
In that holy place**

CCLI Song # 11483

Text: based on Isaiah 53:4-5, John 1:29, 1 Corinthians 1:30, 1 Peter 1:18-21; Meter Irregular

Tune: GREEN

© 1982 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

(Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

Birdwing Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Ears To Hear (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Reprinted / Streamed with permission under CCLI License # 11092038

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

We invite you to observe this holy week with other Lutherans and other Christians in our Greater Bridgeport area.

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance invites you to a service tonight at 6:00 at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue, and to services each evening, Monday through Friday, at 7:00 at Cathedral of Faith. 2319 Fairfield Avenue.

On Monday and Tuesday you will definitely recognize some of the leaders!

The services will be in-person

and will also be live-streamed to their YouTube channel “IMA Bridgeport” and can be watched after the event as well.

On Thursday and Friday, 3 of our Lutheran churches in the area –

Genesis Gospel Café of Bridgeport, Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church of Fairfield, and Salem will be gathering at 7:30 for in-person worship at Our Saviour’s.

Those services will also be live-streamed to Our Saviour’s YouTube channel

“Our Saviours Lutheran Church” – just make sure you’ve got the one in Fairfield!

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

FOLLOWING 9:30 WORSHIP (10:30ish) ON April 24th (the Sunday after Easter) for the sole purpose of voting whether we stay at 3160 Park Avenue or move to another location.

This will be an in-person meeting ONLY. The vote will be by written ballot.

And this is your chance to choose where you will worship.

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,

I’d like to offer this blessing to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and in cyberspace:

Go forth from this worship, knowing that Jesus understands your suffering and pain, and that hope and healing is found in submitting your life to him as he submitted his life for yours.

Live in the light of his love!

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may stand if you so desire.

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

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for Christ's sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. 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 and 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

Now Behold the Lamb

(as found in the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's* worship books,
This Far by Faith # 128 and *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* # 341)

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

Now behold the Lamb, the precious Lamb of God,
who bore all my sin, that I may live again:
the precious Lamb of God.

Holy is the Lamb, the precious Lamb of God.
Why you love me so, Lord, I shall never know;
the precious Lamb of God.

Thank you for the Lamb, the precious Lamb of God.
Because of your grace I can finish the race;
the precious Lamb of God.

*Text: based on John 1:29, 36, 2 Corinthians 4:6, 2 Timothy 4:7, Hebrews 12:1, by Kirk Franklin, b. 1970;
Meter 5 6 5 6 6*

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB by Kirk Franklin; arr. Keith Hampton, b. 1957

© 1995 Lilly Mack Music

Reprinted / Streamed with permission under CCLI # 11092038

Score

Now Behold the Lamb

Kirk Franklin

Keith Hampton

1. Now be-hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2. Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3. Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be-

bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre - cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre - cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre - cious Lamb of God.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and walk with Jesus, trusting in God's redeeming love.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 431)*

**O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our king?
What royal face have you revealed whose praise the church would sing?
Aspiring not to glory's height, to power, wealth and fame,
you walked a diff'rent, lowly way, another's will your aim.**

**You came, the image of our God, to heal and to forgive,
to shed your blood for sinner's sake that we might rise and live.
To break the law of death you came, the law of love to bring:
a diff'rent rule of righteousness, a diff'rent kind of king.**

**Though some would make their greatness felt and lord it over all,
you said the first must be the last and service be our call.
O Christ, in workplace, church, and home, let none to power cling;
for still, through us, you come to serve, a diff'rent kind of king.**

**You chose a humble human form and shunned the world's renown;
you died for us upon a cross with thorns your only crown.
But still, beyond the span of years, our glad hosannas ring,
for now at God's right hand you reign, a diff'rent kind of king!**

Text: based on Revelation 1:4-8 by Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939; Meter C M D

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW by Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

Text © 2001, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music is in the Public Domain

Reprinted / Streamed with permission under OneLicense # A-727372

Performance by Tim McNabb, Halifax Lutheran Church, 10/01/21

649/655 in our hymn series

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wu7Q3d6tt-I> [2:44]

CREDITS

From sundaysandseasons.com.

*Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission
under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS005794.*

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989,

*Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of
America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress.
Used by permission.*

Announcements

Please join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday April 16th (the day before Easter) at 11:00 am. Details to come.

The next breakfast will be held on May 14th at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford, at 8:00 (7:00 to help cook).

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: *Thursday, April 28, 2022 8pm (\$30, \$15 Member)* Open VISIONS Forum "Caste: Examining Race, Culture, & Consequences" by Isabel Wilkerson. Tickets and additional information is available at: <http://www.quickcenter.com>.

Pastor Marjo Anderson and Jeanette Harris will host a discussion of this presentation and of the book in general on Sunday May 1st 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

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 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month through June, we begin with a Morning Bible Study 9:30-11:00 on zoom, led by 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.

*** Resuming after Easter, every Wednesday at 6:30 a diverse and interesting group of people meet on zoom for a Bible Study that seeks not to simply be informational but transformational.** We'll review Acts 1-2 on April 20th, and continue through the book on succeeding weeks.

Let's stay connected! Much of Pastor Marjo's and Salem's Office Manager, Karl's work can be done from their homes, but generally Karl is here on Thursdays to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely, and Pastor Marjo is happy to meet with you in-person here should you so desire. 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!**

GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS CITYFEST?

You care about your city. You want to see the Good News proclaimed and lived out to every individual. And you're working hard to make that happen every day. We want to join with you to cast an even bigger vision for long-term unity and collaboration in the Body of Christ . . . serving the city and sharing the clear message of Jesus Christ on a grand scale.

VISION

- **Growing unity** in the Body of Christ
- **Increased collaboration** among the churches to love and serve their community
- **Christians mobilized** to pray for the lost and invite their friends to know Jesus
- **Gospel proclaimed** on a grand scale

UNITY

- Set aside denominational differences to focus on evangelism
- Build bridges with other churches in the neighborhood to serve the community
- Grow relationships among church, civic, and corporate communities

MOBILIZATION

- **Prayer** – God's people mobilized to pray for their unbelieving friends
- **CityServe** – God's people mobilized to serve
- **Training** – God's people trained to share the Good News with family and friends
- **Invite** – God's people challenged to invite their unbelieving friends to hear the Good News

Get ready for CITYFEST, as the Luis Palau Association arrives in Bridgeport to work for long-term unity and collaboration within the Body of Christ so that together we can more effectively transform individual lives with the good news of God's power and love made known in Jesus Christ through the power of the Spirit, and also transform the entire city of Bridgeport and beyond by serving the needs of our neighbors.

Have you ever wished that the Christian Church could be more united? While the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily white mainline Protestant congregations and while the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily black Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations, the Luis Palau Association comes equipped to unite all congregations across racial and denominational barriers. Just think what an impact we can have if we all work together! Stay tuned to hear more about CITYFEST!

In a time when the church is declining in membership, revenue, respect, and impact, the Luis Palau Association offers each congregation the opportunity to be part of a massive effort called CITYFEST to carry out our baptismal call not only "to proclaim the good news of God in Christ", but "to serve all people, following the example of Jesus". And as we work together, Christ will enable us to set aside denominational differences, build bridges between congregations, and develop relationships among church, civic and corporate communities. Stay tuned to hear how YOU can be involved in this exciting work of God.

Wondering how you can be involved in CITYFEST? If you are interested in action, CityServe will offer many opportunities, some new, some old. If you worry about your kids and grandkids falling away from faith, there will be training available to teach you how to share the Good News with family and friends. If inviting someone to a grand and exciting worship event is easier than individual conversations, you will have the opportunity to do just that. Or if you would simply like to help in a quiet way, you can join the hundreds of people who will provide the foundation of prayer on which this whole event will happen. In fact, begin praying now to see how God is calling YOU to be involved in CITYFEST!