

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

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All Saints Sunday

November 6, 2022 9:30 AM



For All the Saints

The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor

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

Welcome

WELCOME TO WORSHIP at 3160 Park Avenue! For those of you who have concerns about being indoors, please note that we have 3 units of the best air cleaner on the market in the sanctuary, and that Bill Winter has just replaced the filters so that they are operating at peak efficiency. If you have any doubts, just speak with Pastor Marjo who happened to stop by the sanctuary last Saturday evening to find that the Seventh Day Adventists were running the machines after their worship so that the room smelled as fresh and new as the earth after a summer rain shower. Also please know that you are more than welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like. We want everyone to feel as safe as possible.

Today on All Saints Sunday as we celebrate all those living and dead who have been buried with Christ through baptism into death and raised from the dead through the glory of God that they might live a new life. It is these newly minted souls who are individually members of the Body of Christ and who together comprise the whole Christian Church that exists beyond time and space. If it were not for those who have shared their faith with us, we would not be here today. The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century.

We are so excited that our choir is singing again for All Saints Sunday. Please make sure you thank God and thank the choir members for their songs of praise!

Pastor Marjo will be away tomorrow through Wednesday, 11/7-9, attending the annual synod convocation required for all active rostered leaders, this year in Southbridge, MA. Pastor Marjo and Jeanette Harris have been asked to lead the worship and music at one of the worship services. For any pastoral emergencies on those days please call the church number or Pastor Chris Files at (203) 767-4189 or (203) 878-2002.

You are invited to gather for prayer on zoom Wednesdays at 12:00 noon at this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eII2ZmtiZEpadz09 and for Bible Study 6:30-7:25 as we pick up in our study of Acts with 18 at this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119212353?pwd=WFdhU3ZaL1BUb2syZmdzREdTZVpsdz09 If you cannot access zoom just let us know and you can join one of us via speakerphone. And for anyone not able to join us on Sundays, Holy Communion will be offered at 7:25.

On Thursday evening Bishop Hazelwood will be interviewing Bishop Kurt Kusserow, of my home synod in Western PA/WV (!), about his new very short book, "What is the Gospel?" If you'd like to join, register here: https://track.robly.com/7079bf3e-9ba3-4f44-aca6-4285a74ac123cff81f06286a5d0e218c8b1642b33e99

Pastor Marjo will be taking a vacation Sunday on November 13th, and the Rev. Frank Basler, will preach and preside at Salem that day. The Rev. Basler is ordained in the United Church of Christ, and has been active for many years in the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Tent of Abraham interfaith work which has recently expanded from just the 3 faiths (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) to others as well. Our own Rich Kenyon will accompany worship!

Gathering

PRELUDE

Behold the Host Arrayed in White

(as found in the ELCA worship book <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 425)

- Behold the host arrayed in white like thousand snow-clad mountains bright, that stands with palms and sings its psalms before the throne of light! These are the saints who kept God's word; they are the honored of the Lord. He is their prince who drowned their sins, so they were cleansed, restored. They now serve God both day and night; they sing their songs in endless light. Their anthems ring when they all sing with angels shining bright.
- On earth their work was not thought wise, but see them now in heaven's eyes; before God's throne of precious stone they shout their vict'ry cries. On earth they wept through bitter years; now God has wiped away their tears, transformed their strife to heav'nly life, and freed them from their fears. For now they have the best at last; they keep their sweet eternal feast. At God's right hand our Lord commands; he is both host and guest.
- O blessed saints, now take your rest; a thousand times shall you be blest for keeping faith firm unto death and scorning worldly trust. For now you live at home with God and harvest seeds once cast abroad in tears and sighs. See with new eyes the pattern in the seed. The myriad angels raise their song. O saints, sing with that happy throng; lift up one voice; let heav'n rejoice in our redeemer's song!

Text: based on Revelation 7:11-14,

by Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, alt.; Meter P M Music: DEN STORE HVIDE FLOK, GREAT WHITE HOST, Norwegian folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. Edvard H. Grieg, 1843–1907

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music is in the Public Domain

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Performance # 1 by Adam & Emily Warnke, trumpet and piano, 04/15/20 as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzCLZ2OzLiU [2:04]

Performance # 2 by Bethany Johnson, harp, 07/24/13

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l40Dgc83gV8 [1:56]

Performance # 3 by The Jubilate Handbell Choir, Hope Lutheran, Friendswood, TX, 01/05/20 This arrangement is by John Behnke, published by Concordia Publishing House (#97-7634) as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgMgBCoQLwA [5:13]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of God,

the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the One who delivers us from darkness, death, and the power of the devil, and raises us up to live lives of liberty, love and light.

Today on All Saints Sunday we celebrate all those living and dead who have been buried with Christ through baptism into death and raised from the dead through the glory of God that they might live a new life. And we give thanks for their witness without which we would not be here today.

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.

I will be away tomorrow through Wednesday, attending synod convocation.

If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the church number or Pastor Chris Files at (203) 767-4189 or (203) 878-2002.

On Wednesday we invite you to join us on zoom for prayer at noon & Bible Study at 6:30.

If there is anyone at Bible Study who has not received Communion on Sunday, we are happy to offer it at the close of Bible Study.

On Thursday evening Bishop Hazelwood will be interviewing Bishop Kurt Kuzaro

of my home synod in Western PA/WV (!),

about his new very short book, "What is the Gospel?"

If you'd like to join the conversation,

the link is to register is in the Welcome section of our bulletin and there's also a link on the calendar on our website.

I'll be on vacation next Sunday and the Rev. Frank Basler, a retired minister of the UCC and very active in the Council of Churches will be here to preach and preside.

For more details on these announcements or to hear about upcoming events such as

FaithActs for Education's pre-election work,

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Fall Event & their White Ally Coaching our collection and packing party for Seafarers,

and our annual collection of mittens, gloves, hats & scarves,

please see our worship bulletin at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

Any other announcements?

Then let's begin our worship with prayer:

God, you are our beginning and our end, and our companion on the journey.

You call of out of our darkness, deliver us from our demons, and raise us from death.

You fill us with light and life and love.

You comfort us in our grief, wipe away our tears, and heal our hurting hearts.

You free us from our fears that we might follow you in faith.

We offer you our thanks for all that you do, and our praise for all that you are.

Open our hearts and minds and spirits and fill us with hope and peace and joy.

We pray all this in the Name of Jesus and by the Power of the Spirit. Amen

OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints

vss. 1-4

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Lutheran Book of Worship</u> # 174)

You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3 Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold, fight as the saints who nobly fought of old and win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: based on 1 Timothy 6:12, Revelation 2:10, 14:13, 21:21 by William W. How, 1823–1897; Meter 10 10 10 and alleluias

Music: SINE NOMINE by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text and Music are in the Public Domain Recording posted by John Wesley Slider

vss 1-4 as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkaocGFsA6k [2:53]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another....

As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

Word of God! Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 149

Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful. Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler. Let them praise their maker's name with dancing; let them sing praise with tambourine and harp. For the LORD takes pleasure in the people and adorns the poor with victory. Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds. Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand, to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron. to inflict on them the judgment decreed; this is glory for all God's faithful ones. Hallelujah!

Word of God! Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 1:11-23

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

Word of God! Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 6:20-31

You may stand if you so desire.

Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

"But I say to you who listen: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Word of God! Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

SERMON Please be seated. Pastor Marjo

[&]quot;Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

[&]quot;Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

[&]quot;But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

[&]quot;Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

[&]quot;Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

[&]quot;Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

SONG OF THE DAY Blest Are They

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> # 728)

You may stand if you so desire.

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the Kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Refrain Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the Kingdom of God!

- 2 Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Refrain)
- Blest are they who show mercy;
 mercy shall be theirs.
 Blest are they, the pure of heart;
 they shall see God! (Refrain)

Text: based on Matthew 5:3-12 by David Haas, b. 1957; Meter Irregular Music: BLEST ARE THEY by David Haas, b.1957; Text & Music © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc, 7404 S Mason Ave, Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted / Streamed with permission under OneLicense # A-727372 Performance by Tom Conroy for Salem Lutheran Church 11/01/20

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 the equality of all members of God's human family, to offer thanks and praise for God's beautiful gift of diversity, and to love people of every race, culture, creed, class, age, ability, gender, sexual orientation and marital status.

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 Three-in-One and One-in-Three: Life Giver, Pain Bearer and Sustaining Power of Love. Amen

PURPOSE STATEMENT

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

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

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our broken and beautiful world.

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

Holy One, your church rests on the faithful who came before us.

May bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders be buried through baptism into death and raised again to new life in Christ

that they might not only discern your will as you make all things new,

but that they might lead your church to follow you in joyful obedience.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for GROUP Workcamps.

We pray for Salem members & their families.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Holy One, the earth is yours and all that dwells within it.

Move us not only to care for places ravaged by natural disasters,

but to live in a way that will prevent such disasters.

Quell raging fires and halt destruction caused by flooding.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Holy One, you raise up leaders to guide your people.

Kindle in them and in all of us a passion to tell the story of your love & power to all we meet, a desire to seek the common good,

and courage to work for justice here at home and throughout the world.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Holy One, you bless those who are poor, hungry, and reviled.

Motivate us to provide food, housing, and security to all who are vulnerable or in crisis.

Teach us to give generously. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis, especially Barbara, Barry, Bernedette, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, Dennis, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Frank, Grace, Iris, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, Jonathan, Linda, Marija, Natalie, Pastor Ruth, Sara Jean, Steve, VL and all we name in our hearts.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Holy One, hold us in community with one another.

Nurture a spirit of abundant hospitality and intentional inclusion among us,

welcoming the gifts of adults and children.

Fire up our imaginations and inspire creative visions for the new Church you desire.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Holy One, we remember in thanksgiving all those who have died.

Wipe away our tears and comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

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

Gracious God, accept these prayers & those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SAINTS

Let us remember all the saints before God.

We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity.

You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints.

We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world.

Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you.

Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion.

We remember today especially:

Roland Carlberg

Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. When I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (John 14:1, 3)

Susan Chrien

I lift my eyes to the hills, from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. (Psalm 121:1-2)

Lou Papp (husband of member, Anita)

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25-26)

Steven Pasqua (son of member, Hazel)

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. (Job 19:25-27)

Johann Dietrich Meszcat (brother of member, Christiane Wolff)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the |Lord forever. (Psalm 23:6)

All those other loved ones whom we mourn this day, including
Lillian Cesero (mother of Michael Loconte, former member of Salem)

Amy "Connie" Graham (Grace),

Kenneth Johnson, Sr. (Tabor)

Kenneth Johnson, Jr. (Tabor)

Ruth Brewer

Christ says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. and you will find rest for your souls. Amen

The pastor concludes:

Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.



Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

I will be away tomorrow through Wednesday, 11/7-9, at bishop's convocation.

For any pastoral emergencies on those days. please call the church number.

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about his new very short book, "What is the Gospel?"

The link is in our worship bulletin (https://youtu.be/Z3EXWYHtn0A)

I'll be on vacation next Sunday and the Rev. Frank Basler, a UCC pastor involved in CCGB will preach and preside at Salem that day.

THANK YOU

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 with me, you can reach me through Salem's website or Facebook page.

BLESSING

As we say good-bye to our online worshippers,

I'd like to offer to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and in cyberspace this blessing based on our reading today from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, chapter 1:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for those who believe! Amen

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may stand if you so desire and make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, # one God,

whose power is boundless and whose love is endless. Amen

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love as Jesus loves.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our strength for the journey.

We pray through Jesus Christ, our redeemer & friend. Amen

Beloved of God:

As you willingly turn from your old ways and follow Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, your sins are forgiven \oplus and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

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!

(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, <u>Lutheran Book of Worship</u> # 174)

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

- 5 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: based on 1 Timothy 6:12, Revelation 2:10, 14:13, 21:21
by William W. How, 1823–1897; Meter 10 10 10 and alleluias

Music: SINE NOMINE by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text and Music are in the Public Domain; Recording posted by John Wesley Slider

vss 5-8 as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkaocGFsA6k [2:48]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and do to others as you would have them do to you, loving your enemies, giving generously, and following wherever God leads

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

When the Saints Go Marching In

O when the Saints go marching in, when the Saints go marching in, O Lord, I want to be in that number when the Saints go marching in.

I'm just a weary pilgrim going through this world of sin getting ready for the city when the saints go marching in

Text: based on Revelation 7, African American spiritual; Meter 8 8 10 7
Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual
Text and Music are in the Public Domain.
Performance by Sisters of Grace Melodies, 06/16/16
as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzlieDvSGV0 [4:11]
Support them if you are touched by their presentation.

Announcements

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Fall Event will be at the Sacred Heart University Discovery Science Center and Planetarium on November 17th from 6-8pm. Come meet the staff, learn about the Council's programs, and take a tour of the newly remodeled Discovery Science Center. We look forward for you to join us for this wonderful event. More information will be posted in the Council's upcoming newsletters and mailings. If you have friends in the area whose congregations are not apart of the Council, please invite them to join you so that they can learn how CCGB is changing people's lives for the better!

You are invited to join a "Packing Party" for the Seafarers on Saturday, December 10th, at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. Rich Lansing and Bruce Tomasko will cook and serve breakfast at 9:00 (come at 8:00 if you can help!), and Carol Lansing will supervise the packing of the donated items beginning at 10:00. We hope you will join us for a time of fun, food, and fellowship as we seek to serve seafarers!

MITTEN TREE. While we will not have an actual mitten tree this year, we will be collecting mittens, gloves, hats and scarves as usual. There will be a box in the narthex on Sunday mornings for contributions. Items can also be dropped off at the office on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If the door is locked please call the Church number from your cell phone and Karl will let you in.

On Sunday November 20th, from 9-5, Salem will be collecting food outside the Stop & Shop on King's Highway in Fairfield. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Trumbull will be joining us. Thank you to Rich Lansing for organizing this effort to help alleviate food insecurity in our region. To help, contact Rich.

Salem's Food Assistance Fund - While we may not have our own food pantry anymore, some of those people are still in need of food and Pastor distributes \$25 stop and shop cards as needed from that fund which only has \$45 in it at present. Also, a number of Salem members support the food pantry at PT Barnum with their time, and we'd also like to support it financially. We encourage you to donate to Salem's food assistance fund. You can give using the envelopes found in your quarterly envelope packet or you can put a check in the donation box marked "food assistance." In addition, you may send check to office or drop it in church mailbox or give it or cash to Pastor. You can also give to the fund online by clicking on this link. or go to our website, SalemBridgeport.org, click on Donate, and then fill in your amount under "Food Pantry Donation".

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 or send an email to SalemSec123@sbcglobal.net. Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441 or email her at marjoanderson@aol.com. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!

Thank you to all who came out for our in-person and zoom adult forum meetings last Sunday! Combined attendance at the 2 meetings was 48, with 39 separate individuals participating in one or both. We are grateful for your interest and commitment to what God is calling us to do as the people of God at Salem.

You may have money waiting for you at https://ctbiglist.com/. Just put in your name, city and zip and then press search. If you want to verify that this is legit, just go to: https://portal.ct.gov/OTT/Unclaimed-Property/Overview. If you end up with some unexpected cash, you might want to think about giving a tithe on it to Salem!

The Council of Churches' advocacy has translated into a huge win! We at CCGB joined a letter signed by over 100 other organizations calling for USDA to set aside a portion of relief funding for one-to-one business technical assistance. We are thrilled to report that our voices have been heard. Last week, USDA announced \$400 million in funding to support the creation of at least six Regional Food Business Centers through USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. The purpose of the Centers is to provide technical assistance, coordination, and capacity-building to small and mid-sized farm and food businesses in order to increase the resilience of local and regional food systems.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport is pleased to announce that Noelia Ramos has joined the council as a new case manager for the Project New Life (PNV). Noelia is currently in school for her bachelor's degree in Human Service at the University of Bridgeport. Her goal is to be in the helping field helping those in need. She says "growing up in Bridgeport I didn't have the best resources so being able to give back and help those have been very rewarding to me." PNV serves over 260 returning citizens each year, providing birth certificate research and picture IDs, clothing, bus passes, toiletries and assistance finding housing and job placement. Clients are given gift cards to help purchase necessities such as clothing, socks, shoes & toiletries. They're so thankful for the help we are able to give them. For more info, please contact Rosa Rosa rosarosa@ccgb.org and/or Noelia Ramos noeliaramos@ccgb.org.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport extends a HUGE THANK YOU to Simon Herrera, Vice President, Cristian Castro, and Steven Wright of Enterprise-Rent-A- Car for their donation of 50 prefilled **backpacks** with school supplies. Our Janus Center's Director, Carla Wright and Case Managers Fara Phetis and Corey Saulsbury continue to hand out these backpacks to those students who are in need of supplies.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries Monday, November 7, 2022

Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans.

After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary

he was assigned to the Andhra region of India.

A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India,

Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities

who favored a different missionary style.

He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person.

Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people,

working among the Battak people,

he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.

Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397 Friday, November 11, 2022

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army.

Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man,

whom he later understood as representing Christ.

He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead.

After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.

Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855 Friday, November 11, 2022

Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian

whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism.

He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day,

as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.

CREDITS

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If you don't vote, they don't listen.

Faith Votes is a campaign to get the faith community in Bridgeport involved in voter education and voter turnout. We don't endorse candidates. We just want to get out the vote.

OUR MISSION

We are people of faith building power to get our children the education they deserve.

WHAT WE DO

We build relationships, we build leaders, and we build power through community organizing and civic engagement across Connecticut.

OUR VISION

We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to graduate from college, take care of their family, and fulfill their God- given potential.

Faith Votes' Work

Last year, in the middle of a pandemic, we secured an additional \$160 million in education funding for Black, Brown and low-income students and activated over 5,000 voters across the state.



In 2019, Bridgeport Public Schools met our demand to publish how it spends per child, per school within the district – information that has never been public in Bridgeport.

Questions about voting? Contact our Civic Engagement Manager Toni at 203-751-7256 or toni@faithacts.org

Our Values

GUIDED BY FAITH: We have deep faith in God and in the power of communities to take on the important work of providing all our children with a transformative education.

SERVE THE CHILDREN: We are here to relentlessly serve and responsibly invest in what works best for our children.

BUILD BRIDGES: We believe in forming authentic relationships that bring our community together, collaborating with the greatest sense of mutual respect and integrity.

TAKE OWNERSHIP: We humbly accept our share of responsibility for the current educational inequity, and take ownership of changing it for our children.

DRIVE TOWARD IMPACT: We believe results should be measured with transparency and rigor.

RAISING THE B.A.R. PRESENTS

White ally coaching

Featuring Kirk and Erika Wesley, Co-Founders of BLaC Strategies, Inc.

Practical information and tangible skills for using whiteness to be an effective support for members of the BIPOC community in personal and professional spaces.



Thursdays Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 7:30-9pm Register: ccgb.org/rtb



Christmas at Sea

Collection dates: Gift Suggestions:

- Woolen caps
- Sweatshirts (L-XL)
- Thermal or White Socks
- Colored T-Shirts (L)
- Chocolates
- Canned Nuts
- Hard Candy
- Christmas Cards
- Money



If questions, contact Carol Lansing (203) 520-3752

Please place items in the marked box in the Narthex