



# *Salem Lutheran Church*

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*The Baptism of  
Our Lord  
(Second Sunday  
after  
the Epiphany  
of Our Lord)*

*January 15, 2023  
9:30 AM*



*The*  
**Baptism**  
*of our*  
**Lord**

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[www.salembridgeport.org](http://www.salembridgeport.org)  
[www.facebook.com/salembridgeport](https://www.facebook.com/salembridgeport)  
[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

# Welcome

**We want you to feel safe** so please know that we have 3 units of the best air cleaner on the market in the sanctuary. Also, you are most welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like.

**Today we celebrate the feast of The Baptism of Our Lord**, a second “epiphany” or “revealing” of Jesus as divine as well as human. Last week we celebrated the first “epiphany” as a star announced his birth and drew non-Jews from outside Israel to worship him. Today we celebrate Jesus’ baptism in which the Holy Spirit appeared announcing Jesus as God’s offspring, and proclaiming God’s pleasure in him. As we hear the story, we reflect on what it means to “pass through the waters” and be baptized into the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, receive the fire of the Holy Spirit, and be raised to a brand new life, completely different from ordinary human experience. The season of Epiphany will conclude on February 19<sup>th</sup> when we celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord, the third “epiphany” when it was revealed to Peter, James, and John that Jesus was God’s beloved Son.

**Please note that Pastor Marjo has prepared an Affirmation of Baptism take-home insert for you so that you may reaffirm your baptism as we remember the baptism of Jesus.**

**Upcoming services at our regular time include:**

Sundays Jan 22, Jan 29, Feb 5, & Feb 12 – Sundays after Epiphany  
Sunday February 19 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Wednesday Feb 22 - Ash Wednesday – place TBA

**Today we commemorate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, who was martyred in 1968.** An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

**We open our worship today with “Lift Every Voice and Sing”,** commonly known as the Black national anthem, as we recommit ourselves to our baptismal call “to work for justice and peace in all the world”.

**We invite you to observe Martin Luther King Day by joining in an ecumenical worship service tomorrow, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am, at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue,** sponsored by the Interdenominational Ministerial Association of Greater Bridgeport. The preacher will be the Rev. Iona Smith-Nze, former CEO of the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport.

**“We Made It! Let’s Celebrate!” Please join Genesis Gospel Cafe’s Inner-View Chat and Chew** on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00-12:00 on zoom for a fun time of fellowship.

# Gathering

## GATHERING SONG Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

*(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 800)*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art; And make me love thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee God & King? All, all Thine own soul, heart & strength & mind.  
I see Thy cross there, teach my heart to cling. O let me seek Thee and O let me find.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love. One holy passion filling all my frame.  
The baptism of the heaven descended dove, My heart an altar and Thy love the flame.

*Text: based on Matthew 3:13-17, 22:37; Mark 1:8-11, 12:30, Luke 3:15-22, 10:27,  
Romans 8:26 by George Croly, 1780-1860; Meter 10 10 10 10*

*Music: MORECAMBE by Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897*

*Text & Music are in the Public Domain.*

*Performance # 1 by 16 Singing Men - Dick Anthony*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wvoa\\_WfBy-o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wvoa_WfBy-o) [2:10]*

*Performance # 2 by Biola University Chorale Alumni, 08/08/20*

*Arranged by Loren Wiebe*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piUHVTZchYE> [2:15]*

*Text: based on Matthew 3:13-17, 22:37; Mark 1:8-11, 12:30, Luke 3:15-22, 10:27, Romans  
8:26 by George Croly, 1780-1860; Meter 10 10 10 10*

*Music: MORECAMBE by Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897*

*Text & Music are in the Public Domain.*

*Performance # 3 by Sue Nixon with Walt Wagner, 10/12/15*

*Provided to YouTube by CDBaby, © 2000 SEMAPHONE, Released 01/01/00*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeZcdxKKzOU> [3:13]*

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

## WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the God who names us beloved children,  
in the name of Jesus into whose death we are baptized and into whose life we are raised,  
and in the name of the Spirit, who anoints us with power and authority.

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 in the US.

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).

**Last Sunday we celebrated the Epiphany of Our Lord,**

**Today we celebrate the 2<sup>nd</sup> festival in the season of Epiphany, the Baptism of Our Lord,  
and on 2/19 we'll close out the season with the 3<sup>rd</sup> great festival, the Transfiguration.**

**Please don't forget to take home your Affirmation of Baptism insert**

so that you may reaffirm your baptism as we remember the baptism of Jesus.

**Tomorrow we invite you to an ecumenical worship service for Martin Luther King day,  
11:00 at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue, and also on YouTube.**

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

This week the Bible study continues with Acts, chapters 28.

If anyone has not been able to receive communion, we can offer that at the end of Bible study.

**I hope you will join us for “We Made It! Let's Celebrate!”,**

a fun time at Genesis Gospel Cafe's Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday at 11 on zoom

**Links to the above events are found on our calendar a [SalemBridgeport.org](http://SalemBridgeport.org)**

**For more details on these announcements or to hear about other upcoming events  
please see our worship bulletin at [SalemBridgeport.org/Live](http://SalemBridgeport.org/Live).**

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings?

Then let's begin our worship with prayer:

Gracious God, you are the Fount of Living Water,

and you made us creatures dependent on water for our very physical existence.

But even more than the water that sustains life on earth, that cleanses, and that provides power,  
our spirits need the Living Water that only you can supply.

Thank you for the gift of baptism, in whose waters we are buried with Christ into death  
and then raised again to new life.

Through your Living Water, sustain us, cleanse us, and empower us  
to offer that Water to all who are thirsty.

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

## OPENING HYMN

## Lift Every Voice and Sing

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 841, and This Far by Faith # 296)*

**Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.**

**Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our parents sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;  
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,  
true to our God, true to our native land.**

*Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938; Meter PM*

*Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING; J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954*

*Text and Music are in the Public Domain.*

*Performance by Abyssinia Baptist Church, New York, NY*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGaEV\\_ir3KQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGaEV_ir3KQ) [4:54]*

# Word

*Please be seated.*

## **A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 42:1-9**

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
**my chosen, in whom my soul delights;**  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
**he will bring forth justice to the nations.**  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
**or make it heard in the street;**  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
**and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;**  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
**He will not grow faint or be crushed**  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
**and the coastlands wait for his teaching.**

Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
**who spread out the earth and what comes from it,**  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
**and spirit to those who walk in it:**  
I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
**I have taken you by the hand and kept you;**  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
**a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,**  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
**from the prison those who sit in darkness.**  
I am the LORD, that is my name;  
**my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.**  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
**and new things I now declare;**  
before they spring forth,  
**I tell you of them.**

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

## **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 29**

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

**ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;

**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**

The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;

**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;

**the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**

the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD

**bursts forth in lightning flashes.**

The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;

**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe

**and strips the forests bare.**

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying,

**“Glory!”**

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;

**the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

O LORD, give strength to your people;

**give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.**

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

## **A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 3:13-17**

*You may stand if you so desire.*

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness”. Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased”.

Word of God! Word of Life!

**Thanks be to God!**



*You may stand if you so desire.*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**based on Luther's catechism  
and our baptismal promises**

Let us affirm our faith together.

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

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

**We believe that we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ,  
but the Holy Spirit is poured out upon those who are baptized  
and who trust in God above all else.**

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

## **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

As members and friends of Salem Church, let us remind ourselves 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,  
that we may encounter God, build relationships, and change lives.**

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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

Calling God, you speak with power to your church.

Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring.

Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith.

Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for the New England Synod, and Region 7 of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We pray for Salem members & their families.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, you provide the waters of the earth  
and in Jesus' baptism you reveal the waters of life.

Lead us to cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds.

Work through us to bring relief to parched lands and communities without access to safe water.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice.

Increase cooperation and constructive dialogue between nations.

Guide local, national, and international authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity.

We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast.

Give sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine.

Sustain health care workers, caregivers, first responders, counselors, and all who help and heal.

Comfort those who are grieving or experiencing crisis,

especially Barbro, Barry, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, Dennis, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Frank, Grace,

Hans, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, John, Linda, Liz, Katherine, Marija, Natalie, Pastor

Ruth, Sara Jean, Steve, VL, and all we name in our hearts.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Blessing God, in Christ you gather the beloved community.

Kindle the gifts of your Spirit in your people.

Accompany the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry.

Inspire synodical leaders and congregational councils to serve with imagination and wisdom.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout all generations.

We give thanks for those who have died in Christ,

trusting that we will be united with them and all the saints in Christ's resurrection life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God,

trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **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 it first,  
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also  
so that we can continue to take our worship online  
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.  
Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click “donate”  
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program  
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 304)*

***You may stand if you so desire.***

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,  
God's Spirit on you came,  
as peaceful as a dove, and yet  
as urgent as a flame,  
as urgent as a flame.**
  
- 2 God called you, "My beloved Son";  
you are God's servant true,  
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,  
God's holy will to do,  
God's holy will to do.**
  
- 3 Straightway and steadfast until death  
you then obeyed the call  
to serve with free and willing heart,  
to give your life for all,  
to give your life for all.**
  
- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;  
your cross on us be signed,  
that likewise in God's service we  
may perfect freedom find,  
may perfect freedom find.**

*Text: Matthew 3.13-17, Mark 1.8-11, Luke 3.21-22, by F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.;*  
*Meter 8 6 8 6 6*

*Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTE, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561*

*Text © 1985 The Church Pension Fund*

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*Music is in the Public Domain*

*Performance by Salem Lutheran Church Catonsville-MD, 01/12/21*

*Sarah Garrett Krey and Micah Krey, Vocalists; Mary Miller, Organ*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VkxEGSmGM-4> [2:14]*

# Sending

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please don't forget to take home your Affirmation of Baptism insert**  
so that you may reaffirm your baptism as we remember the baptism of Jesus.

**Tomorrow we invite you to an ecumenical worship service for Martin Luther King day,  
11:00 at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue, and also on YouTube.**

**On Wednesday we invite you to join us on zoom for prayer at noon & Bible Study at 6:30.**  
This week the Bible study continues with Acts, chapters 28.

If anyone has not been able to receive communion, we can offer that at the end of Bible study.

**I hope you will join us for "We Made It! Let's Celebrate!",**  
a fun time at Genesis Gospel Cafe's Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday at 11 on zoom

**For more details on these announcements  
or to hear about other upcoming events  
please see our worship bulletin at [SalemBridgeport.org/Live](http://SalemBridgeport.org/Live).**

## 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 her 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 today's 1<sup>st</sup> reading  
from the book of the prophet, Isaiah, chapter 42:

God has called you, taken you by the hand, and kept you.  
Jesus has sent you to be God's light to the world.  
The Spirit is given to you to open the eyes of the blind and free those who sit in darkness.  
Go, therefore and witness to the good news of God's love in Christ Jesus,  
knowing you are empowered by the Holy Spirit. 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,  
who makes all things new,  
transforming our hearts and minds, our witness and our service. **Amen**

Trusting in God's boundless power and endless love, let us confess our sin.

**Creating and Redeeming God, source of our renewal,  
we confess that we are bound by sin, and cannot free ourselves.  
We have not given our hearts to you.  
We have not submitted to your authority.  
For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us,  
that we may be reconciled to you and to every person in our lives  
that all may be drawn to bring you honor, glory and praise! Amen**

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare”

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Those who follow where Christ leads will find life abundant and joy without measure. **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!**

## **SENDING HYMN      We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,  
With One Voice # 698 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 451)*

***You may stand if you so desire.***

**We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death;  
that as Christ is raised victorious, we might live a brand new life.  
And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,  
we will all be reunited, for he lives.**

**In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread,  
in the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen from the dead,  
God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past;  
in the losing and the winning we hold fast.**

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,  
glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one;  
as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again  
in a song that has no ending. Amen**

*Text: based on Romans 6:1-11 by John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937; Meter 8 7 8 7 8 7 11*

*Music: OUIMETTE by John C. Ylvisaker*

*Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker*

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*Performance by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 12/22/20*

*Ben Swart, vocals | Chris Kremer and Eric Gonzalez, guitars | Steve Fahnstock, bass |*

*Mike Dubbert, drums | Ken Holdt, piano | Jake Jervis, director of photography*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7W6BvttXGgQ> [2:00]*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace,  
and let your light so shine that the world might be drawn to worship Jesus!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE MUSIC

### Wade in the Water

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,  
This Far by Faith # 114 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 459)*

*Refrain:* Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God's agoin'-a trouble the water.

1. See that host all dressed in white, (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!)  
the leader looks like the Israelite. (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!) *Refrain*
2. See that band all dressed in red, (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!)  
looks like the band that Moses led. (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!) *Refrain*
3. Look over yonder, what do I see? (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!)  
the Holy Ghost a-coming on me! (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!) *Refrain*
4. If you don't believe I've been redeemed, (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!)  
just follow me down to Jordan's stream! (God's a-goin'-a trouble the water!) *Refrain*

*Text: based on John 8.36, African American spiritual; Meter Irregular*

*Music: WADE IN THE WATER, TROUBLE THE WATER,  
African American spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood, b. 1949;*

*Text and Music are in the Public Domain*

*Performance by Chancel Choir, Rejoice Lutheran Church, Coppell, TX, 06/19/21  
as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzpzOr\\_jmKY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzpzOr_jmKY) [2:42]*

## CREDITS

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# Announcements

**PLEASE JOIN THE SALEM'S WATER BOTTLE CHALLENGE** to benefit the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Janus Center's school closet program! School children in Bridgeport public schools are in dire need of drinking water as drinking fountains have been dismantled due to Covid and also because of lead in the pipes. Our own Cindy Roberts has found a most cost-effective way to supply water – by the pallet! A pallet holds 84 cases, each holding 24 bottles for a total of 2,016 bottles. Cindy has negotiated the price down to \$6.12 (including the \$.10 deposit) = \$514.08/pallet. Salem delegates to the CCGB would like to challenge our congregation to raise enough funds to cover 1 pallet and then challenge other congregations to do the same. Please make checks payable to Salem and in the memo list “water bottles”. You can also contribute cash by placing it in an envelope, marked “from <YOUR NAME> for water bottles”, and place it in the offering box or give it to Pastor Marjo. If you have any questions please see Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Tom Larson, Cindy Roberts, Bill Winter or Pastor Marjo.

**Salem's Semi-Annual Meeting will be held in person on Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>, immediately following worship.** An adult forum on the 2023 budget will likely be held the Sunday prior.

**Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County** invites your support as a guest, sponsor, or in-kind donor, at their 2023 Annual Gala April Fools Masquerade Ball Saturday April 1, 2023, 6:30-11:00 PM, Woodway Country Club, 540 Hoyt Street, Darien, CT. For more information, please visit [habitatcfc.org/gala](http://habitatcfc.org/gala) .

**It's a brand new year and time for new year's resolutions!** So we encourage you to resolve to grow in your relationship with God. And what better way than through talking to God and listening to God? That's exactly what happens when we pray and read & study scripture. We can do those things on our own, of course, but when we do them together it's far more impactful – kind of like addition and multiplication. Praying and studying on our own is like adding 4 + 4 which gives you 8, but praying and studying together is like multiplying 4 x 4 which gives you 16. Certainly, we are “better together”.

**And so we invite you to join us for prayer on zoom Wednesday at 12:00 here:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eII2ZmtiZEpadz09>

**& for Bible Study 6:30-7:25** as we pick up in our study of Acts with chapter 27 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.

**You can help feed the hungry!** While we may not have our own food pantry anymore, some of our members and others are still in need of food and Pastor Marjo distributes \$25 stop and shop cards as needed, requested and as available. 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 a check to the office or drop it in church mailbox or give it or cash to Pastor Marjo. You can also give to the fund online by **clicking on this link**. or go to our website, [SalemBridgeport.org](http://SalemBridgeport.org), click on Donate, and then fill in your amount under “Food Pantry Donation”.

**Please support the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's ministries** with your donations of time and money.

- Their FEED Center is improving the nutritional value of the food served and distributed through their network of food pantries and soup kitchens and is also providing free culinary classes and entrepreneurial opportunities to help lift people out of poverty. Their Mobile Market truck delivers fresh fruits and vegetables to the communities who have a hard time getting to the stores.
- PROJECT LEARN is the after-school program for elementary students which is run by the Summerfield United Methodist Church.
- Their JANUS Center supports 90 young people each year, offering a 24-hour hot line, respite care services, mentoring, and interventions, helping to keep them in school and out of the juvenile justice system – leveraging hope and changing lives. Parenting Journey workshops help parents learn skills to help their families. The Outreach program works with homeless youth.
- PROYECTO NUEVA VITA (PNW) helps formerly incarcerated citizens upon their release with a set of clothes, needed documents, bus passes and group meetings to help get their lives back together.

**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!**

**The Connecticut Hospice, Inc.** is accepting applications for new volunteers! Our patients and families are in need of your care and support. If you have an interest in companionship, light housekeeping or making meals, please contact Joan Cullen, Director of Volunteers at 203-315-7510.

**Living with a family member (non-spouse) or friend who is 65 or older, and who is on Medicaid?** Companies such as Emerest Adult Family Living will pay you to care for them. You must go through a process to determine how much you are qualified for by the state of CT, but some people make more than \$2,750/month. Call or text Emerest at 203-871-3000 to learn more or fill out a quick form online at [www.emerestafl.com](http://www.emerestafl.com) .

**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! 😊

## **UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

### **Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

### **Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346 Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

### **Confession of Peter Wednesday, January 18, 2023**

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God."  
This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

### **Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156 Thursday, January 19, 2023**

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him.  
Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

### **Agnes, martyr, died around 304 Saturday, January 21, 2023**

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport & Vicinity (IMA)



# MLK SCHOLARSHIP *Worship Service*

January 16, 2023 @11AM

CashApp

\$IMABPT21



Guest Speaker

Rev. A. Iona Smith Nze

Bethel AME Church



Rev. William D. McCullough-President  
Rev. Brenda J. Barnes-Vice President



[www.facebook.com/ima.bridgeport](https://www.facebook.com/ima.bridgeport)  
[www.youtube.com- IMA Bridgeport](https://www.youtube.com-IMA Bridgeport)



## New CCGB President and CEO

The Rev. Curtis Farr, board chair of the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (CCGB), announced that the Rev. Shivonne Annan has accepted the position of president and CEO of the CCGB.

"The Rev. Annan brings valuable experience in leading and working with non-profit groups serving urban communities. We are excited to have her join us in directing the critical services that the Council of Churches provides to so many individuals, families, & communities of Greater Bridgeport."

The Rev. Shivonne Annan holds a Bachelor of Arts from Pennsylvania State University, a Master of Business Administration from American Intercontinental University, a Master of Education from Adelphi University, and a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary.

The Rev. Shivonne Annan has prior experience as the executive director of Community Help in Park Slope, Inc. (CHiPS) in Brooklyn, which serves as many as 175 meals daily through their soup kitchen and food pantry. Earlier she served as the executive director of Jeremiah Program's community in the Brownsville neighborhood in Brooklyn, overseeing their efforts to provide support for mothers and children. Annan also served as a pastor in a congregation in New Jersey and as the assistant director of St. John Residence and School for Boys in Rockaway Park, N.Y.

The Rev. Shivonne Annan will assume her duties with the Council of Churches early 2023, replacing Tom Larson, who currently serves as interim president and CEO.