



Salem Lutheran Church

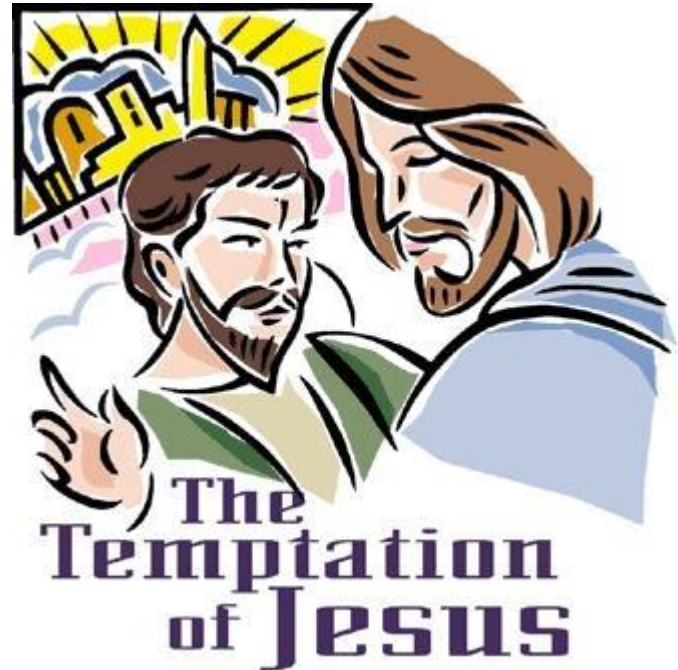
shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

1st Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

9:30 AM



The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor

marjoanderson@aol.com

203-982-3441 (cell)

Karl Kraft, Office Manager

salemsec123@sbcglobal.net

www.salembridgeport.org

www.facebook.com/salembridgeport

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

3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604

Telephone: 203-336-3300;

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. **And we also have one running here in the lounge where we are worshipping today and next Sunday.** Also, you are most welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like.

On Wednesday we began our annual Lenten journey towards joy! Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Faith does not mean mental agreement with a theological concept, but rather trust in the God of boundless power and endless love, the God who loves us and desires our love in return, the God who wants to walk with us and talk with us and be in an ever deepening relationship with us.

On Wednesdays in Lent we invite you to get to know our amazing God better!

12:00 noon Weekday Lenten Prayer Line via phone – you can call in to our prayer line at: 681-999-0232, using access code 673980#. **OR**

12:00 noon Weekly Prayer Gathering via zoom – you can zoom in to our prayer gathering at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eII2ZmtiZEpadz09>

6:30 – Weekly 6:30 Bible Study on zoom this week.

7:30 – Lenten Bible Study with Our Savior's at this link:

Other Lenten Opportunities Include:

- 1. Get your annual “spiritual”** – just the way you get your annual physical.
Call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441 to arrange a time to discuss how you are, and let her know how she can pray for you.
Or if you prefer to use email to set something up, send your email to salemsec123@sbcglobal.net.
- 2. Again, every Monday thru Friday through Maundy Thursday 4/6,**
call in to our prayer line at 681-999-0232, using access code 673980#,
for a brief time of prayer.
You can remain silent and anonymous, ask for particular prayers, or offer your own prayers.
- 3. Begin a Lenten fast** or establish a new healthier habit.
- 4. Commit yourself to some new work of charity and one new work of justice.**
If you're not sure what to do, Pastor Marjo can offer suggestions.

Upcoming Lenten Services Include:

Midweek Lenten services – 7:30 pm Wednesdays in March on zoom with Our Saviour's

Palm Sunday – 9:30 am Sunday April 2 RIGHT HERE AT SALEM

Maundy Thursday – 6:00 pm Thursday April 6 @ Grace Lutheran, 150 Chapel St, Stratford

Good Friday – 7:30 pm Friday April 7 @ Our Saviour's Lutheran, 160 Hill Farm Rd, Fairfield

Easter – 9:30 am Sunday April 9 RIGHT HERE AT SALEM

Gathering

GATHERING SONG Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jesus and L'Arche Community;
Text and Music © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress;
Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress
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*Performance # 1 by Lutheran North Concert Choir (arr. Jared Brown), 12/17/21
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUzGnysDja8> [3:18]*

*Performance # 2 by Tim McNabb of [Halifax Lutheran Church](#),, 02/20/21
as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_SprnZKKxc [3:08]*

*Performance # 3 by Shenandoah Christian Music Camp (VA), sung at the 10th Annual Choral
Festival 2015, arranged and conducted by Lloyd Kauffman, 08/16/15
as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFxmIT_NJyo [3:01]*

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of God the ocean of life,
in the name of Jesus, the river of love,
and in the name of the Spirit the fountain of joy!

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, 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.

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Also, remember these other 3 Lenten opportunities:

- 1. Sign up for your annual “spiritual” with your pastor –**
just the way you get your annual physical with your doctor!.
- 2. Use this time of Lent to fast or establish a new healthier habit.**
- 3. Commit yourself to some new work of charity and one new work of justice.**

Links to all of our events can be found on our calendar a SalemBridgeport.org

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

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings?

Then will you pray with me?

God, thank you!

Thank you for calling us to this place and meeting us here!

Thank you for every thought and every word that you will plant in us today.

Thank you for enabling our bodies, enlightening our minds,

engaging our hearts, and empowering our spirits as we worship you.

Thank you for reshaping and remaking us into the people you have called us to be!

We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen!

OPENING HYMN O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Music: CONSOLATION by A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816;

arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003

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

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

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Performance by Tim McNabb, Halifax Lutheran Church, 01/23/21 [442/655 in their hymn series]

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gD4_kaHpBnU [2.11]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

YHWH God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And YHWH God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that YHWH God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom YHWH imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 5:12-19

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 4:1-11 *You may stand if you so desire.*

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

You may either stand or remain seated as you prefer.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR LENT

(from The United Congregational Church of Southern Africa and from Indonesia)

As people of the household of God, in faith, and love, and with goodwill to all,
let us in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
give ourselves afresh to him and to one another in joyous covenant,
promising to walk together with God and one another.

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people.
We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us, and to free us from all forms of oppression.
We believe in the Spirit of God, who works in and through all who are turned toward the truth.
We believe in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people.

We do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor in the power of oppression.
We believe in human rights, in the solidarity of all people.
We denounce, stand, and work against racism,
in the power that comes from wealth and privilege, or in any established order that enslaves.
We believe that all people are equally human,
that order based on violence and injustice is not order.
We do not believe that hunger and poverty are inevitable and peace unattainable.

We dare to believe, always and in spite of everything, in God's power to transform,
fulfilling the promise of a new heaven and a new earth where justice and peace will flourish.

PURPOSE STATEMENT *(updated by Council in June of 2019)*

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

You may stand, sit, or kneel for the prayers.

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

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

You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness.

Give vision & wisdom to bishops, their staff, & all entrusted with the ministry of administration.
Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for Lutheran World Relief,

Lutheran Disaster Response & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's World Hunger Appeal.

We pray for Fairchild Wheeler High School & all schools, that they be protected & free from violence,
including gun violence, bullying, prejudice, racial bias, abuse, and hazing

We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:

Judy Albers, Carlee Claus, and Lowell Claus.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature.

Bless those who work in fields and, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate.

Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness,

that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You are a hiding place for all in distress.

Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants,

especially children who travel alone.

In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love, especially

Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Frank,

Gigi, Grace, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey, John, Linda, Liz, Katherine, Marija,

Natalie, Paula, Pastor Ruth, Sara, Sara Jean, Steve, VL,

and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips....

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place.

Care for those who tend to the needs of others,

especially those who assist with worship and coffee hour hosts.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age.

Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

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

We lift our prayers to you, O God,

trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation;

through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

Thanksgiving



OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you said, “Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION

Please be seated.

In response to God’s grace, it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.

If you are a member of another congregation, we encourage you to give to 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 SONG

Out in the Wilderness

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

**Driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness; driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness;
when the Spirit says, “Go,” you can’t say, “No.”**

You listen for the voice when you’re bended low; driven by the Spirit out in the wilderness.

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

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

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

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

Music: OUT IN THE WILDERNESS by Jay Beech

Text and music © 1999 Jay Beech, Baytone Music

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Performance by Abiding Grace Lutheran Church, 02/25/18

sung by Vanessa Crixell accompanied by Rober Burnell, James Crixell & Jonathan Kraatz.

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQkiNFDeINM> [3:09]

Sending

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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 reading from Psalm 32:

God will preserve you from trouble and surround you with shouts of deliverance.

God will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go and guide you every step of the way.

Trust in God and let the arms of divine grace enfold you.

Give your heart to God and shouts of joy will spring from your lips. 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 journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen**

God's love is infinite and unconditional.

As individuals we have only to accept it and live in its light.

The moment we confess, we are forgiven.

As together we gather for worship, so together we confess our sins as our community,
and together we are forgiven, restored, and made new.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, we confess:

that too often we focus on the things we lack,

that too often we are attached to our own personal agendas,

that too often we insist on doing things our own way,

that too often we are oblivious to the needs for justice around us.

God who has heard our confession both forgives and forgets every failing. **Amen!**

Loving God, teach us:

to see your amazing abundance rather than any lack,

to listen more - to you and to each other - and to talk less,

to trust in your power and not our own,

to build relationships with those who are not like us.

God who has given us the will to do these things †

graciously gives us the power to perform them. **Amen!**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!

Open your hearts!

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

And also with you!

We open them to God and one another!

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 SONG

On Eagle's Wings

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

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

Refrain

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

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

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

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

Final refrain

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

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

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

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

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Performance by St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC, 10/05/20

Bailey Slice Parker, vocalist; and Matthew Ganong; pianist

*"On Eagle's Wings" is the most popular hymn of priest, theologian,
and composer of contemporary Catholic music, Michael Joncas.*

It was released in 1979 and is sung in worship services across Christian denominations.

Father Joncas wrote the song after learning

that the father of a close friend had died of a heart attack.

He hoped it would be a source of comfort.

*We recorded this at the request of a friend, in the hopes that it would bring solace
to all families and individuals who are being affected by the coronavirus:*

the illness, the stigma, the fear, and the complexity,

not just of the disease itself but of the effect it has on our lives.

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yA2mCqS2Zic> [4:12]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Know that Christ walks with you.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Guide My Feet

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

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

*Text: based on Psalm 139.22-24, Isaiah 40.28-31, 1 Corinthians 9.24-27, Philippians 3. 12-15,
2 Timothy 4. 6-8, African American spiritual; Meter 8 8 8 10*

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

Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

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

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

CREDITS

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Announcements

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 .

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SALEM'S WATER BOTTLE CHALLENGE!

Together we raised enough to purchase not just one, but TWO pallets of water bottles, each pallet holding 84 cases, and each case holding 24 bottles for a total of 2,016 bottles! That's AWESOME, TEAM SALEM! The water went to the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Janus Center's school closet program because 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. We owe our own Cindy Roberts a huge debt of gratitude for putting together this challenge. We actually raised a bit more than the money needed for the water bottles and this will be put towards providing snacks for students who don't have enough food at home to meet their needs. Now that Salem has completed its water bottle challenge, we hope to inspire others in the Council of Churches to do the same!

Thank you for your contributions to Salem's Food Assistance Fund! 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, click on Donate, and then fill in your amount under "Food Pantry Donation".

You can also feed the hungry by helping to collect food at the following times & places:

March 18 for Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry at Stop & Shop on Main in Bridgeport

April 15 for Trumbull Food Pantry at Stop & Shop on Quality St in Trumbull

May 20 for Sterling House Food Pantry at Stop & Shop on East Main St in Stratford

June 17 for Operation Hope at Stop & Shop on Kings Hwy Cutoff in Fairfield

The Monday morning team that helps at Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry will help deliver the collections on the following Mondays. See Richard Lansing to sign up!

If you'd like to do more than feed people, you can also contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which is used to help members who have other financial needs.

March is our Diaper Drive month. Your contributions of diapers and wipes will go to help people through nOURish BRIDGEPORT, the United Congregational Church's 501c3 non-profit.

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.

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!**

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

George Herbert, hymnwriter, died 1633

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

An excellent scholar, Herbert served briefly in the English parliament, then became a parish priest. He was known for devoted care of his parishioners, as well as for writing poetry and hymns, including "Come, my way, my truth, my life." He died at age 40.

John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788; renewers of the church

03/02/23

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.