



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

5th Sunday in Lent

March 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 the rest of March.** Also, you are most welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like.

During Lent Christians are invited to journey to a place outside this earthly realm. In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection.

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=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eIIZmtiZEpadz09>

6:30 – NO 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 April 2 here at Salem AND an old-fashioned Palm Sunday Service

(not a combination of Palm and Passion) at 6:00 pm, at the Cathedral of Faith,

2319 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, with Pastor William Stafford, preaching

Holy Monday – 7:00 Cathedral of Faith, 2319 Fairfield Ave. with Pr Michon White-Bernard

Holy Tuesday – 7:00 Cathedral of Faith, 2319 Fairfield Ave. with Bishop Danny Bland

Holy Wednesday – 7:00 Cathedral of Faith, 2319 Fairfield Ave. with Pastor Jarvis Tracey

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

Made a Way

Verse 1: Standing here not knowing how We'll get through this test
But holding onto faith You know best
Nothing can catch You by surprise, You've got this
Figured out, and You're watching us now

Verse 2: But when it looks as if we can't win You wrap us in your arm and step in
Ev'rything we need, You supply, You've got this
In control, and now we know that

Chorus 1:

You made a way when our backs Were against the wall And it looked as if it was over
You, You made a way and we're standing here Only because You made a way

Verse 3: Now we're looking back on Where we've come from
Because of You and nothing we've done
To deserve the love and mercy You've shown
But Your grace was strong enough to pick us up

Bridge 1:

You move mountains, You cause walls to fall With your power, You perform miracles
There is nothing that's impossible
And we're standing here Only because You made a way

Bridge 2:

You move mountains, You cause walls to fall With Your power, You perform miracles
There is nothing that's impossible
And we're standing here Only because You made a way
And we're standing here Only because You made a way
We're standing here Only because You made a way

Chorus 2: You made a way, You made a way You made a way, You made a way

Tag:

Don't know how, but You did it, made a way Don't know how, but You did it, made a way
Don't know how but You did it Don't know how but you did it
Don't know how but You did it Don't know how but you did it

Chorus 3:

Don't know why but I'm grateful Don't know why but I'm grateful
Don't know why but I'm grateful Don't know why but I'm grateful
Don't know why but I'm grateful

Tag And we're standing here only because You made a way

CCLI Song # 7071768. Travis Greene – Reprinted with permission under CCLI #11092038.

Performance by Eastgate Church's Virtual Choir, 04/26/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tB1tBze-8yA> [6:08]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of God who calls us on a journey,
in the name of Jesus who offers to walk with us,
and in the name of the Spirit who promises to provide all we need along the way!

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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- 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.**

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

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings? Then will you pray with me?

God, we praise you because you are the Creative Energy which brings life to all matter.

Jesus, we praise you because you are the Resurrection and the Life!

Spirit, we praise you because when we invite you into our lives, you lead us into abundant life!

God, you are the author of our lives, and we are living, breathing characters in your drama.

Open our eyes so that we may see how even in sorrow and grief

you are at work within us, shaping us, molding us, changing us to be all you designed us to be.

When situations seem unbearable and irreversible and impossible,

help us to hold onto faith and hope as we wait and watch for you

to work signs and wonders and miracles.

Accept our praise and thanks this day for all that you are and for all that you do.

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

OPENING 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]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know”. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live”. I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely’. Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; O LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 11:1-45

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED.

Narrator: Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said,

Jesus: "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Narrator: Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha & her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he ... [spoke with his] disciples,

Jesus: "Let us go to Judea again."

Disciple 1: "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, & are you going there again?"

Jesus: "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them. Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."

Disciple 2: "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right."

Narrator: Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly,

Jesus: "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Narrator: Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples,

Thomas: "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Narrator: When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha ... [and] Jesus [spoke to each other],

Martha: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."

Jesus: "Your brother will rise again."

Martha: "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus: "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. Do you believe this?"

Martha: "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Narrator: When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately,

Martha: "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

Narrator: And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him,

Mary: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

Narrator: When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He ... [spoke with them],

Jesus: "Where have you laid him?"

Jew 1: "Lord, come and see."

Narrator: Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said,

Jew 2: "See how he loved him!"

Narrator: But some of them said,

Jew 3: "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Narrator: Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said,

Jesus: "Take away the stone."

Narrator: Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him,

Martha: "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."

Jesus: "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

Narrator: So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said,

Jesus: "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."

Narrator: When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: "Lazarus, come out!"

Narrator: The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them,

Jesus: "Unbind him, and let him go."

Narrator: Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary & seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

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

Please be seated.

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 have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church.

Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe,
and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for the NAACP of Greater Bridgeport,
and Scouting programs locally and around the world.

For abundant resources and full funding for Fairchild Wheeler High School and all schools
that they might have provide arts, sciences, performing arts, music, dance, sports,
& other extracurriculars, and might have dedicated and fairly compensated teachers and staff.

We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:
John Bryk and Dave Albers.

John Bryk and Dave Albers.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems.

Amplify prophetic voices to turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet & the air all around.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free all from systems of oppression.

Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia.

Raise up leaders at all levels of government to promote the dignity of every human life.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness,
especially Ann, Anne, Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane,
Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Frank, Gigi, Grace, Hazel, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Jocelyn, Joe, Joey,
John, Linda, Liz, Karen, Katherine, Pastor Kari, Marija, Natalie, Paula, Pastor Ruth, Sara, Sara
Jean, Steve, VL, and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips.

You hear us when we call to you.

Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly.

Bless Pastor Marjo, the choir, and all who lead us

in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer.

Gracious God, **receive our prayer.**

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we
remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love.

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

You Raise Me Up

- 1 When I am down and oh, my soul, so weary,
when troubles come and my heart burdened be,
then I am still and wait here in the silence
until you come and sit awhile with me.

Refrain: You raise me up so I can stand on mountains.
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas.
I am strong when I am on your shoulders.
You raise me up to more than I can be.

- 2 There is no life no life without its hunger
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly
But when You come and I am filled with wonder
Sometimes I think I glimpse eternity

Refrain: You raise me up so I can stand on mountains.
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas.
I am strong when I am on your shoulders.
You raise me up to more than I can be.

CCLI Song # 4434612

Brendan Graham | Rolf Lovland

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Performance by COLOR MUSIC Children's Choir (Dnipro/Ukraine), 09/19/19

*Audio credits: Music arranged, recorded, and produced by Olexandr Petrykov (ASPreCORDS),
sound producer of COLOR MUSIC Choir*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRcIEMgppK8> [4:02]

Sending

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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 the prophet Ezekiel, chapter 37:

Thus says the Lord GOD,,,

O my people....

I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live....

then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act...

So has God promised, and so it shall be. 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 HYMN

Awake, O Sleeper

(from the Hymnal Supplement 1991 # 813)

Refrain: Awake, O sleeper, arise from death, abandon the shadows of night;
the wind of the spirit shall be your breath, and Christ will fill you with light.

- 1** Once you were darkness, once you were lost in the shadows.
Once you were darkness, now you are children of light.

Refrain: Awake, O sleeper, arise from death, abandon the shadows of night;
the wind of the spirit shall be your breath, and Christ will fill you with light.

- 2** Live as God's people, live as God's justice and mercy,
filled with compassion, filled with the power of love.

Refrain: Awake, O sleeper, arise from death, abandon the shadows of night;
the wind of the spirit shall be your breath, and Christ will fill you with light.

- 3** Shine out with the splendor of love, shine with justice and righteousness.
Sing the music your spirit has heard, the songs of glory and light.

Refrain: Awake, O sleeper, arise from death, abandon the shadows of night;
the wind of the spirit shall be your breath, and Christ will fill you with light.

OneLicense Song # #03165

Text: based on Ephesians 5 by Marty Haugen, b. 1950;

Music: AWAKE, O SLEEPER by Marty Haugen, b. 1950;

Text and Music: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.)

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Performance by Marty Haugen on Meditation Music's YouTube Channel, 06/05/19

from his album: Anthology II: 1985-1989 – The Best of Marty Haugen

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as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X-ApQ289Fc> [3:30]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let Christ raise you to abundant life! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE SONG

I Am the Bread of Life

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 485)*

1. **"I am the Bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger,
and who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons."**

Refrain: **"And I will raise you up, & I will raise you up, & I will raise you up on the last day."**

2. **"El pan que yo daré Es mi cuerpo vida del mundo, Y el que coma de mi carne
tendrá vida eterna, tendrá vida eterna."**

Refrain: **"Yo le resucitaré, Yo le resucitaré, Yo le resucitaré el dia de El."**

5. **Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ,
the Son of God, who has come into the world.**

Refrain: **"And I will raise you up, & I will raise you up, & I will raise you up on the last day."**

Text: based on John 6, 11:25-27, John 14:1-6 by Suzanne Toolan, rsm, b. 1927,
Meter Irregular

Tune: BREAD OF LIFE, Irr. with refrain; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b. 1927;

Text © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.,

7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358)

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Performance by The University of Notre Dame Folk Choir, 04/04/18, with guest musicians

Juan Pastor on percussion, Nick Sednew on trumpet, and Matt Ulery on bass.

THE PASSION – Available now <https://lnk.to/buythepassion> Stream at <https://lnk.to/thepassion>

Watch the full-length lyric video here: <https://youtube.com/live/Kj2074TkBnM?...>

Concert for the Missions 2017 - Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

This concert was a benefit for Yancana Huasy,

a Holy Cross international mission located in Canto Grande, Lima, Peru.

*The mission is unique in its preferential care for impoverished children with disabilities
and commitment to hope, dignity and life.*

Please visit here to support their mission: FolkChoir.HolyCrossUSA.org

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dX4uC3a7RC8> [3:09]

CREDITS

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Announcements

Diapers and Wipes Drive



With the help of one Salem's parishioners, we can get diapers and wipes at a significant discount and tax-free.

So far, we have delivered packages of diapers in Sizes 3 to 7 and packages of wipes to Nourish Bridgeport.

You can help by making a check donation which will be used to buy diapers and wipes at discount. Please make the check out to **Salem Lutheran Church** and put **"Diapers and Wipes"** on the Memo line.

Or you can help by bringing your donations of diapers and wipes to the church. They will be delivered at the end of March to Nourish Bridgeport.



Salem is sponsoring monthly Food Collections at the following times & places:

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.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport announces its annual "Spring Fling" fundraiser! The event will feature the highly acclaimed and well-loved musical, "cabaret", and will be held at the Downtown Cabaret Theatre. The Council has literally "bought out the house" for **Thursday evening, May 4th**, so mark your calendars NOW!

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.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824
Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

John Donne, poet, died 1631
Friday, March 31, 2023

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.

The Interdenominational Alliance of Greater Bridgeport and Vicinity

Holy Week Services

April 2-7 Nightly
7:00PM

Cathedral of Faith
2319 Fairfield Ave
Bridgeport, CT 06605

 <p>Sun. Apr. 2 *6:00PM</p>	 <p>Mon. Apr. 3</p>	 <p>Tues. Apr. 4</p>	 <p>Wed. Apr. 5</p>	 <p>Thurs. Apr. 6</p>	 <p>Fri. Apr. 7</p>
<p>Pastor William Sutton- First Baptist Church of Stratford</p>	<p>Pastor Michon White-Bernard- Cathedral of Praise COGIC Int'l</p>	<p>Bishop Danny Bland- Revival Church</p>	<p>Pastor Jarvis Tracy- Faith and Hope Apostolic Ministries</p>	<p>Pastor Brenda J. Barnes- Vice President Faith Gospel Assembly Church</p>	<p>Pastor William D. McCullough- President Russel Temple CME Church</p>

  www.facebook.com/ima.bridgeport
www.youtube.com-IMA Bridgeport

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SALEM'S WATER BOTTLE CHALLENGE! Together we raised \$710, 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".

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!**

Easter Bunny Breakfast

APRIL 1st 9:00 - 11:00AM

Grace Lutheran Church
150 Chapel Street
Stratford, CT



Egg Hunt is FREE for a child
WITH an adult breakfast
purchase

Bring your own Basket!

Adult Breakfast: all you can eat -\$8

Child breakfast: all you can eat -\$5

3 and under are FREE

Ages 3 and under: 9:30AM

4-6 years: 10:00 AM

6-8 years: 10:30 AM

9-12 years: 11:00 AM

Easter Bunny

Visits throughout

the morning

Please contact Peggy at the front office to reserve a slot
(Walk-ins are accepted but waits may be longer)

203-375-3151

Raffle Baskets and chocolate pops for purchase
Proceeds going to the Turkey earthquake relief



YOU ARE INVITED!

2023 ANNUAL GALA
APRIL FOOLS'
MASQUERADE BALL



A Night in Disguise...

Dress in your favorite mask for our Annual Gala and be sure to wear your dancing shoes!

The proceeds from the evening will support our mission to build community and improve lives by partnering with low-income families, volunteers and donors to build decent and affordable homes in stable and welcoming neighborhoods.

Honoring...

SECOND MILE AWARD
Genworth Financial

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Daniel S. Nagel, Esq.

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You are cordially invited to Habitat CFC's April Fools' Masquerade Ball! A Special Evening of Food, Live Music & Fun awaits you!

SATURDAY
APRIL 1, 2023
6:30-11:00 PM

WOODWAY COUNTRY CLUB
540 HOYT ST, DARIEN, CT
HABITATCFC.ORG/GALA

PAYMENT INFORMATION

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(as it should appear in acknowledgements)

COMPANY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

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TOTAL PAYMENT AMOUNT _____

I am submitting this gift for a match by my employer:

CHECK ENCLOSED (payable: Habitat CFC) INVOICE ME

CHARGE MY CARD:
 AMEX MASTER CARD VISA CVV# _____

CARD# _____ EXP. _____

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NAME ON CARD _____

SIGNATURE _____

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BUY TICKETS ONLINE

Visit our event website to purchase tickets and sponsorship packages, and to register for the Silent Auction!

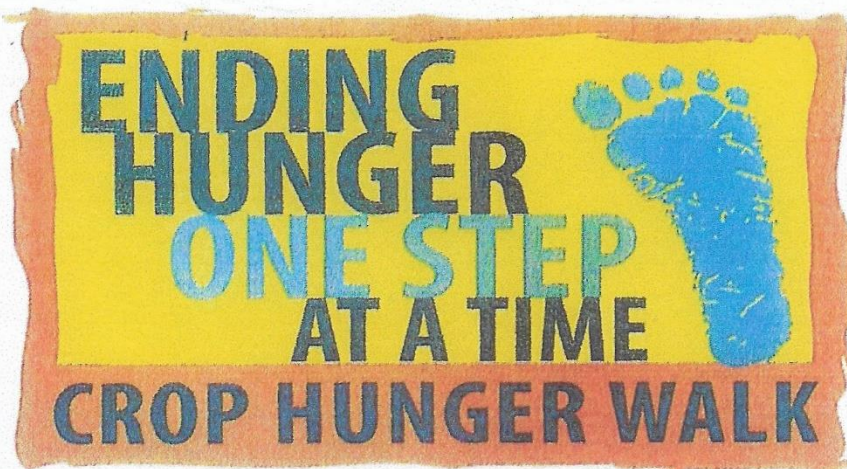
HABITATCFC.ORG/GALA



Walk With Us ... It's Our 49th!



Pick up Materials at the Rally
Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 2 PM at
UNITY HILL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
364 White Plains Road, Trumbull, CT



CROP Hunger Walk No. 49

Sunday, May 7, 2023

at 1:30 – 4:00 pm for 2+ mile walk (Rain or Shine)

at United Congregational Church
2200 North Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

25 % of monies raised goes to hunger related programs in the Bridgeport Area.
For more info, call 203-375-1284 or go to www.crophungerwalk.org/bridgeportct



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE



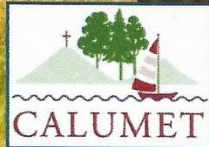
Gather

Play

Wonder

Grow

Explore



2023



- All year long —
- **Conference Center rooms & Village Cabins**
 - **Lakeside Bunk Cabins (heated or unheated)**
 - **Retreat Lodge & Staff House on the Lake**
 - **Great Home-Cooking & Superb Hospitality**

Whether you're taking time for quiet, self-care or enjoying retreat time with others ...
We're ready for you!

Calumet's iconic *Resident Camp for Kids* has been impacting lives of campers and staff for over 60 years. From the very beginning, way back in 1960, Calumet has been able to point to the life-long relationships and authentic connections made here as evidence that Calumet and the Calumet Spirit is simply unique. We're ready for you!

The 65-site *Family Campground* is open May-October. Adults & Families visit here and enjoy the outdoors while getting to know their campsite neighbors.
** RVs, Pop-ups, Tent-camping, & Platform rentals **
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