



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*The 4th Sunday
of Easter*

*April 30, 2023
9:30 AM*



The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
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3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
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www.salembridgeport.org
www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome to Worship!

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 for when we have coffee hour or adult forums there.** Also, you are most welcome to wear a mask at worship if you'd like.

The 4th Sunday of the 7-week Easter Season (a week of weeks!) is celebrated as “Good Shepherd Sunday”. Every year on this Sunday we read the 23rd Psalm. And every year we have a reading from the 10th chapter of the gospel of John (year A–vss 1-10, year B–vss 11-18, and year C–vss 22-30). God’s deepest desire has always been that his children love him with all of their hearts, minds, souls & bodies, but sin has separated us from God and cut us off from the riches God wants to supply, So God sent Jesus to model for us how we are to live, and through his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension he has opened the Door to a whole new kind of life. As we walk through that door we discover something beyond ordinary human existence – an extraordinary abundant life that comes through the inpouring and transforming work of the Holy Spirit.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has resumed. the time has been changed to 7:00 to accommodate some other Salem members. Inspired by the book, Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry by John Stott, we have begun a study of **1 Corinthians 1-4**, As you may know, Paul wrote to congregations who were facing challenges just as we are facing in the church today, and so we will be listening to how God is speaking to Salem and the church at large through Paul’s words. This week we’ll be reflecting on with 1 Corinthians 2. **If you are interested in Salem’s future, we do hope you will take this opportunity to join us!**

The JOURNEY continues! How did your Lenten disciplines go? Maybe you did well, maybe you did so-so, and maybe you failed miserably – or maybe your results were mixed. Whatever your success or failure, remember that the purpose was to establish NEW healthier habits of body, mind, heart and soul. And that’s an ongoing task. If you’ve done well, continue! If you haven’t, well, you’ve got 7 weeks of Easter to try again! And so, you can still...

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. Call in to our prayer line at 681-999-0232, using access code 673980#, at noon Mon-Fri for a brief time of prayer.

You can remain silent and anonymous, ask for particular prayers, or offer your own prayers.

3. Begin an Easter 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.

There will be no worship here at 3160 Park Avenue next Sunday. Instead we invite Salem members to join 1st Presbyterian Church, 2475 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield, for their 10:30 traditional service, and also for their 9:00 contemporary service.

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC He Shall Feed His Flock from The Messiah by G. F. Handel

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd
and He shall gather the lambs with his arm, with his arm.
And carry them in his bosom
and gently lead those that are with young
Come unto Him all ye that labour.
Come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden
and He will give you rest.
Take his yoke upon you and learn of Him
for He is meek and lowly of heart
and ye shall find rest unto your souls

*Text & Music by George Frideric Handel
This song is in the Public Domain.*

The performances are by:

HARMONIOUS CHORALE – GHANA

*Harmonious Impressions on G.F Handel's work, A BEAUTIFUL CHRISITMAS 2 #ABC –
Video: Take2Films; Audio: Mido Productions; Stage/Lights/Production: Iam Adinkra
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQDG3D7PLo0> [6:13]*

*Regula Mühlemann, Weihnachtskonzert für den Bundespräsidenten ZDF 2017
Neue Philharmonie Westfalen Rasmus Baumann, Leitung;
Wallfahrtskirche St. Marien - Marienbasilika Kevelaer
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUIO5rse8zM> [5:17]*

*Collegium 1704, Václav Luks
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsoEg6h6EXc> [4:00]*

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome, in the name of God who has from the beginning cared for his flock like a shepherd!
Welcome, in the name of Jesus who came to earth to be that Good Shepherd!
And welcome, in the name of the Spirit through whom God in Christ continues to shepherd us!

It is so good to be here!

Thank you for joining us today! Thank you, those of you who are here in person with us!
And thank you, those of you out there in cyber space, wherever – and whenever! – you are!

For those of you who don't know me,

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

To find out more about our ministry or to contact us,

you can go to our website SalemBridgeport.org, to our Facebook page, SalemBridgeport, and to our YouTube channel, Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT.

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –

which has both the order of worship and announcements – as well as other resources are included on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

FYI, I will be away at our annual New England Synod Deans' retreat all day Wed & Thu.

We invite you to join our weekday noon prayer via the conference line listed in today's bulletin, our Wednesday noon prayer on zoom, and our Wednesday 7:00 Bible Study on zoom.

We hope to see most of you at the Council of Churches' Spring Fling this Thu at 6:00
at the Bridgeport Downtown Cabaret Theatre

There will be no worship here at 3160 Park Avenue next Sunday.

Instead we invite Salem members to join 1st Presbyterian Church, 2475 Easton Tnpk, Ffd
for their 10:30 traditional service, and also for their 9:00 contemporary service.

Please note that all zoom links can be found on our calendar on our website
and more info on upcoming events, see our worship bulletin at SalemBridgeport.org/Live

Any other announcements? Any prayer requests or God-sightings?
Then, let's begin our worship with prayer!

God, you are amazing! You are awesome! You are astounding!

We have come to praise you, to thank you, to bless you, to glorify you!

All that we are and all that we have comes from your gracious hand.

We are nothing without you.

You gave us the gift of the law and the prophets that we might live rightly and fully.

And when that wasn't enough, you became incarnate in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

We thank you that through his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension,

you have opened the door to the abundant life you give.

We thank you, that by your Spirit, you draw us through that door

into an extraordinary adventure in which we find both

challenge and victory, despair and hope, sorrow and joy.

Transform our hearts and minds this day by drawing us closer to you.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit. Amen!

OPENING HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill,
for thou art with me and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou hast richly spread
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forever more
My dwelling place shall be.**

The Lord's My Shepherd (Tune: Crimond - 5vv) [with lyrics for congregations]

*Text : "The Lord's My Shepherd" is a metrical version of Psalm 23
by the English politician Francis Rous,
probably published in 1641 in 'The Psalmes of David in English Meeter'.
Meter 8 6 8 6 (C M)*

*Music: CRIMOND by Jessie S. Irvine in 1872.
It is named after the Scottish village of Crimond in Aberdeenshire,
where her father was the minister.*

Performance by Liverpool Cathedral choir and brass ensemble.,

Video backgrounds by Matthias Groeneveld from Pixabay,

produced by Chet Valley Churches, 10/04/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3hNZT6ddJg> [2:49]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: Acts 2:42-47

[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters.

You restore my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 10:1-10 *You may stand if you so desire.*

[Jesus said:] “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

Affirmation of Baptism

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION

Those making affirmation and their sponsors may gather with the minister at the font.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for this person, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism.

Those making affirmation are presented by a sponsor.

Sponsor: We present Rachel Cake Elie who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister,
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.
You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished her in the community of faith.
Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.
We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

You may stand if you so desire.

I ask you, Cake, and all of you who are gathered here,
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

AFFIRMATION

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support this sister and pray for her in her life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit

you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

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

PRAYER FOR THE SPIRIT

The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

Stir up in Rachel Cake and in each person gathered here the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence,

both now and forever. **Amen**

WELCOME

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly.

Sponsor:

Through Baptism God has brought this sister in Christ

to be part of God's family here at Salem, Bridgeport,

where we meet to encounter God, build relationships and change lives.

We welcome you into the God's family here at Salem.

We receive you as a child of the same heavenly Father and a member of Christ's body,

as we praise God, serve our neighbor,

and witness to what God has done, is doing, and will do – for us, in us, and through us!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please be seated.

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us 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.

You are the shepherd who gathers us in your mighty and loving arms.

Help your church to listen for your voice,

especially when the voices of sin, idolatry, and oppression threaten to overpower us.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

We pray for all students, especially those at Fairchild Wheeler High School

that they grow in confidence and in their desire to learn, to dream, and to accomplish.

And we pray for Salem members and their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:

Howard Swanson, and Bonnie McWain.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The green pastures, still waters, and dark valleys of this earth all belong to you, O Lord.

Sustain your creation with a love that is both mighty and just.

Where there is destruction, bring healing. Where there is desolation, bring abundance.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You proclaim shepherding love, comfort, and protection for all people and all of creation.

Direct leaders in our own time to learn from your example and instruction.

Give them servant hearts, that they generously seek the good of all.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You journey with us wherever our paths may lead.

We pray for those feeling overwhelmed by anxiety or depression or suffering in any way, especially Ann, Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, Gigi, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob, Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Linda, Liz, Karen, Katherine, Marija, Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Paula, Pastor Ruth, Sara, Sara Jean, Steve, Tyler, and VL and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips.

thank you for the healing you have worked and are working in Anne and Pastor Kari.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are the sheeppath that gives safety to your beloved flocks.

Provide protection for refugees, victims of domestic violence, those who are imprisoned, and all people who are vulnerable to violence and mistreatment.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call your sheep by name and lead them through the valley of death.

We give you thanks for those who have died and now dwell in your house forever, especially Hazel, Frank, Grace, and Alan.

Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

Thanksgiving

OFFERING PRAYER

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

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



OFFERING INVITATION *Please be seated.*

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

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

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)*

**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 Fahnestock, 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]

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

First of all, please join us for a special coffee hour as we have a CAKE for CAKE!

I'll be away at our annual New England Synod Deans' retreat all day Wed & Thu.

We invite you to join our weekday noon prayer via the conference line listed in today's bulletin, our Wednesday noon prayer on zoom, and our Wednesday 7:00 Bible Study on zoom.

We hope to see most of you at the Council of Churches' Spring Fling this Thu at 6:00 at the Bridgeport Downtown Cabaret Theatre

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Instead we invite Salem members to join 1st Presbyterian Church, 2475 Easton Tnpk, Ffd for their 10:30 traditional service, and also, if you can, for their 9:00 contemporary service.

Please note that all zoom links can be found on our calendar on our website and more info on upcoming events, see our worship bulletin at 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 together, you can reach me through our website or Facebook.

BLESSING

As we say good-bye to our online worshippers,

I'd like to offer this blessing to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and online: based on our reading from Psalm 23:

God loves you SO much and wants you to want for nothing!

God is always there, ready to restore your soul and guide you according to his will.

Even when you are afraid, God is with you.

And when evil rises up against you as you follow where God leads,

God will celebrate you in the sight of those who worked against you.

God wants to pour joy into your heart so that it overflows on everyone around you.

And God will pursue you with goodness and mercy now and forevermore. 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

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

as recorded by Michael W. Smith

You may stand if you so desire.

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood God's mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; God's Word my hope secures.
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood God's mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood God's mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;
but God, you called me here below, will be forever mine, will be forever mine.
You are forever mine. We are forever thine.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood God's mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood God's mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.
unending love, amazing grace, , unending love, amazing grace.**

CCLI Song # 4768151

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

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Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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Performance by the Virtual Choir of Mount Carmel Christian Church, 06/25/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IjWPJlj4dU> [4:40]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live into the fullness of ABUNDANT LIFE that all might want what you have!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE SONG Surrounded (Fight My Battles)

Verse 1

There's a table that You've prepared for me In the presence of my enemies
It's Your body and Your blood You shed for me This is how I fight my battles

Pre-Chorus

And I believe You've overcome And I will lift my song of praise For all You've done

Chorus

This is how I fight my battles (3X) (This is how)
This is how I fight my battles (3X) (This is how)

Verse 2

In the valley I know that You're with me And surely Your goodness and Your mercy follow me
So my weapons are praise and thanksgiving This is how I fight my battles

Bridge

It may look like I'm surrounded But I'm surrounded by You
It may look like I'm surrounded But I'm surrounded by You

Bridge

My victory's in Jesus' name (My victory's in Jesus' name)
My victory's in Jesus' name (My victory's in Jesus' name)

CCLI Song # 7098758

Elyssa Smith

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Performance by Worship Team of Real Life Christian Church, Orlando, FL, 06/12/19
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8kCGcSfYc0> [3:03]

CREDITS

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Announcements

On Thursday, May 4 the Council of Churches will once again hold its Spring Fling fundraiser at the Downtown Cabaret Theatre, 263 Golden Hill Street, Bridgeport. The show is “Cabaret”. The \$85. cost per person includes a reception and the show. Salem has always been a strong supporter of this event and we hope we will again have good representation for this major fundraiser. For more information see Sandra Brown, Bonnie McWain or Tom Larson or contact info@ccgtb.org or call 203-334-1121 X 10.

For tickets go to: <https://ccgb.salsalabs.org/springfling2023/index.html>

Can't go but wish to make a donation? <https://ccgb.salsalabs.org/springfling2023/index.html>



About the Show...

In a Berlin nightclub, as the 1920's draw to a close, a garish Master of Ceremonies welcomes the audience and assures them they will forget all their troubles at the *Cabaret*. With the Emcee's bawdy songs as wry commentary, *Cabaret* explores the dark, heady, and tumultuous life of Berlin's natives and expatriates as Germany slowly yields to the emerging Third Reich. Cliff, a young American writer newly arrived in Berlin, is immediately taken with English singer Sally Bowles. Meanwhile, Fräulein Schneider, proprietor of Cliff and Sally's boarding house, tentatively begins a romance with Herr Schultz, a mild-mannered fruit seller who happens to be Jewish. Musical numbers include "Willkommen," "Cabaret," "Don't Tell Mama" and "Two Ladies."

May 4, 2023

6:15 pm Reception at City Lights Gallery, 265 Golden Hill Street

7:00 pm Program, Downtown Cabaret, 263 Golden Hill Street

7:30 pm THE SHOW!

Tickets are \$85 per person

Worship Locations for April, May and June

We are a congregation that gathers to worship God and receive God's word. We are a congregation that loves God and are sent to witness to and serve God's people. Where we gather together is not as important as that we do gather together to worship, learn, witness, and serve. We worship as Salem in the Ephraim French SDA Church building at 3160 Park Avenue in Bridgeport, CT. *There will be no service at 3160 Park Avenue on Sundays when our congregation will be worshipping with other congregations.*

Please mark your calendar for the location & times of our worship services through June:

May 7	9:00	First Presbyterian Church (<i>Contemporary Service</i>), 2475 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield
May 7	10:30	First Presbyterian Church (<i>Traditional Service</i>), 2475 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield
May 14	9:30	at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport
May 21	10:00	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Rd, Fairfield
May 28	9:30	at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport
June 4	9:30	at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford
June 11	9:30	at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport
June 18	9:30	at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport (<i>Semi-annual meeting</i>)
June 25	9:30	at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE DIAPER & WIPE DRIVE! We are still in need of approximately \$500 to meet our goal and will receive your donation with great gratitude!

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

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!

nOURish BRIDGEPORT's Hydroponic Farm is now open to the public. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 11 to 1. Come purchase leafy greens & herbs at 1895 Stratford Ave, Stratford.

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".

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 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.

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

Philip and James, Apostles

Monday, May 1, 2023

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and called Nathanael to "come and see". He later responded to an Ethiopian official's request for teaching and baptism. Little is known of James, the son of Alphaeus, called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James.

Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Best remembered for defending the teaching that Christ was fully God against those who taught otherwise, Athanasius was an influential church leader around the time of the Council of Nicea. He was banished from Alexandria five times for his forthright views.

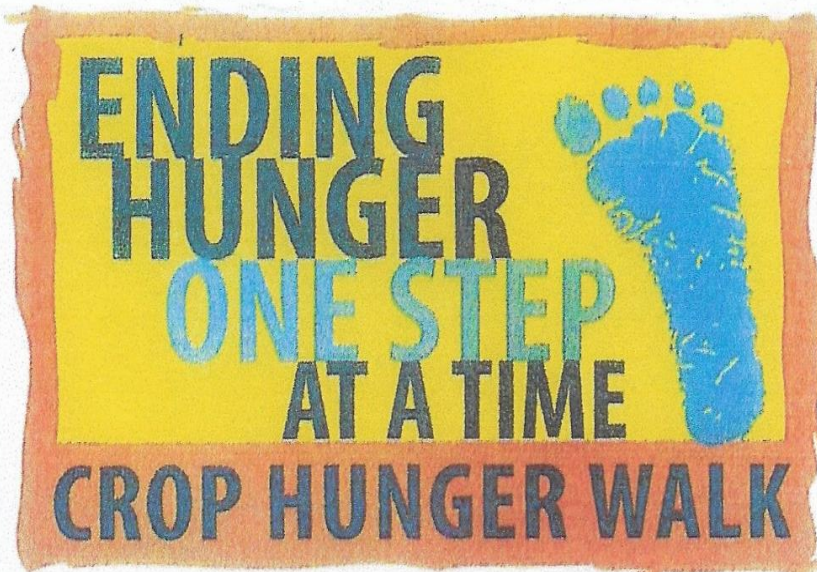
Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.



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



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



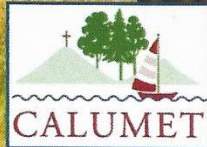
Gather

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