



# Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of Easter*

**May 14, 2023  
9:30 AM**



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

# 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.

**This is the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the 7-week Easter Season (a week of weeks!), and also the Sunday before the Ascension.** The Ascension always occurs on a Thursday since it is 40 days after Easter, and is the last great feast before Pentecost, which is 50 days after Easter. When the disciples experience fear at the thought of Jesus leaving them (again!), Jesus explains that he must ascend to heaven so that he might send the Holy Spirit on them. Now, of course it is not the first time the Holy Spirit has come to earth. Indeed it was the creative Spirit/Wind/Breath of God that blew over the waters of chaos at the beginning of creation, that allowed God to speak creation into being, and that breathed life into human beings. The fact that we are alive and breathing means that we, like every human being, have this divine breath/Spirit within us. But what Jesus promised was something more – an indwelling of the Spirit that would empower those on whom it was poured to do even greater things than Jesus did. The Bible teaches that baptism and the receiving of this Spirit are 2 different things.

**Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has resumed and the time is now 7:00 as we study 1 Corinthians 1-4.** The study is inspired by the book, Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry by John Stott. As you know, Paul wrote to congregations who were facing challenges, and so we will be listening to how God is speaking to congregations today through Paul's words. This week we'll continue looking at 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? How is your Easter discipline going? Maybe you've done well, maybe you've done so-so, and maybe you've failed miserably – or maybe your results have been mixed. Whatever your success or failure, remember that the purpose is 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 2 more 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](mailto: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.

**Come and join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Cafe around the virtual "inner-View Chat & Chew Table Saturday at 11:00 on zoom** as we share our thoughts on "decision making". What tools/tricks have you used/are using to help you make decisions?

**There will be NO WORSHIP HERE at 3160 Park Avenue next Sunday. Instead we invite Salem members to join Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield, for their 10:00 service.**

# Gathering

## GATHERING SONG    I Love You, Lord, and I Lift My Voice

*as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,  
This Far by Faith # 288 and Worship & Praise # 67)*

### *Chorus*

**I love You Lord And I lift my voice To worship You O my soul rejoice  
Take joy my King In what You hear May it be a sweet sweet sound In Your ear**

*CCLI Song # 25266*

*Text: based on Psalm 18:1, 40:16, I John 4:19, by Laurie Klein; Meter 9 9 10*

*Music: I LOVE YOU, LORD by Laurie Klein*

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*CCLI License # 11092038*

*Performance # 1 by The Asidors, Bree, Zian, Ashia, Westin, Hunter, & Elle, 02/18/22*

*I Love You Lord & I Lift My Voice AND My Jesus I Love Thee*

*Arranged, Mixed and Mastered by: Huly Ray Asidor, Video Production: Winner Asidor*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtGEta-aajU> [5:37]*

*Performance # 2 by the praise team of Allon Chapel Seventh Day Adventist Church,*

*For more information about the church please visit [www.allonchapel.com](http://www.allonchapel.com)*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4D5uJSQUcU> [4:48]*

*Performance # 3 by SoongSil OB Male Choir, 07/29/13*

*HoJoong Lee, Conductor; SoYoung Min, Accompanist*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhnN9nxykPA> [3:22]*

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

## WELCOME

Welcome, in the name of God who was incarnate in Jesus!

Welcome, in the name of Jesus who asked God to send us the Spirit!

And welcome, in the name of the Spirit who not only walks WITH us, but desires to live IN us!

Welcome, and a happy mother's day to all mothers!

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](http://SalemBridgeport.org), to our Facebook page, SalemBridgeport, and to our YouTube channel, Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT.

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –

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

**We invite you to join us for coffee hour after worship today.**

**We also invite you to our weekday noon prayer via the conference line,**

**our Wednesday noon prayer on zoom, and our Wednesday 7:00 Bible Study on zoom.**

**Come and join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Cafe**

**around the virtual "inner-View Chat & Chew Table Saturday at 11:00 on zoom**  
as we share our thoughts on "decision making".

What tools/tricks have you used/are using to help you make decisions?

**Please note that all zoom links can be found on our calendar on our website**

**& more info on upcoming events, see our worship bulletin at [SalemBridgeport.org/Live](http://SalemBridgeport.org/Live)**

**There will be NO WORSHIP HERE at 3160 Park Avenue next Sunday.**

**Instead we invite Salem members to join Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,**

**60 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield, for their 10:00 service.**

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings? Then let's begin worship w/prayer!

God, you are so good! All that we are and all that we have comes from you!

Thank you for calling us to be your people!

Thank you for gathering us together as your people here at Salem!

Thank you for enlightening our minds through the hearing and studying of your Word!

Thank you for sanctifying us by drawing us deeper into relationship with you through prayer!

Thank you for keeping this congregation for the past 135 years!

Thank you that you have a plan & a purpose, not only for each one of us, but for this congregation!

And thank you for being a faithful God who has fulfilled, is fulfilling, & will fulfill every promise!

Transform our bodies, minds, hearts and spirits right here and right now.

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

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 404)*

- 1 Come, gracious Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
with light and comfort from above.  
Come, be our guardian and our guide;  
o'er ev'ry thought and step preside.**
- 2 The light of truth to us display  
and make us know and choose your way;  
plant holy fear in ev'ry heart,  
that we from God may ne'er depart.**
- 3 Lead us to Christ, the living way,  
nor let us from his pastures stray.  
Lead us in holiness, the road  
that we must take to dwell with God.**
- 4 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share  
fullness of joy forever there;  
lead us to our eternal rest,  
to be with God forever blest.**

*Text: based on John 14:17, 16:13-15, Hebrews 4:9-10, 12:14  
by Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt; Meter L M*

*Music: HERR JESU CHRIST, MEINS, German folk tune, 15th cent.*

*Text & Music are in the Public Domain*

*Performance by Tim McNabb, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
Halifax Lutheran Church, 02/25/21*

*Hymn 404 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #490/655 in our hymn series.  
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8zCjIUIvF4> [2:18]*

# Word

*Please be seated.*

## **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: Acts 17:22-31**

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god’. What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring’.

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

## **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 66:8-20**

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

**Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows —**

those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;

**I will give you oxen and goats.**

Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.**

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

## **A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 14:15-21**     *You may stand if you so desire.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

**SERMON**

*Please be seated.*

**Pastor Marjo**

*You may stand if you so desire.*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith together.

**We believe in God who created us and all that is,  
who loves us and desires our love in return.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.**

**And being found in human form, he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
& every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God our Creator.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who calls us into relationship with God,  
who gathers us in relationship with the whole human family,  
who enlightens our minds, enlarges our hearts, and enables our bodies,  
and who sanctifies us by helping us to grow in faith and hope and obedience to God's will.**

**It is this Triune God – the three in one and one in three – whom we worship and adore  
and to whom we offer all that we are and all that we have. Amen**

## **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.*

United in the hope & joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, & all in need.

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

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us  
and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth.

Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love.

We pray for our mission partners,

especially today for Camp Calumet Lutheran, and United Lutheran Seminary.

We pray for Fairchild Wheeler High School & for all parents, grandparents, & other caretakers  
to be encouraged and have the necessary resources

to support the success, wellbeing, and thriving of their children.

And we pray for Salem members and their families,

especially those celebrating birthdays last week and this week:

Joan Bromley, Nancy D'Andrea, Bev Marshall, Andy Andrews, and Maria Caragol

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

All the earth sings praises to you.

Grant your care to creatures, plants & places that are suffering & equip us to respond to their song.

Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation.

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

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly,

and work through each one of us to set the oppressed free and to speak truth to power

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

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace.

Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone,

and to all who are grieving, injured, or sick, especially Ann, Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave,

David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dick, Dolores, Dorothy, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob,

Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Linda, Liz, Karen, Pastor Kari, 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.

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

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures.

Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers,

anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child.

Support all for whom this day is difficult.

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

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things.

We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints.

Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory.

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.

*(Text as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship books,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 392)*

- 1 **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;  
 Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.  
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:  
 "Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."**
  
- 2 **Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;  
 Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.  
 Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,  
 shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?**
  
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;  
 Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.  
 Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea  
 where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
  
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
 Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.  
 As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,  
 here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.
  
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;  
 Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.  
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:  
 "Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

*Text: based on Matthew 28:20, Luke 24:51, Acts 1:9, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 9:11-14  
 Revelation 5:9, 14:2, by William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.; Meter 8 7 8 7 D*

*Music: HYFRYDOL by Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887*

*Text & Music are in the Public Domain*

*Performance by First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln, NE, 11/23/14*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2O\\_b\\_aqrPw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2O_b_aqrPw) [4:19]*

# Sending

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We invite you to join us for coffee hour after worship today.**

**We also invite you to our weekday noon prayer via the conference line,  
our Wednesday noon prayer on zoom, and our Wednesday 7:00 Bible Study on zoom.**

**Come and join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Cafe  
around the virtual "inner-View Chat & Chew Table Saturday at 11:00 on zoom  
as we share our thoughts on "decision making".**

**What tools/tricks have you used/are using to help you make decisions?**

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**There will be NO WORSHIP HERE at 3160 Park Avenue next Sunday.  
Instead we invite Salem members to join Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,  
60 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield, for their 10:00 service.**

## 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 John 14:

Love Jesus, for in loving Jesus you will keep his commandments  
and you will never be alone, for God will send the Spirit to live in you always.  
And when the Spirit lives in you, Jesus will reveal himself to you,  
and you will know the amazing, awesome, abundant life God has planned for you! 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

## Shout to the Lord

*(While this is the WOW Worship arrangement, this song can be found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, # 821)*

### *Verse*

**My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You;  
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.  
My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength;  
let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.**

### *Chorus*

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.**

### *Verse*

**My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You;  
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.  
My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength;  
let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.**

### *Chorus*

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Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.**

*CCLI Song # 1406918*

*Darlene Zschech*

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*CCLI License # 11092038*

*Performance by COS Treehouse, 07/26/13*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhW6lygfyLA> [3:34]*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

The Spirit walks with you. Invite the Spirit to live in you. And your life will never be the same!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE HYMN

### A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

*(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 393)*

- 1 A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
and with his faithful foll'wers see their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 To whom the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"This is the Savior!" thus they say, "this is his glorious triumph day!" Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 "You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty." Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia!

*Text: based on Luke 24:50-53, Colossians 3:1,*

*by Bede, 673–735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Meter 8 8 8 8 and alleluias*

*Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623*

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*Performance by Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN 05/21/20*

*Introduction: Ascension of Our Lord (05/25/17); Stanzas: Ascension of Our Lord 05/10/18)*

*Cantor David Cherwien, organ*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZwgYXezoX8> [6:08]*

## CREDITS

*From sundaysandseasons.com.*

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# Announcements

## 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 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 (*Adult forum*)  
June 18 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport (*Semi-annual meeting*)  
June 25 9:30 at 3160 Park Ave, Bridgeport

## **THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE DIAPER & WIPE DRIVE!**

We needed \$1,320 to meet our goal, and thanks to God's goodness and your generosity, we not only met it, but went over by \$60, which we have donated to nOURishBRIDGEPORT! God is good! All the time!

**THANK YOU ALSO TO THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE 49<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CROP WALK IN GREATER BRIDGEPORT!** Thanks to Cindy Roberts (our captain), Susan Murphy and Wes Murphy and their 2 dogs, and Pastor Marjo for walking, and to all who donated money to this effort for a total of \$620 which will go to feed hungry people locally and globally.

**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!

**The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport will be holding its annual meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Golden Hill United Methodist Church, 210 Elm Street.** Our very own Pastor Marjo will be the preacher for the evening.

**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.



**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.

**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.

**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**

### **Matthias, Apostle**

**Sunday, May 14, 2023**

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot.

He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry.

Formerly commemorated on February 24,

Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

### **Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160**

**Thursday, May 18, 2023**

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden.

As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia.

He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.



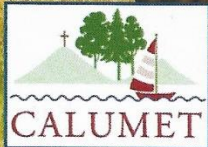
Gather

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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The 65-site *Family Campground* is open May-October. Adults & Families visit here and enjoy the outdoors while getting to know their campsite neighbors.  
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