




Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

***6th Sunday
after Pentecost***

***July 9, 2023
9:30 AM***



**Come to me,
all who labor and
are heavy laden,
and I will
give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28

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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.

On this Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, we are reminded once again that the mystery of God's ways is often hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus did not choose to associate with those who held power and prestige, but with those who were experiencing bigotry, discrimination, and oppression on a daily basis. Sadly the religious community of Jesus' day supported those in power and judged those who were powerless. The same is true today and Paul explains why this is so: we are bound by sin and cannot free ourselves from the evil that comes to steal, kill and destroy us. That is exactly why God sent Jesus, and why Jesus asked God to send the Spirit: so that the Spirit would lead us to life and to life abundant. When we cast our burdens upon the Lord, we find ourselves refreshed by Jesus' invitation: "Come to me, all who are weary". Gathered to worship the God of all power and love, we find rest for our souls.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study continues at 7:00 on zoom 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. Paul wrote to congregations who were facing challenges, and God is still speaking to us today through Paul's words. This week we'll continue looking at 1 Corinthians 4, in which Paul discusses the role of church leaders **If you are interested in Salem's future, we do hope you will take this opportunity to join us!**

We have been invited by Congregation B'nai Israel, 2710 Park Avenue, to join them this Thursday at 5:30 for a half hour of food and fellowship prior to watching the anti-racism documentary film, "Free Renty", about Tamara Lanier's court case against Harvard to obtain the photos of her enslaved ancestor. Following the film, the plaintiff and one of her attorneys will speak about the ongoing case. Please share this invitation with family, friends, and social networks. For more info, go to: <https://www.freerentyfilm.com/>

Calumet's Walk the Walk 2023 -- "On the Road Again!" This year's theme is, "On the Road Again!" because 2023 will mark the return of partnership between Walk the Walk and Reach the Beach. Learn more by visiting www.calumet.org/ontheroadagain

In 2023, participants (walk, bike, hike, stroll, roll, swim) will:

REGISTER beginning May 15,

WALK beginning July 30,

REPORT mileage on August 15, August 30, and,

ENTER final report on Saturday, September 16.

The total mileage goal will depend on the total number of registrants.

Also, Calumet is asking that every single congregation pick an option:

Option 1 – Be a sponsoring congregation of "Calumet 2023 -- On the Road Again"

by providing an Angel Donor gift by September 16 which will support the Annual Fund.

Option 2 -- Identify one or more people (members of the congregation or not) to Walk the Walk as a way of representing their congregation in this big event.

Option 3 -- Both options 1 and 2!

TO REGISTER TO WALK (\$25 tax-deductible fee) GO TO:

<https://www.calumet.org/giving/ontheroadagain> & register for Team "Salem, Bridgeport"!

Gathering

GATHERING HYMN

Day by Day

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 790)*

- 1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest.**

- 2 Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow, I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow till in glory I behold your face.**

- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.**

Text: based on Isaiah 49:14-15 & Lamentations 3:22-23

by Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005; Meter 10 9 10 9 D

Music: BLOTT EN DAG by Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813-1882

Tr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

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Performance # 1 by Mary Munson, 09/30/21

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jd8e3QPrMfA> [2:45]

*Performance # 2 by Tim McNabb, Evangelical Lutheran church of the Resurrection, Halifax,
10/07/22, Accompaniment Style: Piano Ballad*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvzt1Zop85k> [3:10]

Performance # 3 by Cantor David Cherwien, piano

& Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, 07/05/20

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pH51jqDyIxM> [4:03]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome, in the name of God –
the God of the Sabbath, the Christ who promises us rest, and the Spirit who gives us peace.

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 you are – and whenever you happen to watching!

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.

**You are invited to our weekday prayer call at noon on our conference line,
to our Wednesday Prayer Gathering at noon on zoom,
and to our Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:00 on zoom.**

**All of our zoom events can be found on the Calendar under the Resources tab
on our website: SalemBridgeport.org**

On Thursday, at 5:30, we have been invited by Congregation B'nai Israel,
down the road on Park Avenue here in Bridgeport for a 1/2 hour of food and fellowship
before watching the documentary film, Free Renty,
about Tamara Lanier's court case against Harvard
to obtain the photos of her enslaved ancestor.

Following the film, the plaintiff and one of her attorneys will speak about the ongoing case.

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

God, we come to praise you, to magnify you, and to bless your holy name!

We come to thank you that you have a plan and a purpose for each of our lives,
and a plan and a purpose for this congregation.

We thank you for your promise to lead us and guide us, to protect and shield us,
and to provide us with signs to lead us along the way.

We thank you for all the ways that you speak to us and show up in our daily lives.

Tune our ears to better hear you, sharpen our eyes to better see you,
and give us the patience and faith to follow you wherever you go.

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

OPENING HYMN What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 742)*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!**
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged –
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness –
take it to the Lord in prayer.**
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge –
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.**

*Text: based on Psalm 41:9, Matthew 11:28-30, 21:22, Mark 11:24, Luke 7:34
John 15:13-15, by Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886, Meter 8 7 8 7 D*

Music: CONVERSE, ERIE, Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

This hymn is in the Public Domain.

*Performance by the Reverend Marjo Anderson,
Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, CT, 02/27/21*

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

[Laban, Rebekah's brother, received a visitor who said,] ³⁴“I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵God has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; God has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and God has given him all that he has. ³⁷My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son’.

⁴²“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! ⁴³I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink”, ⁴⁴and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also” — let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son’.

⁴⁵“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink’. ⁴⁶She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels’. So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him’. So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

⁵⁸And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will”. ⁵⁹So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. ⁶⁰And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes”.

⁶¹Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

⁶²Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. ⁶³Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. ⁶⁴And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, ⁶⁵and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master”. So she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 145:8-14

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.

All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,

that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words,
and loving in all your works.

The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

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

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

You may stand if you so desire.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn’.

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH for the season of Pentecost

Let us affirm our faith together.

Through the Holy Spirit God created the heavens and the earth.

Inspired by the Spirit of God we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives.

We believe there are many gifts, but the same Spirit.

There are many ways of serving, but the same Lord.

There are many sorts of abilities, but it is the same God

who activates all of them in everyone for the sole purpose of doing God's will.

To each child of God is given an expression of the Spirit for the common good.

Through baptism in the Spirit, God confers the gifts of

wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge

and awe at God's boundless power and joy in God's endless love.

The Spirit also manifests in such gifts as healing, prophetic insight,

speaking in tongues, extraordinary ability, witness, and service.

The Spirit's living presence in us is demonstrated by our fruits:

love & joy, peace & patience, faithfulness, goodness, kindness, gentleness & self-control

all of which are activated by one and the same Spirit,

who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses,

to the glory of God and the joy of humankind. 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.

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns,
let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

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

God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world.
Inspire pastors, deacons, and all ministers of your word as they carry out your work.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for Christ Presbyterian Church
and the Ephraim French Seventh Day Adventist Church.

We pray for all schools, and especially Fairchild Wheeler High School,
to be free of violence and disruptive behavioral challenges.

And we pray for Salem members & their families.

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

God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made:
rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species.

Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, & wildlife sanctuaries.

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

God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace.

Guide government leaders at all levels — national, state/province, and local —
to work for justice, mercy, reconciliation,

and an end to systemic racism and all forms of bigotry, oppression, and discrimination.

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

God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick,

consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught.

Send whatever is needed to your children, especially Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, Dave,
David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dolores, Dorothy, Eric, the family and friends of Isabelle, Jacob,
Janice, Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Karen, Pastor Kari, Katherine, Kevyn, Linda, Liz, Marija,
Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Pastor Paula, the family and friends of Phil, Sara, Sara
Jean, Sasha, Steve, Tyler and VL, and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips....

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

God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament.

Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today.

Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment.

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

God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action.

May your spirit work in us in all our life contexts and relationships

to create beloved community where diversity is embraced by unity.

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

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

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray,

in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, 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

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 your home congregation 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 **If You But Trust in God to Guide You**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 769)*

- 1 If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.**
- 2 What gain is there in anxious weeping,
in helpless anger and distress?
If you are in your Savior's keeping,
in sorrow will he love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.**
- 3 The Lord our restless hearts is holding,
in peace and quietness content.
We rest in God's good will unfolding,
what wisdom from on high has sent.
God, who has chosen us by grace,
knows very well the fears we face.**
- 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find this promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.**

*Text: based on Psalm 55:18, 22, Lamentations 3:22-24, Hebrews 13:5
 by Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite; Meter 9 8 9 8 9 8*

*Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT by Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.*

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*Performance by Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Columbia SC, 1-/04/20
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y9p6Cvb9lM> [2:43]*

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

**You are invited to our weekday prayer call at noon on our conference line,
to our Wednesday Prayer Gathering at noon on zoom,
and to our Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:00 on zoom.**

**All of our zoom events can be found on the Calendar under the Resources tab
on our website: SalemBridgeport.org**

**On Thursday, at 5:30, we have been invited by Congregation B'nai Israel,
down the road on Park Avenue here in Bridgeport for a 1/2 hour of food and fellowship
before watching the documentary film, Free Renty,
about Tamara Lanier's court case against Harvard
to obtain the photos of her enslaved ancestor.**

Following the film, the plaintiff and one of her attorneys will speak about the ongoing case.

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

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 to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and online:
this blessing based on psalm for the day, # 145:

May you know in your heart that God is good and compassionate, faithful and loving.
When you fall, may you experience God's hand helping you up,
and when you are bowed down, may you feel God lifting
every burden from your shoulders and every weight from your mind. 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 Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps us in the one true faith. **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

Lord of All Hopefulness

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 765)*

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

*Text: based on Matthew 11:28-30, Luke 9:11, 1 Corinthians 15:58
by Jan Struther, 1901-1953; Meter 10 11 11 12*

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Text © Oxford University Press 1931;

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Performance by a British Christian Music Programme, 05/20/14

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCBjxVP6GWE> [2:26]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, and let Jesus lead and guide you –
for his yoke will lighten your burden and you will find rest for your soul..

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 611)*

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.
- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

*Text: based on Matthew 11:28-30, John 1:4-5, 4:7-15, 6:35, 7:37-39, 8:12, 9:5
2 Corinthians 4:6 by Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889; Meter C M D*

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text & Tune are in the Public Domain

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Performance by First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln NE, 10/22/17

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MkC7eoR81U [2:27]

CREDITS

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Announcements

Do you want to talk or pray with your pastor? Well, just like you call your doctor or dentist to schedule an annual wellness visit or a visit to deal with a particular issue, you can contact Pastor Marjo via text or phone at 203-982-3441, or through Office Manager Karl Kraft via text at 203-336-3300 or email at salemsec123@sbcglobal.net . Our bodies are intimately connected with our minds and hearts and spirits, so the health of one part impacts the health of the other parts.

- 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 a Pentecost 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 wondering what the difference is, it’s like this. If people are hungry and you give them fish, that’s CHARITY. If people are hungry and you teach them to fish, that’s EMPOWERMENT. If people are hungry and you work to change laws so that they receive high enough wages from their jobs so they can afford to buy fish, that’s JUSTICE.
If you’re not sure how to “do justice” as God commands through the Prophet Micah (6:8), Pastor Marjo can offer suggestions.

If you enjoyed New Paradigm Theatre’s production of The Little Mermaid last summer, you’ll want to purchase tickets for this summer’s show, “Grease”, Friday August 18th at 7:00 or Saturday August 19th at 2:00 and 7:00, at Black Rock Church, 3685 Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield. Given the popularity of the movie and the state-of-the-art theatre at Black Rock Church, this show will be a fun combination of live and movie-style experiences. Sing along with your favorite songs as cast members perform, dress up in 50s era costumes, AND EVEN enjoy a pre-show car show of 50s car in the parking lot! General admission is tickets are \$10-35; VIP tickets, including the best reserved seats, and a backstage/onstage tour before the show are \$50, and for \$100 you can sit Onstage during the Act 2 prom scene for those 16 years and older! As NPT partnered last year with the Norwalk Maritime Center for Little Mermaid, this year’s theme has led it to partner with a non-profit that helps victims of domestic abuse. For tickets go to nptheatre.org or speak with Pastor Marjo.

nOURish BRIDGEPORT’s Hydroponic Farm is now open to the public. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and purchase leafy greens and herbs at 1895 Stratford Avenue, Stratford CT.

THANK YOU to Rich Lansing and all who helped with our most recent and most successful food drive ever! In addition to a \$250 grant from Thrivent, 2,300 pounds of food and \$1008 cash were collected at the Stop & Shop on Kings Highway Cutoff, Fairfield, for Operation Hope in that town. The Monday morning team that helps at Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry helped deliver the collections on Monday. **THANK YOU, ALL!**

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 & 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 at Salem 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.

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

Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.

Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1931
Wednesday, July 12, 2023

A winner of the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to unite peoples after the First World War, Söderblom also called attention to the revival of early church worship principles, and helped to lay the groundwork for the World Council of Churches.



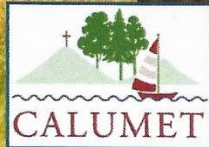
Gather

Play

Wonder

Grow

Explore



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