



# *Salem Lutheran Church*

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

*Full Text  
Large Print*

*10<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Pentecost*

*August 6, 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](https://www.youtube.com/) – 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.

**Today we hear the good news of God's overwhelming abundance!** The prophet Isaiah says that God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost! The psalmist sings of the overflowing generosity, compassion, grace, and love of God! The apostle Paul counts the blessings that have been poured out on the beloved children of God – adoption, glory, covenants, law, worship, promises, patriarchs, and the Messiah! And with the help of his followers, Jesus feeds everyone gathered until they are full! Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and into God's courts with praise!

**At its July meeting, Salem's Congregation Council voted to contribute \$500 to provide 1 scholarship to the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport's Scholarship Fund AND to encourage Salem members and friends to attend the worship service at 11:00 on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue.** The mission of the IMA is to empower clergy – and their congregations – to unite and mobilize to bring about social and economic justice in the city of Bridgeport and beyond. One way we are doing this is by providing Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarships for high school graduates who are going off to colleges and universities. In 2022, 17 students each received \$500. The worship service on 8/12 will celebrate these young people's accomplishments and give thanks for all those who have supported them. If you can't attend, you can personally support this important ministry by giving to the IMA Scholarship Fund by CashApp at \$IMABPT21 or via check made out to The IMA of Greater Bpt, with "Scholarship Fund" in the memo, and mailed to: IMABPT, c/o Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06607.

**Dear Salem Family,**

I wanted to let you know that per the direction of the congregation at the semi annual meeting, we contacted Pastor Maria Hammons, the synod's Consultant for Congregational Mergers and Holy Closures; and per the direction of the council at its June meeting, we contacted Ms Kim Bergstrand, Associate to the Bishop, responsible for (among other things) Radical Revitalization and New Mission Starts. It was decided that Pastor Maria and Kim would meet together with Pastor Marjo and me, as well as Jeanette Harris, since she is already involved in mission development in Bridgeport and is closely connected with Salem.

At that meeting Pr Maria and Kim agreed to come lead an adult forum at Salem following worship and a short coffee hour on August 13th.

I hope you are as excited as I am to see where the Spirit of God is leading us!

Blessings,

Cindy Roberts, President

# Gathering

## GATHERING SONG

## Grace Flows Down

### *Verse*

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound Amazing love now flowing down  
From hands and feet that were nailed to the tree Grace flows down and covers me**

### *Chorus*

**It covers me It covers me It covers me And covers me**

*CCLI Song # 1223050*

*David E. Bell | Louie Giglio | Rod Padgett*

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*Performance # 1 by Grace Baptist Church, Santa Clarita, 02/09/20*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7A0MfrhXVfA> [2:42]*

*Performance # 2 by Jay Capinia, 06/27/10*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hto8BSPMVao> [2:22]*

*Performance # 3 by Zach Nelson, Christian Life Center, 10/28/20*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqUjljcxwBw> [4:51]*

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

## WELCOME

Welcome, in the name of God, the Source of all abundance, of all that is  
in the name of Jesus, God's abundant love incarnate in human form,  
and in the name of the Spirit. God's abundant power that gives life to all creation!

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](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).

**Don't forget to sign up for Camp Calumet's walk-a-thon!**

**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](http://SalemBridgeport.org)**

**On Friday at 1:00 we've been invited to a Meet & Greet at Bridgeport Rescue Mission,  
725 Park Avenue. Please see your worship bulletin to see where to RSVP.**

**On Saturday at 11:00, we hope many of you will join us for the  
Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance Scholarship Worship Service  
at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue.**

**We have adult forums coming up the next 2 Sundays after worship –  
Next week, August 13<sup>th</sup>, we'll gather with 2 people from the bishop's office  
to talk about where God is calling Salem  
And the following week, we'll gather to discuss Lutheran theology.**

**And please remember all the events coming up in August:  
the city-wide Rise to Read Vacation Bible Camp along with old-fashioned Tent Meeting  
with prayer gatherings and worship services August 13-18  
at Washington Park, 318 Barnum Avenue;  
and New Paradigm Theatre's production of Grease Friday & Saturday August 18 & 19  
at Black Rock Church, 3685 Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield.**

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

God, we thank you for who you are and what you do!

We have come to worship you, to praise you, to magnify you, and to bless your holy name.

We have come to be astonished once again by the amazing abundance of your love and power.

We have come to be filled until we are full.

We have come to be sent out so that you may work your miracles for us & in us & through us.

Thank you for all that you have done and are doing

in our individual lives and in our life together.

And thank you in advance for all that you will do to accomplish your plan and purpose

for each person here and for this congregation.

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

## OPENING HYMN

## Break Now the Bread of Life

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 515)*

- 1 Break now the bread of life,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek you, Lord;  
my spirit waits for you,  
O living Word.**
  
- 2 Bless your own word of truth,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
all fetters fall;  
and I shall find my peace,  
my All-in-All!**
  
- 3 You are the bread of life,  
dear Lord, to me,  
your holy word the truth that rescues me.  
Give me to eat and live  
with you above;  
teach me to love your truth,  
for you are love.**

*Text: based on Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:41, John 6:1-14, 35  
by Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt; Meter 6 4 6 4 D.*

*Music: BREAD OF LIFE by William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888*

*Text & Music are in the Public Domain*

*Performance by Tim McNabb, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Halifax  
08/04/20; 166/655 in our hymn series.*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSFtiro4X\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSFtiro4X_o) [2:10]*

# Word

*Please be seated.*

## A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: **Isaiah 55:1-5**

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
**and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!**  
Come, buy wine without money  
**and milk without price.**

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
**and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
**and delight yourselves in rich food.**

Incline your ear, and come to me;  
**listen, so that you may live.**

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
**my steadfast, sure love for David.**

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
**a leader and commander for the peoples.**

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
**and nations that do not know you shall run to you,**  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

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

## A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: **Romans 9:1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ — I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit — I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21**

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.**

The Lord upholds all those who fall

**and lifts up those who are bowed down.**

The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,

**and you give them their food in due season.**

You open wide your hand

**and satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

You are righteous in all your ways

**and loving in all your works.**

You are near to all who call upon you,

**to all who call upon you faithfully.**

You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;

**you hear their cry and save them.**

You watch over all those who love you,

**but all the wicked you shall destroy.**

My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;

**let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

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

**A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 14:13-21**

*You may stand if you so desire.*

Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves". Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat". They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish". And he said, "Bring them here to me". Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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 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.*

You gather your church together by the Holy Spirit. Inspire each of us who claim to follow Jesus,  
that we would proclaim your abundant love throughout the world.

Impel us to share the good news of Jesus in our words, in our service, and in our work for justice.

We pray for our mission partners, especially today for the food pantries and community suppers  
at Kingdom Builders Impact Ministries and Golden Hill United Methodist church and elsewhere.

We pray for our Bridgeport's mayor, city council, school board, school superintendent,  
and our state's Governor, that each of them would have the best interests of our children at heart,  
and that they would introduce, implement, and support policies

that will allow for the growth and flourishing of the children of Bridgeport.

And we pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:  
Bryan DeWalt, and Cindy Roberts.

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

You cherish your creation, from the smallest microbe to the largest mountain.

Move us to protect fragile ecosystems, to work to end climate change,

and to ensure that all people and all creatures have enough food and water,

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

You desire peace and justice in the world. Instill within all political leaders your desire,  
support the work of international peace organizations, and provide relief for those in war-torn areas.

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

You comfort those who are hurting.

Accompany those who are alone, heal those who are sick, provide for all who hunger or thirst,

console the bereaved, bring joy to the sorrowful, and attend to all who call on you, especially

Barbro, Barry, Boni, Cliffy, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Diane, Dolores, Dorothy, Eric, Jacob, Janice,

Jeff, Jim, Joe, Joey, John, Marija, Natalie, Natasha, Natasha, Pastor Paul, Pastor Paula, Sara, Sara Jean,

Sasha, Tyler and VL, and all those we name in our hearts & on our lips,

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

You place us within communities for mutual support and love.

Reveal yourself to us in worship, fellowship, and ministry with our neighbors.

Thank you for the joint ministry of our garden here, for those who tend it,

and for all the food it produces to feed hungry people.

Use us to help Ephraim French Seventh Day Adventist Church get their food pantry off the ground.

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

You have placed before us examples of faithful living

who have witnessed to your promises throughout time and space.

Rouse us by their lives of service and dedication to be your hands and feet in this world.

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 1<sup>st</sup>,  
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          Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

*(as found in Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book, Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 674)*

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*(Clap)* X          X          X    X          X    X          X          X X  
**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! *(Repeat)***

**Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.**

*(Clap)* X          X          X    X          X    X          X          X X  
**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! *(Repeat)***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!**

*(Clap)* X          X          X    X          X    X          X          X X  
**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! *(Repeat)***

*Text:          Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:32-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-13 by Fred Kaan, b. 1929*

*Meter L M and refrain*

*Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980*

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*Performance by St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Farms, 07/24/21*

*as found at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQW\\_85ZgoXU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQW_85ZgoXU) [2:05]*

# Sending

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Don't forget to sign up for Camp Calumet's walk-a-thon!**

**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.**

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to talk about where God is calling Salem**

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**And please remember all the events coming up in August:**

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with prayer gatherings and worship services August 13-18  
at Washington Park, 318 Barnum Avenue;**

**and New Paradigm Theatre's production of Grease Friday & Saturday August 18 & 19  
at Black Rock Church, 3685 Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield.**

## 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 our reading today from Psalm 145:

If you fall God will lift you up; if you are bowed down, God will uphold you.  
If you call out in faith, God will draw near to you; if you cry out, God will save you.  
God who has planted in you your deepest desires, delights in fulling every one.  
Watch and wait for God will give you your food in due season. 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!

**And also with you!**

Open your hearts!

**We open them to God and one another!**

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

**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     Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises**

*ORIGINAL TEXT: Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona, Di thabile kaofela.*

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 535)*

**Refrain: Hallelujah! We sing your praises!  
All our hearts are filled with gladness!  
Hallelujah! We sing your praises!  
All our hearts are filled with gladness!  
Hallelujah! We sing your praises!  
All our hearts are filled with gladness!  
Hallelujah! We sing your praises!  
All our hearts are filled with gladness!**

- 1. Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.  
Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. (Refrain)**
- 2. Now He sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt to proclaim the joyful gospel.  
Now He sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt to proclaim the joyful gospel. (Refrain)**

*Text: South African traditional based on John*

*6 and transcribed Freedom Is Coming, 1984; Meter 6 6 6 8 and refrain;*

*Music: South African traditional HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA*

*Text and music © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.*

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*Performance from the album*

*"49 Hidden Treasures from the African American Heritage Hymnal"*

*Licensed to YouTube by NaxosofAmerica (on behalf of GIA Publications, Inc.),*

*02/03/17*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xw9sll8oLA> [1:20]*

*(edited by Pastor Marjo Anderson)*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, incline your ear and listen to God, and you will find life abundant!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## PEACE

As Christ reconciles us with God, let us be reconciled with each other.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**And also with you!**

Please share that peace with one another!

## POSTLUDE HYMN

### **O God beyond All Praising**

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 880)*

- 1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,  
at blessings without number and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**
- 2 The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,  
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;  
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—  
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:  
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,  
and we through him are given the final victory.**
- 3 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

*Text: based on Hebrews 13:1-3 by Michael Perry, b. 1942; Meter 13 13 13 13 13 13*

*Music: THAXTED by Gustav Holst, 1874-1934*

*Text © Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP)*

*Music & Arrangement are in the Public Domain*

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*Performance by the Plymouth Choir and congregation, directed by Jeremy Bankson,  
accompanied by the Plymouth Brass and organist Tom Trenney, arr. R. Hobby  
First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln NE, 09/09/13*

*as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUg4xTVvSOc&t=3s> [4:03]*

# Announcements

**Calumet's Walk the Walk 2023 -- "On the Road Again!" BEGINS TODAY!** 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](http://www.calumet.org/ontheroadagain) and then please...

1. **REGISTER** (\$25 tax-deductible fee) for Team Salem, Bridgeport by going to <https://www.calumet.org/giving/ontheroadagain> ;
2. **WALK** (bike, hike, or swim) **beginning July 30** ; and
3. **REPORT** mileage to Pastor Marjo on **August 15, August 30, and 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!

**Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study continues at 7:00 on zoom as we study Paul's letter to the Romans. Why Romans, you ask? Well, according to Martin Luther...** "This Epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest Gospel, and is so worthy that not only should every Christian know it word for word, by heart, but feast on it every day as bread for the soul. It can never be read or pondered too much, and the more it is dealt with the more precious it becomes, and the better it tastes." While you may not be ready to memorize it or read it every day, we do invite you to study it weekly with us! This week we'll be looking at chapter 2. The zoom link is on Salem's calendar under the Resources tab at SalemBridgeport.org .

**Join Bridgeport Rescue Mission for an upcoming Meet & Greet at 725 Park Avenue on August 11, 2023 at 1 pm.** A 20-minute tour of our newly renovated building will be followed by a meet and greet and discussion about our programs and services. To RSVP, please contact Joslynn Hernandex 203-333-4087 x 103 or [Joslynn.Hernandez@BridgeportRescueMission.org](mailto:Joslynn.Hernandez@BridgeportRescueMission.org) . We hope to see you soon! Refreshments will be served.

**At its July meeting, Salem's Congregation Council voted to contribute \$500 to provide 1 scholarship to the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport's Scholarship Fund AND to encourage Salem members and friends to attend the worship service at 11:00 on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 at Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue.** The mission of the IMA is to empower clergy – and their congregations – to unite and mobilize to bring about social and economic justice in the city of Bridgeport and beyond. One way we are doing this is by providing Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarships for high school graduates who are going off to colleges and universities. In 2022, 17 students each received \$500. The worship service on 8/12 will celebrate these young people's accomplishments and give thanks for all those who have supported them. If you can't attend, you can personally support this important ministry by giving to the IMA Scholarship Fund by CashApp at \$IMABPT21 or via check made out to The IMA of Greater Bpt, with "Scholarship Fund" in the memo, and mailed to: IMABPT, c/o Russell Temple, 555 Connecticut Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06607.

**RISE TO READ**

# **"SON-SHINE"**

**VACATION BIBLE CAMP**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY**

**AUGUST 14TH - AUGUST 18TH**

**TIME 12PM - 4PM**

**AGES 4-12**

**LOCATION: WASHINGTON PARK**

**318 BARNUM AVENUE**

**BRIDGEPORT, CT 06808**

**(Under the tent)**

**COST: FREE**

**ARTS & CRAFTS**

**MINI -THEATRE**

**GAMES & PRIZES**

**FUN FOR ALL**

**For more information : (203)984-7499**

**email: [Info@risetoread.net](mailto:Info@risetoread.net)**



RISE TO READ

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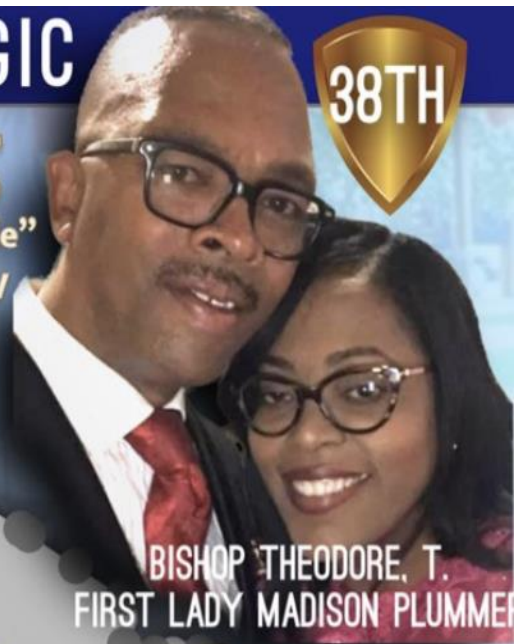
For more information: (203) 894-1488  
email: info@risetoread.net

# FULL GOSPEL COGIC Tent Meeting



Theme "Rescue The Perishing People"

Prov 24:11 ESV



BISHOP THEODORE, T.  
FIRST LADY MADISON PLUMMER



Sun 11:30



Sun 5PM



Mon 7PM



Tue 7PM



Wed 7PM



Thurs 7PM



Fri 7PM



Fri Night-  
Gospel, rap artist  
Jehoshaphat King

Bpt Ct

# 7PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 13, 2023  
11:30AM SERVICE  
PASTOR GABRIELLE BEAM

5:00 PM SERVICE  
PASTOR MICHON WHITE BENARD

MONDAY AUGUST 14, 2023  
7:00 PM TILL 9:00 PM  
PASTOR C L STALLWORTH

TUESDAY AUGUST 15, 2023  
7:00 PM TILL 9:00 PM  
APOSTLE KELVIN NEWTON

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16, 2023  
7:00 PM TILL 9:00 PM  
BISHOP ROBERT MIDDLETON

THURSDAY AUGUST 17, 2023  
7:00PM TILL 9:00 PM  
PASTOR SHON CLAY

FRIDAY AUGUST 18, 2023  
7:00 PM TILL 9:00 PM  
BISHOP JOHN R. THOMPSON

## Prayer Mon-Fri 6-7 PM

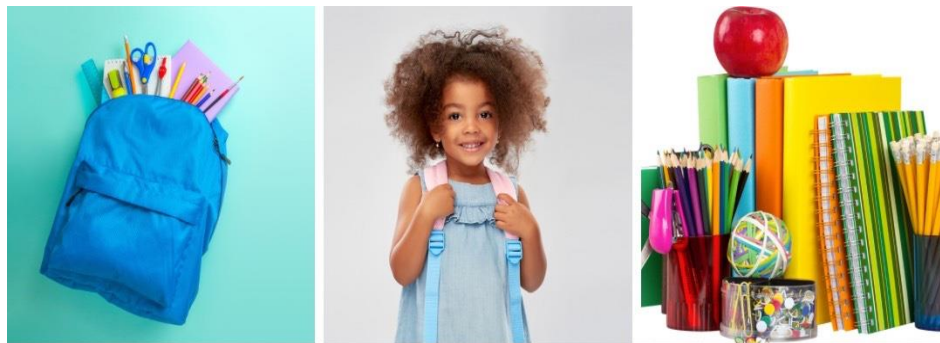
# WASHINGTON PARK

203 520 1713 ♦ FOOD GIVE AWAY

319 BARNUM AVE BRIDGEPORT CT. 06608



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 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 or Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup> 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 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](http://nptheatre.org) or speak with Pastor Marjo.



The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, Inc. Presents, a

# BackPack &

## School Supply Drive

At the end of August, we will distribute the FREE backpacks full of school supplies to students in Bridgeport.

**Items accepted for donation:**  
Back Packs, Binders, Calculators, Colored Pencils, Crayons, Folders, Hand Sanitizers, Highlighters, Notebooks, Mini Staplers, Loose leaf paper, Pens, Scissors, USB, School Planner

 July 1st-August 21st 2023

 Monday -Thursday  
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Friday's  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Drop Off At: 1718 Capitol Ave. Bridgeport, CT 06604

**Refill the Pantries** has already scheduled four drives for the September-October period this fall for the same four pantries we helped last year, and plans to have volunteers from five churches assist. Mark your calendar – the drive for Operation Hope is October 28, details to follow. It's truly amazing what can be accomplished when working together. Thank you!

In collaboration with Grace Lutheran Church, we are helping with a collection of clothing, household textiles, and small household items. The Lansings will accept your donations on August 20, and the Tomaskos will accept your donations on August 27.



**FUNDrive<sup>®</sup> Coordinator**

Peggy  
(203) 375-3151  
gracel@snet.net

**Our Goal: \$500**

193 Tall Kitchen Bags (avg. 13 lbs.)  
38 Medium boxes (household goods)

**Fundraiser Dates:**

08/25/2023 - 08/26/2023

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## Clean out your closets and cupboards for Grace Lutheran Church ELCA!

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De-clutter and Clean Closets for a good cause.

Save your items. Save the dates.

Grace Lutheran Church will be collecting gently used clothing and small housewares.

Clothing should be in kitchen size garbage bags and small housewares in manageable boxes.

Friday, August 25th from 5:00-7:00 pm

Saturday, August 26th from 9:00-11:00 am

150 Chapel Street, Stratford

For more info contact Peggy at 203-375-3151.

## We Are Collecting

### Clothes

men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

### Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

### Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly packed boxes for small household goods.

All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

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FUNDrive<sup>®</sup> is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive<sup>®</sup> will buy them.

Visit <https://FUNDrive.savers.com> to learn more.



## CREDITS

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**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.

**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.

**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](mailto: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](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 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.

**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**

**Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221      Tuesday, August 8**

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.

**Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258**

**Thursday, August 10**

As one of the seven deacons of the church at Rome, Lawrence was responsible for the church's financial matters and for the care of the poor. Asked by the emperor to gather the church's treasure, he presented a collection of orphans, lepers, and the like. The enraged emperor had him put to death.

**Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253**

**Friday, August 11**

A contemporary of Francis of Assisi, Clare and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She inspired other women to pursue spiritual goals.