



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

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

***Full Text –
Large Print***

***24th Sunday
after Pentecost***

***Veterans' Sunday
with
Prayers for Peace***

***November 12, 2023
9:30 AM***

The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
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The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

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www.salembidgeport.org
www.facebook.com/salembidgeport
[YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT](https://www.youtube.com/SalemLutheranChurch)

Welcome to Worship!

We want you to feel safe so please know that we have 2 units of the best air cleaner on the market in the sanctuary (the third is out for repair). And we also have one running 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 on this 24th Sunday after Pentecost as we watch how oppression leads to revolution and war, the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming into a broken world, bringing hope and help, and promising to deliver us from death and the power of the devil. The battle rages around us, but in Christ we have the victory!

A Special Congregational Meeting was in October at which the congregation voted to close. Pastor Maria Hammons will be meeting with our Executive Committee and Council at the end of this month, and plans will be made to begin the legal process of dissolution beginning in January. There are practical and legal procedures which must be followed, and as the synod leads us through these, we ask your patience and your prayers.

From Monday through Wednesday this week, Pastor Marjo, along with most of the rostered leaders of our synod will be at the New England Synod Convocation in Southbridge, MA. The Conference Prayer line and the Wednesday Zoom Prayer will continue in Pastor Marjo's and Jeanette Harris' absence and they will be back in time for Wednesday evening Bible Study.

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 pray silently and anonymously, ask for particular prayers, or offer your own prayers.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study continues at 7:00 on zoom as we study Paul's letter to the Romans. This past week we finished chapter 7, and we'll pick up this week with chapter 8. As we prepare for this week think about someone in your life who powerfully changed your behavior. The zoom link is on Salem's calendar under the Resources tab at SalemBridgeport.org . **Please join us!**

There is still time to make a donation in honor of Pastor Marjo's 40th anniversary of ordination to support Rise to Read, a literacy program founded by Pastor Gabrielle Beam, which is transforming the lives of children in Bridgeport and beyond. See Cindy Roberts for details.

VETERANS' DAY OBSERVANCE WITH PRAYERS FOR PEACE

November 11th, Veterans' Day in the U.S., has its roots in Armistice Day, the commemoration of the end of World War I, and has come to be an occasion to remember those who have served in our armed forces. Today we also recognize those veterans among us here at Salem whose service has preserved the freedom of religion we enjoy in this country: Dave Albers, Mike Caragol, Al DeWalt, Rich Kenyon, Steve Kuczo, Rich Lansing, Tom Larson, Jim McWain, Bob Reichelt, Nick Roberts & Bruce Tomasko.

Veterans' Day is also an appropriate occasion for prayer and reflection on peacemaking since those who have experienced war first-hand have much to teach about the real nature of war, as opposed to the images that predominate in films, television, and video games. History shows that in crises, military officers who have seen combat are less likely to recommend military action than politicians who do not have that experience. Veterans are often at the forefront of reconciliation efforts in war-torn regions.

November 11th is also the commemoration day of St. Martin of Tours, a 4th century Roman army officer who renounced violence when he became a "soldier for Christ".

St. Martin's Day also recalls the peacemaking witness of other Martin namesakes: Martin Luther, who was baptized on November 11th, and whose theology of the cross calls for radical repentance; Martin Luther King, Jr.; and Martin Niemoller (World War I veteran, German pastor, and non-violent opponent of the Nazis in World War II).

Lutheran Peace Fellowship invites Lutherans to observe November 11th as a day of prayer and fasting for peace. Since 1985, the Veterans' Day fast has drawn the support of growing numbers of Lutherans in the United States and around the world.

Observances of the day have included all-day prayer and meditation retreats, campus prayer services, vigils at military installations, and Sunday "break-fast" communion services in Lutheran congregations. Here at Salem (which is the equivalent of Shalom, Salaam, and Peace), this call to peacemaking is embedded in our very name and identity.

**"Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God"
(Matthew 5:9)**

Gathering

GATHERING SONG **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

(As found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book Worship & Praise # 95)

**Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

Text: Sebastian Temple, b. 1928

Music: PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCES, Sebastian Temple, b. 1928

Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

Text and music © 1967, OCP Publications

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Performance #1 on Annie Isbilir's YouTube channel, 04/08/19

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OE44Et-FyRg> [3:58]

Performance #2 by PS Haleluya on Ramses N Sitanggang YouTube channel, 04/10/21

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBMfohH94-g> [4:20]

Performance #3 on Mark G's YouTube channel, 09/26/12

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihhvm6eLWZI> [2:51]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of God who speaks peace to the nations,
in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace,
and in the name of the Spirit who plants in our hearts seeds to bear the fruit of peace.

Today on this 2nd Sunday of November,
we give thanks for those veterans who have fought for freedom,
and, at the same time, we pray for 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 – and whenever! – you are!

For those of you who don't know me,

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

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

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

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –

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

Monday-Wednesday I will be joining all the rostered leaders of the New England Synod in Southbridge, MA for our annual convocation.

Every Monday-Friday at noon you're invited to join us on our conference line for prayer.

**On Wednesday, 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.**

**On Thursday (and every 1st Monday and 3rd Thursday of the month) from 7:15-7:45ish,
you are invited to join the synod's Anti-Racism prayer call which meets on zoom.**

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

Any other announcements? prayer requests? God-sightings?

Then let's begin our worship with prayer!

God, we come to praise you for who you are and to thank you for all you do!

We open our minds and hearts, our bodies and souls, to you – that you may transform us.

We thank you for all you do to protect and preserve us.

And we pray that you would teach us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

By the power of your Spirit, move us to turn swords into plowshares,

and to work for justice and peace in all the world.

We pray all this in the Name of Jesus and by the Power of the Spirit. Amen

OPENING HYMN

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying Hymn

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 436)*

- 1 Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!" Alleluia!
Rise and prepare the feast to share; go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.**

- 2 Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious:
her star is ris'n; her light is come.
Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Sing hosanna!
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all, and follow to the banquet hall.**

- 3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you! Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,
with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thund'ring might of such glory.
There we will go: what joy we'll know! There sweet delight will ever flow.**

*Text: based on Isaiah 52:1-8, 64:6, Matthew 25:1-13, 1 Corinthians 2:9, Revelation 19:6-9, 21:21-23
by Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite; Meter P M*

Music: WACHET AUF by Philipp Nicolai

Text and Music are in the Public Domain

Translation © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

*Performed by Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church Choir,
Barbara Bulger Verdile, Director, 11/08/20*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAli8MWInXA> [4:58]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: Amos 5:18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness,

not light;

as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me

turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Matthew 25:1-13

You may stand if you so desire.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out’. But the wise replied, ‘No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves’. And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us’. But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you’. Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION (for Veterans & Prayers for Peace Sunday)

(from The United Congregational Church of Southern Africa and from Indonesia)

As people of the household of God, in faith, and love, and with goodwill to all,
let us in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
give ourselves afresh to him and to one another in joyous covenant,
promising to walk together with God and one another.

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us, & to free us from all forms of oppression.

We believe in the Spirit, who works in and through all who are turned toward the truth.

We believe in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people.

We do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor in the power of oppression.

We believe in human rights, in the solidarity of all people.

**We denounce, stand, and work against racism,
in the power that comes from wealth and privilege,
or in any established order that enslaves.**

**We believe that all people are equally human,
that order based on violence and injustice is not order.**

We do not believe that hunger and poverty are inevitable and peace unattainable.

**We dare to believe, always and in spite of everything,
in God's power to transform and transfigure,
fulfilling the promise of a new heaven and a new earth
where justice and peace will flourish.**

PURPOSE STATEMENT

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.

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.

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life,
as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

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

O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people,
bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you.
Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out to work for justice and peace.
We pray for our mission partners,
especially today for Camp Calumet Lutheran and United Lutheran Seminary.
We pray for all parents, grandparents, and other caretakers,
especially those of students at Fairchild Wheeler High School,
that they be supported and have the necessary resources
to support the success, wellbeing, and thriving of their children. And we pray for Salem members
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God for whom we watch,
we glimpse your power in rushing water and your beauty in the darkening night.
Work through each one of us to help provide clean water to all people and animals.
Save us from foolish, wasteful living and help us instead to each do our part to restore creation.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God for whom we long, let justice roll down like waters on all nations.
Bless citizens with wise leaders who see every human being as precious;
save us from destroying ourselves through our actions that support the destroying of others.
We pray for the veterans of this community, that they might receive the support they deserve.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need.
Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger,
support the unemployed and the unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day, especially
Austin, Barbro, Barry, Boni, Bob, Cliffy, Clyde, Dave, David, Dennis, Diane, Dolores, Dorothy,
Francesca, Hans, Pastor Harv and his family, Ivy, Janice, Jean, Jeff, Jessica, Jim, Joe, Joey, John,
Marija, Mary Anne, Mary Lou, Melvin Jr, Melvin Sr., Natalie, Pastor Paul, Pastor Paula, Sara, Sasha,
VL, the families and friends of George and Scott, and all those we name in our hearts and on our lips.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God for whom we listen, inspire the music of our congregation.
Fill our worship with songs to proclaim your greatness.
Help us to sing and dance with joy and tell boldly of your power and love.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, in whom we remain, we remember our loved ones who have died and now live in you. Bring
comfort and the assurance of new life to all who grieve.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

***VETERANS DAY LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKS**

Gracious God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
in memory and in hope, we come before you.

We bless you for your presence with us in our greatest joy and our most crushing sorrow.

We thank you for love and life; for friends and family.

God, be in our hearts and minds **as we bring our memories into the light of your love.**

On this Sunday of remembering, we offer prayers of thankfulness and care
for those who have gone before us, those who died that we might live,
who suffered and still suffer in defence of the dignity of all people.

We remember those who have struggled for peace, stood against evil, and sought justice
with the sacrifice of their blood, their bodies, their minds, their futures, their lives –
especially those who fought in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf, Afghanistan,
Yemen, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia, Libya, Uganda, and Syria –

wherever the human struggle for justice and hope has been fought with pain and sacrifice.

God, be in our hearts and minds **as we bring our memories into the light of your love.**

And we remember that many throughout your world still live
where war and terror, violence and injustice, are part of daily life.

We remember those we do not know: all who have seen the darkness of war.

We ask your presence with them in struggles for justice and peace,
and with us as we try to discern how best to assist them.

God, be in our hearts and minds **as we bring our memories into the light of your love.**

In memory of those who died in war, and in the firm and fervent hope
of a just & lasting peace for all people, we ask that you pour your gift of healing grace upon us.
Comfort and strengthen all who suffer from oppression and injustice.

And keep us all ever mindful of the peace that is more than the absence of war

the peace that is the presence of faith and hope, justice and love, throughout all creation.

Help us to build a world that in which love leaves no room for hatred, no place for violence.

God, be in our hearts and minds **as we bring our memories into the light of your love.**

God, we thank you for those who stand before us today who have preserved our freedom.

Be with them and with this congregation as we seek ways to bring

shalom – salaam – salem – peace to the world you made and love.

We pray in the name of your son, our Lord, the Prince of Peace. **Amen**

***PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS FOR VETERANS SUNDAY**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy;

Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. 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 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 SONG **When Peace like a River / It Is Well with My Soul**

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 785)

**1 When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) it is well, it is well with my soul.

**2 Though Satan should buffet, tho trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. Refrain**

**3 He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross & I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain**

**4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul. Refrain**

*Text: based on Isaiah 34:4, 43:2, 48:18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16,
3 John 1:2, 2, Revelation 6:14, by Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888, Meter 1 1 8 1 1 9*

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, IT IS WELL, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

Text & Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by Oasis Chorale & Minerva Community Choir, 11/18/13

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=przQqYVxvCk> [4:50]

Sending

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday-Wednesday I will be joining all the rostered leaders of the New England Synod in Southbridge, MA for our annual convocation.

Every Monday-Friday at noon you're invited to join us on our conference line for prayer.

On Wednesday, 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.

On Thursday (and every 1st Monday and 3rd Thursday of the month) from 7:15-7:45ish, you are invited to join the synod's Anti-Racism prayer call which meets on zoom.

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

THANK YOU

Before we end the live-streamed portion of our worship,

I want to especially thank those of you out there in cyberspace who have worshipped with us. I hope you will join us again.

If you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to talk or pray with Pastor Marjo, you can reach her through Salem's website or Facebook page.

BLESSING

As we say good-bye to our online worshippers,

I'd like to offer to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and online, this blessing based on our reading today from Psalm 70:

Those who are poor and needy, seek the Lord.

God is your helper and deliverer!

Rejoice and be glad, for great is the Lord!

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,
in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen**

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation. Amen

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **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 HYMN Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 890)*

You may stand if you so desire.

**1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning
of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.**

Refrain **Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.**

**2 He has sounded forth the trumpet
that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men
before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him;
be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain***

**3 In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom
that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy,
let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain***

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910, Meter 15 15 15 6 and refrain

Music: BATTLE HYMN, North America, 19th cent.

Text & Music are in the Public Domain.

Video by Chet Valley Churches...It is performed here by the Westminster Abbey Choir.

Video backgrounds by Free Creative Stuff and Surendra Bareth from Pixabay.

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ic4w_UEpCQ [3:16]

DISMISSAL

Go, forgiven. Work for justice. Pray for peace.

Thanks be to God!

PEACE

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

And also with you!

Please share that peace!!

POSTLUDE MUSIC

Canticle of the Turning

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. (*Refrain*)

3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. (*Refrain*)

4 Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. (*Refrain*)

*Text: based on the Magnificat in Luke 1:46-55, and also Revelation 21:4,
by Rory Cooney, b. 1952; Meter Irregular*

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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Performance by An Episcopal Diocese of Georgia staff quartet, 04/17/21

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

Announcements

On Reformation Day, United Lutheran Seminary President The Rev Dr R Guy Erwin preached and lectured at Yale Divinity School. One of the most interesting parts of the lecture and discussion was on Luther's understanding that as human beings we have two "eyes" – a physical eye and a spiritual eye. The physical eye sees the material world around us and we can choose to respond with love or apathy, but even if we respond with love, our response is lacking. Why? because it is only with our spiritual eye that we can see the situation as God sees it and respond in a way that meets not only the physical, but the spiritual needs of the world. Both the sermon and lecture are posted on Salem's Facebook page and also on Salem's YouTube channel.

Like our prayer breakfasts, a lunch is held each month to build relationships among Lutheran and other congregations in our area at noon at Old Towne Restaurant in Trumbull. The upcoming dates are **11/18**, and **12/16**. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Bruce Tomasko, bltomasko@yahoo.com.

Please sign up today for this exciting and important event – an online discussion with Jeff Fuhrer about his new book, *The Myth that Made Us: Beliefs about Racism and Meritocracy Broke Our Economy (And How to Fix It)* by Jeff Fuhrer. Pastor Marjo and Knute Ogren have worked together with the New England Synod's Anti-Racist Advisory Board and Camp Calumet Lutheran to plan 2 opportunities for discussion: **6:30-7:45 pm Monday, November 20th**, and **9:30-10:45 am Tuesday, November 21st**. *A free book (which retails for 34.95 plus shipping!) will be mailed to the first 100 people who sign up for the event by October 20th!*

[Click here to register](#)

or go to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejv2e0zo_usQ-FUFGlconMHyeqdmvWpFzD1pvGIYKPOMkNQ/viewform

We are collecting for "Seafarers Christmas at Sea" now through December 3rd. Gift suggestions include woolen caps, sweatshirts (L or XL), thermal or white socks, chocolate, canned nuts, hard candy, Christmas cards, and money. Please place items in the marked box in the narthex on Sundays. A packing party will be held on Saturday December 9th, following the Lutherans & Friends breakfast at 9:00 at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. If you have questions contact Carol Lansing at 203-520-3752

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.

Our Refill the Pantry program for 2023 has finished!

- * ~~**Sep 02 Nourish Bridgeport**, Stop&Shop 1160 Kings Hwy Cutoff, Fairfield~~
(Completed: 2,400 pounds of food and \$1,480 in cash)
- * ~~**Sep 16 Bishop Jean Williams**, Stop&Shop 4531 Main Steet, Bridgeport~~
(Completed: 2,455 pounds of food and \$691 in cash)
- * ~~**Sep 30 Sterling House**, Stop&Shop 200 E. Main St, Stratford~~
(Completed: 1,577 pounds of food, \$403 in cash, \$250 Thrivent gift card)
- * ~~**Oct 14 Trumbull Food Pantry**, Stop&Shop 110 Quality St, Trumbull~~
(Completed: 2,527 pounds of food, \$1,091 in cash, \$250 Thrivent gift card)
- * ~~**Oct 28 Operation Hope**, Stop&Shop 760 Villa Ave, Fairfield~~
(Completed: 1,637 pounds of food, \$1,151 in cash)

Totals collected for the year were 17,700 pounds of food, \$10,600 in cash, plus gift cards!

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.

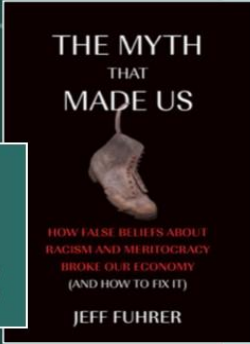
If you'd like to do more than feed people, you can also contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which is used to help members who have other financial needs. If you have financial needs, please contact Pastor Marjo or Parish Nurse Carol Lansing.

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 prayer. You can pray silently & anonymously, ask for particular prayers, or offer your own.
OR join our weekly prayer gathering on Zoom, Wednesdays at noon, at this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82882777326?pwd=VCtObFRPOGI3cTR3eII2ZmtiZEpadz09>
- 3. Begin a 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.



THE MYTH
THAT



“Author Talk”
This November — on Zoom
There is no cost for the book for the first 100 people who sign up for the event by OCT 20

The synod's **Anti-Racist Advisory Board & Calumet** invites **People of Faith** to read & then gather for conversation.

MON, NOV 20, 6:30-7:45 PM
TUES, NOV 21, 9:30-10:45 AM

Seafarers

Christmas at Sea

Collection dates:

September 10 – December 3

Gift Suggestions:

- Woolen caps
- Sweatshirts (L-XL)
- Thermal or White Socks
- Chocolates
- Canned Nuts
- Hard Candy
- Christmas Cards
- Money



If you have questions, contact Carol Lansing at (203) 520-3752

Please place items in the marked box in the Narthex

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231 **Friday, November 17, 2023**

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age 4 was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle.

Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age 24.

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