



INVEST

In the New Thing

God is saying to us:
“Watch for the New Thing I am going to do.
It’s happening already – you can see it now!”
[Isaiah 43:19 Today’s English Version]



SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Living Out God's Love

An Open and Affirming Congregation

October 30, 2022

All Saints/Reformation Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (Responsively):

Sometimes we feel too small and insignificant to be of any notice to Jesus.

Yet the Lord provides a tree for us to climb so that we can see Jesus.

That tree is faithfulness, compassion, love, hope, joy.

We are given the opportunity to witness to the Savior's presence in our lives.

Lord, help us when we forget how much we are loved by Christ.

Open our hearts to receive his invitation this day. Amen.

Hymn: *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior* 551

Prayer of Confession (Responsively):

Lord God of love and peace, open our hearts today to receive and accept the invitation of Jesus, that he will come into our lives and be present every day.

Release us from our smallness and create an atmosphere of confession and healing love in our hearts and our spirits, as we lift this prayer to you now:

Lord of mercy, forgive us when we make excuses for our lack of faith. We let our selfishness and apathy get in the way of illumination and peace. We find ways to duck out of our opportunities for service and witness, claiming that we are too small or too ill-equipped to be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ. How foolish we can be!

Throughout our lives, O God, you have been present to us, whether we knew it or not. Your love is always surrounding us. Yet we have not taken the time to recognize it. We wonder where you are, when mishaps or struggles come upon us.

Even after you have given us strength and hope, we turn back to our own concerns. We may not even express our gratitude to you.

Help us, O Lord. Help us to open our hearts so that we, being renewed by your forgiveness and presence, may become effective witnesses to your love and compassion for all people. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Silent, Personal Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):

We have always been loved by God. May we feel that we are forgiven and restored, that God has placed a special blessing in our lives.

We Rejoice! For God is with us. We will serve God in all that we say, think, and do. Amen.

Reading from the Epistles: II Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12 p. 1080

Pastoral Prayer and The **Lord's Prayer**:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Reading from the Gospels: Luke 19: 1-10 p. 958

Sermon: What do you see, up in that tree? Dr. Robinson

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology: tune: 780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

Dedication of Offerings and Neighbors In Need

Hymn: *For All the Saints* 299

Benediction

Postlude

An asterisk (*) where those who are able should stand as an act of worship. Hearing-assistance devices are available in the entrance near the canopy.

STAFF and SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Interim Minister

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson
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Director of Music

Dawn Lingard
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Sarah Pundt
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Office Administrator

Cara Bahr
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Scripture Reader

Scot Cullen

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Monday, October 31

Eve - Boy Scouts

Tuesday, November 1

All Saints Day

Wednesday, November 2

6PM - BRC

6:30PM - Bells

6:45PM - Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 3

1:30PM - Guild Meeting

7:15-8:45PM - Girl Scouts

Sunday, October 6

Daylight Saving Time Ends

9AM - Sunday School

10:15AM - Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALEM WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

By now you should have received a letter and questionnaire from the Guild. It was requested that they be returned to the church by October 18, 2022. If you have not done so, please return ASAP (we will still accept them). Thank you for your participation; it will help in guiding our plans for the future!

The next business meeting of the Guild will be Thursday, November 3, at 1:30 pm. The main item on the agenda is to plan the Christmas Bazaar and Raffle. It will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022 and this year we are thrilled to announce that we will be having the meal of Barbeque sandwiches, salads, and pies (Covid permitting). The date when raffle tickets go on sale will be announced soon.

Paying Hostesses for the months of:

September

Pat Anderson
Marsha Behnke
Gerri Hall
Doris Waldmann

October

Debbie Bass
Kay Berry
Bernice Hamilton
Joan Uren

November

Mary Cutler
Jane Legler
Anna Pauley
Mary Poole
Cathy Kwilinski

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. In 2022, the Neighbors in Need "BEHOLD!" offering focuses on economic justice. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

This offering will be collected the last today or contributions can be made on the website of the United Church of Christ as well at the following link:
<https://www.ucc.org/neighbors-in-need-special-mission-offering/>

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