



SALEM UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Living Out God's Love

An Open and Affirming Congregation

January 28, 2024

Health and Human Services Sunday

Prelude

Greeting

Choral Introit

*Opening Prayer (responsive):

One: Embodied Eternal, what might it mean for us to resonate together? That vibe. That hum. That feeling of flow. That “yes.” On this Health and Human Service Sunday, we come beside you with echoes of care that have lingered in our souls.

All: Your service is alive. Let us feel its pulse.

One: We know you not only as the Divine Physician, but as the Holy Housing Manager, the Sacred Social Worker, and the Chaplain to the Cosmos, too. Your healing work has no bounds, no set roles or rules, no singular calling.

All: Your healing is breathing. Let us enter its flow.

One: We’ve been here long enough—pulled too many double-shifts and overnights—to know that oppression and despair can spread like wildfire. And yet, in all of those clocked hours, we find ourselves in Kairos time, on God’s time. Here, we measure our calendars by connection, set our alarm bells to attention, and are charged by the speed of sound that made the universe.

All: Our service is alive. Let us feel its pulse.

One: Come, let us bring our solidarity to ceremony and ritual.

All: Our healing is breathing. Let us enter its flow.

One: Come, let us worship our God who created us for partnership,

All: who made us for love, to not go it alone. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: *Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing* 303

Prayer of Confession (responsive):

One: Beloved, though we’d hope that service would bring out the best in us,

All: We sometimes show up more impatient than present, more hardened than heartened.

One: Sometimes the pressure of the calendar, expectations, old dynamics, and the chaos of life can make us act, and even believe, that we are far from love and loving.

All: Forgive us for the ways we hustle, bargain, and settle for counterfeit versions of service.

One: Help us to discover that the Gospel is worth the risk of showing up just as we are. May your love and assurance live in our hearts rent-free.

All: And may we make a home of extravagant welcome out of your reconciling grace for all. Amen.

Silence for Reflection

Words of Grace

*Passing the Peace

Time with Children

Choral Anthem: *In This Very Room* [Ron & Carol Harris]

The Church at Prayer

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (unison):

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.

From the Letters: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 P. 1045

From the Gospel: Mark 1:21-28 p. 912

Sermon: The Authority of Jesus Christ Rev. Phil Hobson

*Hymn *Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way* 465

Offering

Call to Offering

*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.**

*Prayer of Dedication (unison):

We worship with our whole hearts, and give with our whole hearts, remembering your covenant with us, O God. As we share these gifts, may they be for the work of faithful justice and gracious mercy through your church and in your world. Amen.

Opportunities to Serve

*Closing Hymn: *There Is a Balm in Gilead* 553

Benediction

Choral Response: *Dona Nobis Pacem* [arr. Larry Sue]

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
LARGE PRINT bulletins and hymns are available.

Parts of today's worship were adapted from *Liturgical Elements & Prayers for Health and Human Service Sunday 2024*, written by the Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry, CHHSM's Associate for Advocacy and Leadership Development.

Library Flex Space During Worship

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary and Sunday morning worship is intended to be a family experience. However, we appreciate that some parents might need support during worship with wiggly little ones. Therefore, we have created a relaxed space in the first-floor library for use during worship. This space is outfitted with toys, crayons/paper, books, puzzles, and more. The worship service is live streamed in the library so you will not miss any part of the service. This space is open to anyone who finds they would be more comfortable using this alternate room.

STAFF and SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Pastor

Rev. Phil Hobson
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Director of Music

Dawn Lingard
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Cara Bahr
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Piano

Jeffrey Phoumyvong

Scripture Reader

Cari Bass

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Monday, January 29

Tuesday, January 30

Wednesday, January 31

Friday, February 2

Sunday, February 4

Eve - Boy Scouts

5:30-6:30PM - Boy Scouts

6:30PM - BoCE Meeting

6PM - BRC

6:30PM - Handbells

6:45PM - Chancel

Scout Overnight-Saturday Morning

9AM - Sunday School

10:15AM - Worship

6:30PM - Youth Gathering



GIVE ONLINE!

Scan this QR code or use the following web address:

<https://salemchurch.breezechms.com/give/online>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giving Envelopes

Giving Envelopes are available on the table behind the pews. A few spare boxes are available to anyone that doesn't have them but would like to take them for 2024.

2023 Giving Statements

Many of you should have received a giving statement for 2023 by e-mail. If we do not have an e-mail on file, you can check the box in the back on the sanctuary for a printed giving statement. If you have not received, either and would like one, please contact Frank Westphal.

New Salem Gear

We will be placing one more order at the end of January for newly designed T-shirts, hoodies, and half zips in a variety of colors at reasonable prices. Order forms are in Fellowship Hall or contact Julie Adams (gradamsiii@uwalumni.com) for an electronic order form. All proceeds benefit the Salem Youth Ministry.

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