



**SALEM UNITED CHURCH**  
OF CHRIST  
*Living Out God's Love*

An Open and Affirming Congregation

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Prelude

Greeting

Bell Choir Introit: *Bell Peal* [arr. Larry Sue]

Call to Worship (responsive): Inspired by Psalm 62

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our Mighty Rock. We will not be shaken.**

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our hope. We place our trust in you.**

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our refuge. We rest in your abiding love.**

\*Opening Hymn: *Guide My Feet* 497

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (unison):

**Holy One, we can be so impatient. We have become used to instant gratification and have forgotten the holiness of the waiting. Help us to rest in your timing. Encourage us to persevere through struggles and storms. Reveal the unfolding of your kingdom before our eyes and empower us to be agents of transformation in the world as you infuse us with new life. Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

Words of Grace

\*Passing the Peace

Time with Children

Bell Choir Anthem: *Canon of Grace* [arr. Linda R. Lamb]

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 Minor Prophets: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 p. 845

From the Gospel: Mark 1:14-20 p. 912

Sermon: What Are Our Nets Rev. Phil Hobson

\*Hymn: *Before Your Cross, O Jesus* 191

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):

**Holy One, receive our offerings as gifts of ourselves.  
Increase the gifts and uplift our generosity to new heights.  
May our giving bear fruit that sustains, nurtures, and feeds a  
new world into being. Amen.**

Opportunities to Serve

\*Closing Hymn: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* 565

Benediction

Bell Choir 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 *The Waiting: Service Prayers for*

### 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  
phobson@salemchurchverona.org

#### Director of Music

Dawn Lingard  
musicdirector@salemchurchverona.org

#### Director of Handbells

Carrie Coenen

#### Director of Christian Education & Director of Youth Ministry

Sarah Pundt  
spundt@salemchurchverona.org

#### Office Administrator

Cara Bahr  
cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

#### Piano

Jeffrey Phoumyvong

#### Scripture Reader

Diane Flood

### 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.

#### 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.

#### ONA Workshop

Special Guest, Jeff Rabe (Hosted by Sarah Pundt)

#### Jan 25 @6:30-8pm

The singular THEY...Understanding Gender Identity in Today's World Using the UCC-commissioned Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education Curriculum for Sr Adults, this program explores biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, pronouns, and sexual orientation. The program explains terms such as: cis / trans / non-binary; introduces participants to the history of the fluidity of sexuality; explores Pride Flags; and so much more! The gathering offers a safe space to ask questions, and provides tools and information to better understand, and advocate, for all of God's people.

Jeff Rabe, Director of Christian Education at First Congregational UCC in Madison, shares his 30+ years of experience in Children & Youth Ministry, and nearly 20 years as an OWL Facilitator, to share the Mission of OWL, and how it is used, for all ages, as a holistic curriculum to better understand the broad spectrum of sexuality.

### THIS WEEK AT SALEM

**Monday, January 22**

**Tuesday, January 23**

**Wednesday, January 24**

**Thursday, January 25**

**Sunday, January 28**

Eve - Boy Scouts

5:30-6:30PM - Boy Scouts

6:30PM - BoCE Meeting

**FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE**

6PM - BRC

6:30PM - Handbells

6:45PM - Chancel

6:30PM - Understanding Gender Identity

9AM - Sunday School

10:15AM - Worship



#### GIVE ONLINE!

Scan this QR code or use the following web address:

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

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