



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

An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 1, 2022

Graduation Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Sanctuary*

\*Call to Worship (Maren C. Tirabassi from *Before the Amen*)

Unlock your hearts – God wants to come in.

**Open your lives – God needs a home.**

Swing wide all the doors – God's children need shelter.

**Easter rolls the stone – and nothing can be shut anymore!**

\*Congregational response (sung): 743

\*Prayer of Confession (from *Before the Amen*, p 88)

**God of resurrection power, break through the locked doors of our certainty to encourage our wonderings and our questions. Break through the walls of our fears of others, that we might make room for all at your table. Break through our doubt and confusion, that we might come to know your presence more fully in our lives and in our world. When we seek to judge ourselves and others for disbelief and questions, open the locked doors of our hearts and give us the patience of the risen Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon:

As Christ broke into the disciples' locked room, offering forgiveness and the breath of new life, so Christ can enter our closed hearts and minds and give us new life. Know that you are forgiven. Feel the breath of resurrection creating you anew.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen**

\*Hymn: *I Was There to Hear Your Morning Cry* 351

Recognition of Seniors

*Owen Butzlaff  
Payton Corning  
Wyatt Denu*

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer:

*As prayer requests are lifted up, the following response will be offered:*

*L: O God, in your mercy,*

**P: Hear our 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.**

Chancel Choir Anthem: *Our Journey of Faith* [Mark Hayes]

Scripture Reading: Acts 9: 1-20 p. 1002

Sermon Lisa Hart

Reception of 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 (Elizabeth D. Barnum from *Before the Amen*)

**God, bless these gifts that they may be shared in the spirit of an Easter people, ever seeking ways to live out faith in acts of service. Amen.**

Hymn: *Listen to Your Savior Call* 250

Benediction

Choral Benediction: *Go Forth to Serve*

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.

## Guest Preacher this morning: Welcome to Lisa Hart, from our own congregation

*Lisa Hart, a commissioned minister in the United Church of Christ, serves as the Associate Conference Minister for Faith Formation and Justice Ministries for the Wisconsin Conference UCC. She also holds a Master of Arts in Counseling from Lakeland University. Her ministry focuses on faith formation for all ages and a wide variety of justice issues...racial, immigration, environmental, domestic and sexual violence, LGBTQ+, and mental health. Lisa is passionate about helping people connect issues of justice with living out their faith.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WOMEN'S GUILD SALAD LUNCHEON

That's right! The Women's Guild is having its annual Salad Luncheon once again on Thursday, May 5th from 11:30am to 12:30pm. A large variety of salads will be enjoyed, along with a selection of delicious desserts. The cost remains at \$7.00 per person.

The Guild will greatly appreciate the donation of a salad from every household of Salem, where possible. You can bring it the morning of the luncheon (after 8), or Wednesday morning between 9 and 11am while we are setting up for the event. Another salad drop off option could be during choir/bell rehearsal on Wednesday evening (6-7pm).

We are thrilled that we can host this event once again. The success of this event means we can continue our mission work of helping those in need in our church family, in our community, and around the world.

### CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY

Join us at 8am on Saturday, May 7 for some spring cleaning around the church inside and out.

## STAFF AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

### Interim Minister

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson  
trobinson@salemchurchverona.org

### Director of Music

Dawn Lingard  
dawn.lingard@landsend.com

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

Sarah Pundt  
spundt@salemchurchverona.org

### Office Administrator

Cara Bahr  
cbahr@salemchurchverona.org

### Scripture Reader

Diane Triplett

## THIS WEEK AT SALEM

### Sunday, May 1

9AM - Sunday School  
10:15AM - Worship  
1PM - Youth @ FB4K distribution

### Monday, May 2

Eve - Boy Scouts

### Wednesday, May 4

6PM - BRC  
6:30PM - Handbells

### Thursday, May 5

11:30AM-12:30PMPM - SALAD LUNCHEON

### Saturday, May 7

8AM - Church Clean-up Day

### Sunday, May 8

Mother's Day  
9AM - Sunday School  
10:15AM - Worship

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