

Salem United Church of Christ
German Reformed

231 Chestnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Present Building Erected 1821-22, Organized 1787

Welcome to Salem UCC

We're delighted that you have joined us for worship today. If you would like to receive a pastoral call or be put on our mailing list, please fill out a visitor card found in the aisle racks and place in the offering basket.

Parking

In addition to street parking, parking is available at the lot at the bottom of Dewberry Street. As you travel NE on Chestnut, pass 3rd street and take the next right onto Dewberry. The lot is on your left as you go around the bend.

Some Basics

Restrooms are located out the left door at the front of the sanctuary. Take a left and a quick right and you will find both the men's and women's restrooms off the hall to the church office on the left.

For your safety, yellow and red cards are placed at each pew with emergency procedures in case they are necessary. The church doors are closed at 10:40. If you arrive after that, please knock and someone will let you in.

Church Tours

Salem (from the Hebrew word for peace) has been a congregation committed to loving God and serving others for more than 200 years. For information on a tour, please contact one of our ushers.

Connecting

Website: www.salemuccharrisburg.org

Facebook: Salem United Church of Christ, Harrisburg, PA

Church phone: (717) 232-7145

Church email: salemucc@hotmail.com

Pastor email: pastor.salemuccharrisburg@gmail.com

Salem United Church of Christ
October 23, 2022
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Our Mission

"Historic Salem, in the heart of Harrisburg, seeks the Holy Spirit's guidance in welcoming all people to worship God; by encouraging participation in the ministry of Christ through Christian outreach with the city's heart."

*Please rise as you are able.

Welcome and Pre-liturgy Announcements

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Tolling of the bell

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 84)

L: How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

P: We long to be where You are; to stand in Your very presence, and to see You, face to face!

L: Happy are those whose strength is in you;

P: As they go through difficult seasons, you give them all they need.

L: Those who trust in you go from strength to strength

P: God, you will be with us until the day we find rest in your house forever.

*Opening Hymn

Let Us With a Joyful Mind

Black 16

Prayer of Invocation

L: Almighty and all-loving God, we have come to worship you today. Your pour your strength into our lives, and we rejoice at your loving care for us. Help us to sense your presence in our worship today, we ask.

Prayer of Confession

P: Loving God, our hearts were made for you. Fill us with the desire to walk with you and to do what you have asked us to do. As we look back over our week, we are grateful that you have given us strength to respond with gentleness instead of anger. We are sorry for the times when we have harmed others with our words or our actions. In the name of your Son, Jesus, we ask forgiveness, for you are a compassionate and gracious God.

Kyrie



Words of Assurance

M: God is gracious and compassionate. God forgives us our sins and sets us back on the path of goodness.

Solo *How Lovely is Your Dwelling*

Jean Jantzen

Scripture Lessons

OT Reading: Portions from Job

Job's persistence

1 In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. **2**

6 One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them

8 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. **10** "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have

blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face.”

¹² The LORD said to Satan, “Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger.”

Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

[And all of Job’s livestock and his children were destroyed. Then Satan also afflicted Job with boils. His wife told Job: curse God and die! But Job would not. His friends came to comfort him, but they insisted that he had done something wrong. Job insisted that he was innocent: he argued with them and with God.]

“I loathe my very life;
therefore I will give free rein to my complaint
and speak out in the bitterness of my soul.

I say to God: Do not declare me guilty,
but tell me what charges you have against me.

...

“Only grant me these two things, God,
and then I will not hide from you:

Withdraw your hand far from me,
and stop frightening me with your terrors.

Then summon me and I will answer,
or let me speak, and you reply to me.

...

“Oh, that my words were recorded,
that they were written on a scroll,
that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,
or engraved in rock forever!

I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
I myself will see him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me!

...

“Even today my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning.
If only I knew where to find him;
if only I could go to his dwelling!
I would state my case before him
and fill my mouth with arguments.
God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty has terrified me.
Yet I am not silenced by the darkness,
by the thick darkness that covers my face.

Children’s Time

This week’s memory verse: Proverbs 25:15a

“With patience you can convince a ruler.”

The Fruit of the Spirit Song

Galatians 5:22, 23

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
Patience, kindness, goodness
The fruit of the Spirit is faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control.

*Gloria Patri



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

*The Gospel: Matthew 18:1-8

Pray and Don't Give Up

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

⁴ "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Sermon

Patience

Hymn of Response

I Need You Every Hour

Black 517

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

M: Through the ages, the church has prayed for itself and for its mission in the world. Let us join our voices together in prayer:

Heavenly Father, we pray for the church of Jesus, our Savior.

All: That we would be one, as you are one.

M: We pray for the churches that compose the United Church of Christ

All: That we would fulfill our calling to show Christian unity in the world.

M: We pray for all pastors and spiritual leaders

All: That they would care for those under their leadership, and encourage them to live in God's ways.

M: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world

All: That you would strengthen those who seek to serve their people, and raise up righteous leaders to take the place of those who do not seek the common good. We pray for our upcoming elections, that we would choose people who will serve our country well.

M: We pray for those who are affected by war, famine, and natural disasters.

All: Send your spirit of peace upon them and show us how to love in both word and in deed. We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and for Ukrainians as well as others who are affected by this violence. We pray that Putin would seek peace, and not war.

M: We ask that you would send your Spirit on all those who suffer from grief or trouble

All: That they may find strength and healing through your presence and our loving acts of service.

We especially remember.....and those we mention now silently in our prayers.

M: We praise you for the saints who have lived their lives in your service and have now entered into their rest.

All: May their examples inspire us, and their presence in the cloud of witnesses encourage us.

M: We offer these prayers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying: **Our Father which 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, forever and ever. Amen**

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

M: God, whose love is steadfast and constant. May we share your love as we willingly continue to give of what you have given us. Bless these offerings and may they be used to further your kingdom of peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

I'm Pressing On the Upward Way

Black 442

*Benediction

*Extinguishing of Candles

Postlude (please stay seated until the postlude has concluded.)

THOSE SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Sue Schmidt

Organist: Caleb Sisak

Worship Leader: John Sisak

Soloist: Joseph Sobel

Acolyte: Jennifer Moore

Lay Reader: Laurie Sisak

Ushers & Greeters: Susan & Steve Nelson

The flowers on the altar are placed by Joann Smith in memory of her parents, Kay and John Pressley.

CALENDAR

- Oct. 23 Harvest Home – place nonperishable items on the altar area
9:15 a.m.; Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m.; Worship
- Oct. 26 10 a.m. to noon; volunteer in Salem’s Closet (For additional times to volunteer, please contact Susan Nelson @ 717-319-8992)
- Oct. 30 Reformation Sunday
Last Sunday of Harvest Home – bring perishable as well as nonperishable items (pack up food for Bethesda Mission)
9:15 a.m.; Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m.; Worship
Consistory meets after the service
- Nov. 2 10 a.m. to noon; volunteer in Salem’s Closet (For additional times to volunteer, please contact Susan Nelson @ 717-319-8992)
- Nov. 3 5:30 p.m.; CCU Banquet “Creating Caring Communities” (see announcement below for more information)
- Nov. 5 10 a.m. to noon; Salem’s Clothing Closet Open
- Nov. 6 All Saints Sunday (all are invited to bring pictures of those whom they are remembering)
9:15 a.m.; Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m.; Worship
Soup Social after the service in the fellowship hall (please sign up in the back of the sanctuary)
- Dec. 4 Annual Congregational Meeting after the service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCU Banquet – Creating Communities of Care

Christian Churches United will hold their annual fundraising and informational banquet at Thursday, November 3 at the Wesley Center of Camp Hill United Methodist Church; 417 S. 22nd Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011. The doors open for the silent auction at 5:30, dinner at 6:30. The church will be sponsoring a table for 8 people. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about the ministry of CCU in person and support their work. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Sue or Linda Farr know.

Donations for Clothing Closet

The following items are needed for the clothing closet: kitchen and household goods, sheets, blankets, pillows, men's jeans, flannel shirts, boots, hats, gloves and large sized men's coats for winter, women's sweats and pajamas. In addition, the children's area is low on toys.

Parking at B'nai B'rith

Our church has only three spaces (double parking) in the B'nai B'rith parking lot, even on Sundays. Parking is strictly enforced and violators will have their vehicles towed. If you park in the lot during the week, please place a "working at church" sign in your car. These are available in the church office.

Wellspring Pastoral Counseling

Did you know there is pastoral counseling at Salem church? Pastoral counseling services are available for individuals, families, and couples with concerns, such as: anxiety, depression, feelings of shame and guilt, spirituality, or grief and loss. Appointments are available Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (evening hours are also available.) For more information, contact: Scott M. Watts, MS, LPC, NCC, call 717-443-7426 or email: wellspringpc@outlook.com.