

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 10:40. If you will arrive after that, please text your name and the time you will arrive to 717-319-8992 (Susan Nelson) and we will make sure you are welcomed at the door on the east side garden at the corner of Chestnut and 3rd.

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.

Our information

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
May 1, 2022
3rd Sunday of Easter

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

L: We live in the light of Easter. Christ has risen!

P: He has risen indeed!

L: Because of God's love, we are forgiven.

P: God is the God of second chances.

L: Because of God's love, we are called.

P: We are part of God's mission to the world.

L: God's light is coming into our world.

P: Hallelujah! Christ has risen!

*Opening Hymn

The Day of Resurrection

Black 245

Prayer of Invocation

L: Jesus Christ, you came to show us God's love, and you continue to love us. You wish people of all nations and all tribes to enter your kingdom of peace. Thank you for your prayers for us, thank you for your encouragement through your Spirit. Thank you that we are part of bringing hope and healing in our world. Pour your grace upon us that we may live in your light and share your love.

Prayer of Confession

L: Let us come to God with open hearts to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

All: Heavenly Father, like Peter we do not always stand up for you and your ways. In our fear we do not do what is right. Like Paul, we are misguided in what it means to love you, causing harm instead of healing. Bring us back to the path of love, and forgive us our sins, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Kyrie



Assurance of Pardon

M: God has forgiven our sins in Jesus' name, for Jesus has forgiven us. Let us live in the light of God. **Amen.**

Solo

O Lamb of God

Twila Paris

Scripture Lessons

1st Reading: Revelation 5:6 - 10

The Angels Worship

6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **7** He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. **8** And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. **9** And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood you purchased for God
persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth."

2nd Reading: Acts 9:1-20

The Conversion of Saul

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest **2** and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. **3** As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. **4** He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. **6** "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

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 Reading: John 21: 1-19

Jesus Reinstates Peter

21 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

⁶ He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Sermon

A Second Chance

Hymn of Response

Grace Greater than Our Sin

insert

Grace Greater than Our Sin

1. Mar-vel-ous grace of our lov - ing Lord, Grace that ex -
 2. Dark is the stain that we can - not hide, What can a -
 3. Mar-vel-ous, in - fi-nite, match-less grace, Free - ly be -

6

ceeds our sin and our guilt, Yon - der on Cal-vary's mount out -
 vail to wash it a - way? Look! There is flowing a crim - son
 stowed on all who be-lieve; All who are longing to see His

12

poured, There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.
 tide; Whit - er than snow you may be to - day.
 face, Will you this mo-ment His grace re - ceive?

17 *Chorus*

Mar - vel - ous grace, in - fi - nite grace,
Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will

22

par - don and cleanse with - in; Mar - vel - ous grace,
Grace, grace,

27

in - fi - nite grace,
God's grace, Grace that is great - er than all our sin.

Baptist Hymnal 2008 105
 WORDS: Julia H. Johnston
 MUSIC (MOODY 9.9.9.9. with Chorus): Daniel B. Towner

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

M: Rejoicing in the mighty power of God and responding to God's call to care for the world, let us lift our voices and pray.

P: For our lives and for those whom we love, for the beauty of this planet which God has created for us, for our families and our friendships, for homes and work, and all good gifts, we give you thanks, Lord Christ...

M: Risen Lord, Hear our praise!

P: We pray for your church, O Christ, for those who serve in and through the church, that we may live in the power of the resurrection and bring good news of your life-changing love to all people...

M: Risen Lord, Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the leaders of the nations and peoples of the world, that they would care for those under them. We pray against the pull of power and greed, and for openness to your spirit's guidance in choosing the path of peace and prosperity for all...

M: Risen Lord, Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those who are sick or struggling in whatever way, that you may give them healing and hope. May they draw near to you, knowing that through Christ, you shared our pain and suffering...

M: We pray especially for....Risen Lord, Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those who have passed from this life to the next that they may rest in the love and light of God. We ask that those who grieve them may find hope and comfort in the power of the resurrection...

M: Risen Lord, Hear our prayer.

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.**

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *To God Be the Glory* Arr Karen Kuehman

*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.

Dedication of the Offering

M: Blessed are you, God of grace, who holds all things in your hands. As you have given us new life through Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Take these gifts and multiply them for your kingdom, we pray. **Amen.**

*Closing Hymn *Now the Green Blade Rises* *Black 238*

*Benediction

*Extinguishing of Candles

Postlude

(Please remain seated until the organ postlude has finished.)

The flowers on the altar are in honor of Jennifer Moore's and Eleanor Kelley's birthdays today, given by Janet Kelley.

THOSE SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY

Organist: Caleb Sisak
Soloist: Joseph Sobel
Pastor: Sue Schmidt

Worship Leader: Susan Nelson
Acolyte: Jennifer Moore
Ushers and Greeters: Susan & Steve Nelson

CALENDAR

- Today 9 a.m.: Prayer in the Parlor;
9:15 a.m.: Adult Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship
Fellowship time in the Chapel after the service. Stay afterwards to help with some spring cleaning.
- May 5 10 a.m. to noon: Volunteer in Salem's Closet
- May 7 10 a.m. to noon: Salem's Closet is open to the public. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Susan Nelson @ 717-319-8992.
- May 8 Mother's Day
9 a.m.: Prayer in the Parlor; 9:15 a.m.: Adult Sunday School.
10:30 a.m. Worship
- May 10 Fellowship Committee meets.
- May 14-24 Pastor Sue away on study break to Turkey
- May 15 Bob Deibler preaches. No Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
- May 21 CCU Highmark Walk. See announcements for more information.
- May 22 Deb Port preaches.
9:15 a.m.; Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m.; Worship

12:15 p.m. Informational meeting at Market Square Presbyterian Church to discuss helping a refugee family. More information in the announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helping a Refugee Family

Market Square Presbyterian church is considering working with the International Service Center, which is based in their building to help a family from Afghanistan or possibly Ukraine. There are many different ways to help. If you'd like to be part of this effort, there will be an informational meeting on Sunday, May 22 at the Market Square after their service (around 12:15 p.m.) If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer McKenna at revjjm@gmail.com

CCU Highmark Walk

Walk with us! Pray for us! Make a donation! Salem's team, the "First Timers," will join this year's Highmark Walk to raise money for Christian Churches United on Saturday, May 21 at HACC's Harrisburg Campus. For more information, contact Mary Frances O'Keefe at 717-649-2230 or go directly to the website, www.ccuahbg.org/walk

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.

Altar Flowers

Flowers for the altar are \$35 and can be used for two weeks. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall.

Serving Christ at Salem

Please prayerfully consider how you may be a part of Salem's mission to serve Christ and bring God's kingdom to Harrisburg. Then fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate. This form will be in the bulletin for the next several weeks.

Name _____ Email or phone # _____

Sunday Morning

_____ Open the church (once every 4-6 weeks). Arrive at 9:45 a.m. to open church (includes lights, sound system, doors, heat in the women's bathroom, etc.) After the service, turn out lights, lock doors, etc. code out (You will receive training and a key and code.)

_____ Opening welcome and prayers (once every 4-8 weeks.)

_____ Scripture readings (once every 4-8 weeks.)

_____ Greet and usher (once every 4-8 weeks.) Arrive at 10 a.m. to pass out bulletins. Take offering during the service.

_____ Acolyte. Light candles during the prelude and extinguish during the postlude.

_____ Prepare communion when needed (6 times a year). Prepare the elements for the communion table. Set up and take down elements on communion table.

Committees

_____ Consistory (must be a member.) Meet monthly to pray and discuss issues concerning the church.

_____ Fellowship Committee. Meet monthly to plan fellowship events for the congregation.

_____ Spiritual Life Committee. Meet with the Pastor to pray for the church. Give input regarding worship, educational and spiritual growth opportunities. Help with congregational care

_____ Outreach Committee. Connect with local organizations in Harrisburg to understand needs. Work with Pastor on reaching out and welcoming new members.

Office support

_____ Print and email bulletins

_____ Help prepare consistory and congregational meeting reports

Social Media (work with Pastor to update website and Facebook)

_____ Website

_____ Facebook

Salem's Closet

_____ Work in the closet to hang clothes, organize other items.

_____ Help with open days (usually the 1st Saturday of each month)