

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 (Hebrew 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
July 25, 2021
9th 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

Organ Prelude

Tolling of the bell

*Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 114)

L: All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you.

P: They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might.

L: Your kingdom is an everlasting one and your dominion endures forever.

P: The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

L: The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all those who bow down.

P: The eyes of all look to you to give them their food at the proper time.

All: Come, let us worship our risen Lord with joy and honor.

*Opening Hymn

"I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty"

Black 50

Prayer of Invocation

L: Jesus Christ, our savior, we worship you! When we are lonely, you provide company; when we are fearful, you supply courage; when we are hungry; you nourish us. We call upon your loving Spirit to descend upon us and abide with us today. Amen.

L: Let us continue our prayers in a spirit of confession:

All: For you are strong; we are weak. Forgive us. For you are faithful; we are fickle.
Pardon us. For you are merciful; we are cruel. Excuse us. For you are righteous; we
are self-righteous. Forbear with us. Amen.

Interlude

Kyrie



Words of Assurance

M: To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. And Jesus told us that he came to forgive and not to condemn. For when we lift our sins in humility and sincerity, God grants us pardon. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Solo *"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus "*

Thomas Williams

Scripture Lessons

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Feeding of a Hundred

⁴² A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said.

⁴³ "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked.

But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the LORD says: 'They will eat and have some left over.'" ⁴⁴ Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD.

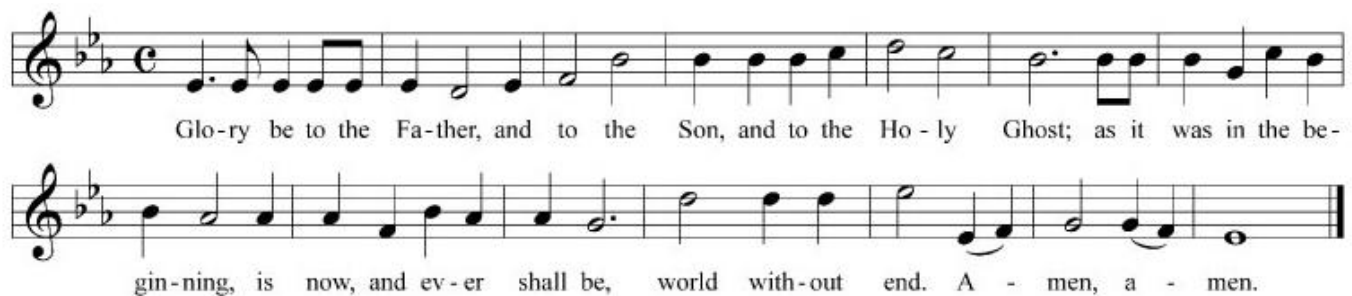
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:14-21

A Prayer for the Ephesians

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

*Gloria Patri



*The Gospel Reading: John 6:1-21

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

⁶ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave

thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Sermon "God's Limitless Abundance" Rev. Thomas W. Caruso

Hymn of Response "All Hail the Power Of Jesus' Name" Black #304

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.

M: For our lives serving the Lord and for our sisters and brothers in Christ. For our families, friends and neighbors. For the beauty of the earth.

O Gracious Lord: Hear our prayer!

M: For your church, O Christ, and for those who serve the church, support it and extol it. For this association and the Penn Central Conference.

O Gracious Lord: Hear our prayer.

M: For the leaders of our towns, cities, states and nations both here and abroad. May those in power promote peace, justice and good will among all with favor toward none.

O Gracious Lord: Hear our prayer.

M: For those who are ill or suffer in mind, body or spirit. Bring them comfort, peace and courage.

O Gracious Lord: Hear our prayer.

M: For those who have departed this earthly plane to the next one that they might rest in God's peace, light and love. May your Spirit provide those who grieve their absence hope through the power of the resurrection and be comforted in the truth that death is not the end.

O Gracious Lord: Hear our prayer.

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.

Presenting our Offerings

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 for Offering

M: We ask your faithful blessings on these small tokens of our gratitude for all you have given us in abundance, mercy and compassion. Bless these gifts so that they might glorify you name and promote the greatest good among the most people in your most holy name. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

Black 77

Benediction

M: May you feel God ever closer calling you to walk, talk and serve the Lord in ways both public and private. Trust that although our worship is now ending, our ministry is just beginning. Do all this in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Please remain standing until the candles have been extinguished)

Postlude

THOSE SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY

Organist: Caleb Sisak

Custodian: Sandy Sgrignoli

Soloist: Joseph Sobel

Visiting Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Caruso

Lay Reader: Jennifer Moore

Ushers and Greeters: Richard Moore & Buffy Buffington

TO PONDER THIS WEEK

Reflect on how often you focus on scarcity – or what is lacking in your life – instead of the abundant bounty of blessings, spiritual, emotional and material, that God provides. Copies of the *Daily Bread*, which are available on the back tables, will help you reflect on God's generous providence.

CALENDAR

Aug. 1 Rev. Rick Luciotti, from the Lebanon Association, will preach while Pastor Sue is on vacation.

Aug. 7 10-Noon Salem's Clothing Closet open. Please contact Sandy Sgrignoli if you are available to help to prep or on the day we're open.

- Aug. 8 Butterfly Service followed by lunch. Sign-up sheets for the butterflies (\$9 each) and contributions for the luncheon are in the back of the sanctuary. Deadline is Aug. 1.
- Aug. 22 Sprucing up! We want to make sure the church is clean and welcoming as we head into the fall. Bring a change of clothes and stay after the service for some light cleaning. Lunch will be provided.
- Aug. 28 Ladies' Summer Social at 3 p.m. All the women of Salem are invited to Pastor Sue's home, 2802 Sunset Court, Mechanicsburg, for an afternoon of refreshments and conversation. Maps will be available. Also, please let Janet know if you would be willing to be a carpool driver. We'll post signup sheets for those who need rides on the bulletin board.
- Sept. 12 Gallery Walk
- Sept. 19 Friend Day



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 - Friday, 10am – 6pm (evening hours are also available). For more information, contact: Scott M. Watts, MS, LPC, NCC, call 717-433-7426, or email: wellspringpc@outlook.com.