



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*for those with
hearing challenges*

**4th Sunday
After
Pentecost**

**July 3, 2022
9:30 AM**



The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
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www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

A Happy Independence Day to all! May we recommit ourselves to working towards the goals to which we have always aspired: liberty and justice for all!

Salem is still recommending masks, especially for singing. We know that some are only comfortable coming into a place where people are masked, and we want to provide an environment where everyone feels safe. The latest variants are still more contagious than the last and seem to evade current vaccines, but thankfully seem to cause only mild symptoms in most people, although those who are older and who have underlying conditions remain at risk for more serious illness. There is also a 20% chance of even a mild case of Covid developing into more serious long Covid. We will continue to re-evaluate based on what happens with the pandemic and what the latest advice is concerning singing protocols.

Pastor Marjo will be on vacation at a Dollhopf family reunion in Maine **Saturday July 9 – Friday July 15.** For emergency pastoral care call the church number, 203-336-3300 (now a cell phone) or call or text Jeanette Harris at 203-366-6778.

On Saturday there will be an inter-church in-person breakfast at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford. Please come and bring a friend. Extra cooks are welcome to come at 7:00.

Next Sunday, July 10, we will be worshipping at 9:30 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 160 Hill Farm Road, Fairfield.

On Saturday, July 16, we are invited to join the Ephraim French SDA Church for their 10:30 worship, celebrating their new home at 3160 Park Avenue. They love to worship so the worship will go longer than our typical Lutheran worship, but we encourage you to come anyway and experience how God is at work in a congregation that is different from ours and yet one with us in the body of Christ. Some of their service is in French, but will be translated into English for those of us who have not retained what we may have learned in high school!

Please join Jeanette "Momma J" Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday 7/16 at 11:00 am on zoom. Stay tuned for more!

Sundays from July 17 through at least Labor Day weekend we will be worshipping outdoors in the picnic grove, weather permitting. You may bring your own chair or sit at one of the picnic tables.

We had such a good time at Grace Lutheran last Sunday that we've decided to invite both Grace and Our Saviour's to worship and fellowship with us at Salem. The tentative date is **August 14**, and we're looking for people to help us plan the morning. If you can help with food or getting-to-know-you activities, please speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, the Lansings, or the Tomaskos.

Gathering

GATHERING SONG

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

*(as found in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's worship book,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 777)*

- 1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."

Refrain Jesus, ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- 2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." *Refrain*

- 3 "Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." *Refrain*

- 4 "Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." *Refrain*

- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy; I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer, come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

- 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned; lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer, let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

*Text: based on Matthew 11:28-30, John 4:10, by Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939;
Meter 8 7 8 7 D*

*Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985
Text © 1992, 1996 The Liturgical Press*

*Arr. of Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 777 © 1985 Augsburg Fortress
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*Performance #1 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection,
Halifax Lutheran Church, 07/01/20 (110/655 in their hymn series)*

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rstrg-PSWXk> [4:12]

Performance #2 by Kirsten (soprano, alto) & Mike (tenor, bass) as 16 voices, 07/01/20

v1: SA unison, v2: TB unison, v3: SATB unison, v4: SATB,

v5: SATB + Soprano Descant (Tenor +8ve), v6: SATB (8 voices)

as found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvJTcE_TFTs [4:17]

Performance #3 by Davidson College Presbyterian Church Virtual Choir, 11/05/20

Zebulon Highboy, Organ; Linda Dumizo, Flute

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27sp74fJmY8> [4:23]

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of the God of boundless power and endless love
who invites us into a relationship of trust and obedience,
promising to supply all that we need
as we witness in word and deed to the One who loves us like no other.

It is so good to be here!

Thank you for joining us today! Thank you, those of you who are here in person with us!
And thank you, those of you out there in cyber space, wherever – and whenever! – you are!

For those of you who don't know me,

I am Pastor Marjo Anderson of Salem Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, CT in the US.

To find out more about our ministry or to contact us,

you can go to our website SalemBridgeport.org, to our Facebook page, SalemBridgeport,
and to our YouTube channel, Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT.

Links to our donate page and worship bulletin –

which has both the order of worship and announcements – as well as other resources
are included on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Live.

We invite you to join us on Wednesday for our zoom events:

our noon Prayer Gathering,

and our 6:30 Bible Study on Acts, chapters 7 and 8,

followed by a brief service of Holy Communion at 7:15.

On Thursday at 7:30 on zoom you are invited to attend

the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport discussion
of how the American Church has been complicit in racism,
and how God can work in us to heal and to make whole.

This final week's session will cover the last chapter

of Jemar Tisby's book [The Color of Compromise](#): "The Fierce Urgency of Now"

The links to all our zoom events are on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Resources/Calendar

And on Saturday there will be an inter-church, in-person breakfast
at 8:00 at Grace Lutheran in Stratford.

Any other announcements?

Then, I invite you to pray with me as we begin our worship.

Holy God, we come today to offer our praise & thanks and to bless & magnify your holy name!
You continually offer us help and health and wholeness,
yet so often we refuse to follow where you lead.

Like willful children we believe we know best and we prefer to do things our own way.

Teach us to listen to your words and to obey your commands,

for your thoughts are higher than our thoughts and your ways wiser than our ways,

and only through trust and obedience will we find the way to the abundant life you offer.

We pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Spirit! Amen

OPENING HYMN

Before You, Lord, We Bow

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 893)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

You may stand if you so desire.

- 1 Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above
and rules the world below with boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring
in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!
- 2 May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
shine forth in wisdom's light, and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue
be tuned to praise and join to raise a grateful song.
- 3 Earth, hear your maker's voice; your great redeemer own;
believe, obey, rejoice, and worship God alone.
Cast down your pride,
your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.
- 4 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, then may ev'ry land
from all its rending tombs send forth a glorious band,
a countless throng,
with joy to sing to heav'n's high king salvation's song!

Text: based on Psalm 145:1, Jeremiah 22:29, Philippians 2:5-11

by Francis Scott Key, 1779-1843, alt.; Meter 6 6 6 6 8 8

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789

Text & Music are in the Public Domain.

Performance by Tim McNabb, Halifax Lutheran Church

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gR7zZor41Y> [2"28]

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES: 2 Kings 5:1-14

*Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy.
In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness,
but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants,
that he also needs healing for his pride.*

¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Word of God! Word of Life! Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 30

- ¹ I will exalt you, O God, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- ² O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.
- ³ You brought me up, O God, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- ⁴ Sing praise to God, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.
- ⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- ⁶ While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed.
- ⁷ You, God, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.
- ⁸ I cried to you, O God;
I pleaded with my God, saying,
- ⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- ¹⁰ Hear, O God, and have mercy upon me;
O God, be my helper."
- ¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- ¹² O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE APOSTLE PAUL’S LETTER TO THE GALATIANS, 6:7-16

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised — only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule — peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Word of God! Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 *You may stand if you so desire.*

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’ ”

“Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Word of God! Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(We thank the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport
for introducing us to this affirmation at its annual meeting last month.
It is from The United Congregational Church of Southern Africa & from Indonesia
and speaks especially to the ideals to which this country has always aspired:
the freedom, equality, and truth that lead to a new earth where justice and peace prevail.)*

And now, as people of the household of God, in faith, and love, and with goodwill to all,
let us in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
give ourselves afresh to him and to one another in joyous covenant,
promising to walk together with God and one another.

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people.

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us,
and to free us from all forms of oppression.**

We believe in the Spirit of God, who works in & through all who are turned toward the truth.

We believe in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people.

We do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor in the power of oppression.

We believe in human rights, in the solidarity of all people.

**We denounce, stand, and work against racism,
in the power that comes from wealth and privilege,
or in any established order that enslaves.**

**We believe that all people are equally human,
that order based on violence and injustice is not order.**

We do not believe that hunger and poverty are inevitable and peace unattainable.

**We dare to believe, always and in spite of everything,
in God's power to transform and transfigure,
fulfilling the promise of a new heaven & a new earth where justice & peace will flourish.**

PURPOSE STATEMENT

As members and friends of Salem Church, let us remind ourselves who we are:

We are a community of Christian disciples called by the Holy Spirit.

In response to God's transforming love, we share our joy through praise and service.

May it be so!

Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

So they can be heard online, these petitions will be offered by the leaders at the microphones.

God of the harvest,

you send your church into the world to proclaim Christ's new creation to all.

As we are made new through the work of the Spirit,

send us out to witness to the power and love of God and to serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

We pray for our mission partners, especially for our Southern CT conference,
the New England Synod and Region 7.

We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:

Dick Bellows, Jonathan Baronavski, and Paul Baronavski, Jr.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this day that we celebrate our freedom, remind us of those who lost theirs --

the Pequonnock, Schaghticoke, Paugussett, and Wappinger tribes --

and help us to be good stewards of this land which we now occupy.

Guide the work of climate scientists as they develop and advocate ways
to restore earth's natural balance.

Motivate each of us to adopt and advocate for lifestyles that protect and sustain the earth.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You guard the nations;

let no leaders exalt themselves, but lift up the most vulnerable and work for the good of all.

Send your Spirit to eradicate classism and inequity, violence and war, poverty and hunger.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You desire abundant life for all.

As we celebrate Independence Day, instill in us gratitude, generosity, and persistence

to work toward freedom for all, understanding that none of us are truly free until all are free.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You care for all people in need.

Nourish those who are hungry. Restore employment to those who have lost work.

Comfort all who are dying or grieving, and heal those who are sick, especially,

Barbara, Bernedette, Bill, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Iris, Jocelyn, Jonathan, Kristin, Linda, Maria,
Marija, Moses, Ruth, Steve, and all we name in our hearts.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember the saints who proclaimed your reign on earth and now rest in you.

Make us faithful in our witness to Christ's new creation.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are invited to offer your own prayer petition at this time, either silently or aloud.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit,

we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen**

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The congregation may be seated.

I ask the following people who have been elected by the congregation to serve on the Council to come forward at this time:

Members elected to a 1st term: Nancy Headford, Carol Lansing, Cindy Roberts, Bill Winter

Members elected to a 2nd term: Sandra Brown, Diane Tomasko

Officers elected for the year:

President-Richard Lansing; VP-John Bryk; Secretary-Nancy Headford; & Treasurer-Richard Kenyon

We give thanks for their willingness to serve.

In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *sisters and brothers* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians:

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;
and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *[I Corinthians 12:4-7]*

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out

in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The pastor addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept & faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The pastor addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

The pastor addresses those being installed.

I now declare you installed as *council members* of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen**

Thanksgiving

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you said, “Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION

Please be seated.

In response to God’s grace,
it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
-which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.



If you are a member of another congregation,
we encourage you to give to your home congregation first,
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also
so that we can continue to take our worship online
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.
Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click “donate”
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.

OFFERTORY SOLO Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons) Steve Kuczo

*(as found in the ELCA worship books
Worship & Praise # 137 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 893)*

"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?

"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

"Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*Text: 1 Samuel 3:10, Isaiah 65:1-2, Zechariah 13:9, John 10:3-4, Ephesians 4:1
by John L. Bell, b. 1949; Meter 13 13 7 7 13*

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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Tune is in the Public Domain.

Performance of background track by Community of Christ Europe

as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PiwbBLlRcC4> [3:31]

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

We invite you to join us on Wednesday for our zoom events:
our noon Prayer Gathering,
and our 6:30 Bible Study on Acts, chapters 7 and 8,
followed by a brief service of Holy Communion at 7:15.

On Thursday at 7:30 on zoom you are invited to attend
the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport discussion
of how the American Church has been complicit in racism,
and how God can work in us to heal and to make whole.

This final week's session will cover the last chapter
of Jemar Tisby's book The Color of Compromise: "The Fierce Urgency of Now"

The links to all our zoom events are on our website at SalemBridgeport.org/Resources/Calendar

And on Saturday there will be an inter-church, in-person breakfast
at 8:00 at Grace Lutheran in Stratford.

THANK YOU AND BLESSING

Before we end the live-streamed portion of our worship,
I want to especially thank those of you out there in cyberspace who have worshipped with us.
I hope you will join us again.

If you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to talk or pray together,
you can reach me through our website or Facebook.

As we say good-bye to our online worshippers,
I'd like to offer this blessing based on our reading today from Psalm 30:
to all who are worshipping with us, both in-person and in cyberspace:
When you feel like your enemies are triumphing over you,
when you feel like you are going down to the grave,
when there is no one to cry to but God,
then know that while weeping may spend the night, joy comes in the morning.
God will turn your wailing into dancing, strip off your sackcloth, and clothe you with joy.
God will defend you, restore you to health, and raise you up to new life. Amen

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may stand if you so desire and make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known & from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.

We live unaware of the hurt and pain we have caused by personal and societal actions.

Set us back on the path of life, save us from our sin, & free us to love our neighbors. Amen

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for all people,
and for Christ's sake God forgives all who truly repent of their sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!

And also with you!

Open your hearts!

We open them to God and one another!

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

It is right to give God thanks & praise!

In the night in which he was betrayed....

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen

The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you.

*During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship
or hold on to your kit until you get home.*

If you take the elements inside the church, open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet.

After the service, please dispose of your own kit either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in divine grace! **Amen!**

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 887)

*As long as you are masked, you may sing softly
You may stand if you so desire.*

**This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
myself I give you; let your will be done.**

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3;

Meter 11 10 11 10 11 10

Text sts.1-2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company;

Text st.3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company; All rights reserved.

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865—1957;

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*Performance by Summer Choir & Congregation, 1st Plymouth Church Lincoln NE, 07/06/14
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-zsFOa-lQ4> [4:11]*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, in trust and obedience, and God will perfect the things that concern you.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

(as found in the ELCA worship book Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 890)

- 1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.

Refrain Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

- 2 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain*

- 3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain*

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910, Meter 15 15 15 6 and refrain

Music: BATTLE HYMN, North America, 19th cent.

Text & Music are in the Public Domain.

Video by Chet Valley Churches...It is performed here by the Westminster Abbey Choir.

Video backgrounds by Free Creative Stuff and Surendra Bareth from Pixabay.
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ic4wUEpCQ> [3:16]

CREDITS

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Announcements

CT CityFest is a region-wide movement focused on serving the region and proclaiming the Good News. It came about as a result of years of prayer and planning by dozens of leaders in Fairfield and New Haven Counties and the surrounding Southwestern Connecticut area. The vision is to see the Christian community come together in greater unity, service, and proclamation – showing the community the joy, peace, and love of Jesus Christ. Over 130 churches and ministries have already committed to share hope and love through this movement which is focused on encouraging unity and collaboration across all communities, denominations, and ethnicities. Most impressively, this collaborative effort spans both the racial divide as well as the divides between Evangelicals & Mainline Protestants & Roman Catholics. Together, as the Body of Christ, we want to celebrate & accelerate the work of the Church, helping further influence culture, change lives, & inspire other cities.

CityFest has already begun with the launch of **CityServe**, a massive effort to mobilize churches to serve our region's greatest needs, providing support for those needing Adoption & Foster Care, better Education, and freedom from Food Insecurity. It will culminate with a series of outreach events strategically designed to share the love of Jesus with key groups of people in our community, including university students, business/civic leaders, women, and those who are incarcerated.

Some of the events include:

Jul 8 Festival Friend Training at City Wide Church, 857 Howard Avenue

Jul 9 Orientation & Training for Park City Summer Fest Bible Vacation Camp
“Powering Up”, 9-11:30 am, Cathedral of Faith, 2319 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport

July 21 City-Wide Prayer Gathering

July 23 A Prayer Evangelism Walk will take place from 9:00-1:00
during which every street in Bridgeport will be walked!
After the walk, we'll meet back at Washington Park to seal everything in prayer!

Jul 25-29 **Park City SummerFest Vacation Bible Camps** (in both English and Spanish sponsored by CityServe, FaithActs, Elevate, Faith & Education Coalition, Rise to Read & local congregations) for kids age 4 & up, 12-4 pm, Washington Park, with additional camps will be held at satellite locations throughout the summer.

July 30, **SummerFest celebration** with awards for kids to get families connected with churches, 11 am – 2 pm at Washington Park.

Aug 27-28 CityFest, an outdoor, family festival to celebrate this amazing effort and share the Gospel with tens of thousands through the ministry of the local churches brought together by the Luis Palau Association.

There will be action sports, high-energy children's activities, music by Grammy award-winning artists, and most importantly, a message of the hope that comes from knowing Jesus brought by Andrew Palau. For more info, go to <https://www.cityfest.org/whatis-cityfest>, or speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Bill Winter, or Cindy Roberts.

On Wednesday we have 2 wonderful opportunities to live into our mission of Encountering God, Building Relationships, and Changing Lives. The links are all on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

*** Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon we meet on zoom for prayer.** You can pray out loud if you want, or you can simply ask others to pray for you or for the concerns on your mind or heart.

*** Also, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm we meet for at 6:30-7:30 on zoom for a Bible Study, led by Pastor Marjo and Jeanette Harris.** Join this diverse and interesting group of people for a study that is not simply informational but transformational. We continue our study of the book of Acts, concluding at 7:15 with a brief service of Holy Communion. This past week we began our exploration of chapter 7 & will finish that chapter & move on to chapter 8 this week.

The Color of Compromise: Sacred Conversations on Race and the American Church. The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) team invites you into sacred conversations in a safe space to talk about the history of race and the American Church. Though the series will span 11 weeks, each session covers a distinct topic, so you're welcome to attend as many as you wish. Guided by the book *The Color of Compromise*, a video series by its author, Jemar Tisby, and the CCGB's capable and dedicated team of facilitators, the series moves chronologically from America's colonial past to today's Black Lives Matter movement. *The Color of Compromise* is not about shaming or blaming but rather opens our eyes to a history hidden, unknown, or ignored by White Christians and calls us to take seriously what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality. As members of the whitest denomination in the US, this is an opportunity for those of us at Salem to learn and grow. The last session will cover "The Fierce Urgency of Now" (July 7). For more information or questions about Raising the BAR programming, please contact Paula Coccozza at Paulacoccozza@ccgb.org or online at <https://ccgb.org/rtb> or speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Bill Winter, Bonnie McWain or Tom Larson.

PLEASE JOIN Calumet Walk the Walk 2022!

It's not too late to sign up! Just go to this link to register:
<https://www.vancoevents.com/us/events/landing?eid=21571&>
and join the Congregation Team "Salem Bridgeport"
The registration fee is a \$25 donation to Calumet.

Then all you have to do is report your miles walked to Pastor Marjo from 7/ 1-15, 16-31, 8/ 1-15 & 16-31.

Calumet will share the growing mileage total all summer long.
The goal: 350,000 miles by the end of the day on August 31!

Calumet has a special Walk the Walk Facebook page which participants all over the place are invited to join. Though out the summer, there will be daily devotions, fun contests, photo sharing, and more. This Facebook group has been a fantastic way for people to get to know one another. We have a specific group of people led by Pat Mahoney with the job of managing the page and encouraging awesome connections – a la Calumet Nation!





SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

Ephraim French

3160 Park Ave
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Tel: (203) 345-3937
Web: www.ephraimsda.org

June 18th, 2022

Greetings Brothers & Sisters, please receive our warmest greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ephraim French SDA Church is pleased to announce the inauguration celebration of the newly purchased building under the theme *"We have come this far by Faith and Moving Forward."*

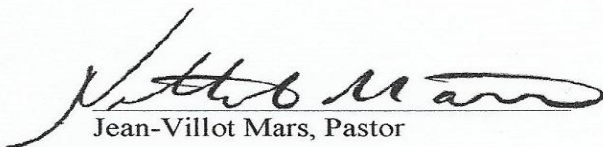
We have served the Bridgeport community faithfully for over 30 years and would like to commemorate the milestone with a Sabbath of thanksgiving to be held on July 16th, 2022, at 10:30 am. Our speaker for the day will be none other than the Northeastern Conference President, Dr. Abraham Jules. We are thankful for the support provided through prayers, fasting, and monetary gifts during the acquisition process.

As we celebrate, we also seek to raise funds to support the event and the continuation of services we currently offer to the community. An offering of thanksgiving will be collected on that day; whatever you can give will help and be appreciated. No amount is too small.

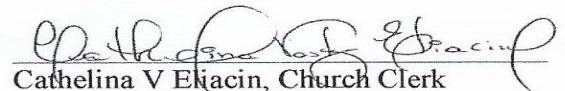
We would be delighted if you could come and participate at this wonderful event with us.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,



Jean-Villot Mars, Pastor



Cathelina V Enjacin, Church Clerk

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Thomas, Apostle

Sunday, July 3, 2022

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas", this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!"

By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India.

Long commemorated on December 21,

Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.

Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415

Wednesday, July 6, 2022

Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church,

and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement.

He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.

GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS CITYFEST?

You care about your city. You want to see the Good News proclaimed and lived out to every individual. And you're working hard to make that happen every day. We want to join with you to cast an even bigger vision for long-term unity and collaboration in the Body of Christ . . . serving the city and sharing the clear message of Jesus Christ on a grand scale.

VISION

- **Growing unity** in the Body of Christ
- **Increased collaboration** among the churches to love and serve their community
- **Christians mobilized** to pray for the lost and invite their friends to know Jesus
- **Gospel proclaimed** on a grand scale

UNITY

- Set aside denominational differences to focus on evangelism
- Build bridges with other churches in the neighborhood to serve the community
- Grow relationships among church, civic, and corporate communities

MOBILIZATION

- **Prayer** – God's people mobilized to pray for their unbelieving friends
- **CityServe** – God's people mobilized to serve
- **Training** – God's people trained to share the Good News with family and friends
- **Invite** – God's people challenged to invite their unbelieving friends to hear the Good News

Get ready for CITYFEST, as the Luis Palau Association arrives in Bridgeport to work for long-term unity and collaboration within the Body of Christ so that together we can more effectively transform individual lives with the good news of God's power and love made known in Jesus Christ through the power of the Spirit, and also transform the entire city of Bridgeport and beyond by serving the needs of our neighbors.

Have you ever wished that the Christian Church could be more united? While the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily white mainline Protestant congregations and while the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport has worked to unite primarily black Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations, the Luis Palau Association comes equipped to unite all congregations across racial and denominational barriers. Just think what an impact we can have if we all work together! Stay tuned to hear more about CITYFEST!

In a time when the church is declining in membership, revenue, respect, and impact, the Luis Palau Association offers each congregation the opportunity to be part of a massive effort called CITYFEST to carry out our baptismal call not only "to proclaim the good news of God in Christ", but "to serve all people, following the example of Jesus". And as we work together, Christ will enable us to set aside denominational differences, build bridges between congregations, and develop relationships among church, civic and corporate communities. Stay tuned to hear how YOU can be involved in this exciting work of God.

Wondering how you can be involved in CITYFEST? If you are interested in action, CityServe will offer many opportunities, some new, some old. If you worry about your kids and grandkids falling away from faith, there will be training available to teach you how to share the Good News with family and friends. If inviting someone to a grand and exciting worship event is easier than individual conversations, you will have the opportunity to do just that. Or if you would simply like to help in a quiet way, you can join the hundreds of people who will provide the foundation of prayer on which this whole event will happen. In fact, begin praying now to see how God is calling YOU to be involved in CITYFEST!

CITYFEST WEEK

• Outreaches:

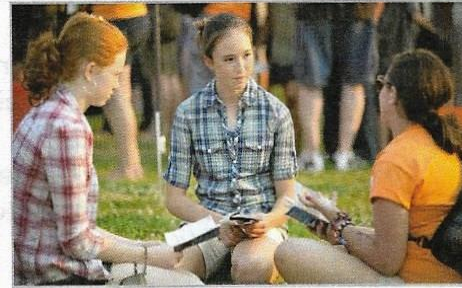
- Affinity events for women
- Special gatherings for business and civic leaders
- Prison outreaches

• Culminating Events:

- 2-day CityFest in the heart of the city
- Andrew Palau presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ
- Well-known Christian musical groups
- Action sports
- Family Fun Zone

ONGOING IMPACT

- **Follow-up** – Collaborative effort between local churches and the Palau Association
- **Discipleship** – Face to face efforts as well as an email discipleship course managed by the Palau Association
- **CityServe** – Ongoing effort to continue building unity, collaboration, and good will throughout the region, focused on serving the city and sharing the Good News



Get ready because CITYFEST is coming! In addition to all the service opportunities we will have through CITYSERVE, we will also have the opportunity to participate in CITYFEST a week of outreach through gatherings for women, for business and civic leaders, and for those in prison. The week will culminate with a 2-day event in the heart of the city with worship that includes top-notch Christian musical groups and evangelist Andrew Palau preaching. And in addition to worship, there will be fellowship opportunities including Action Sports and a Family Fun Zone! Through our participation in this event God gives us 2 exciting opportunities – to build bridges which strengthen the work of all of our congregations in the Grater Bridgeport area and to invite family and friends to join us in a worship event unlike any we have seen in the area for years.

While serving people – feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless, welcoming the stranger, etc. – is a vital part of our Christian faith, it is only half of our call. You don't have to be a Christian to help those in need. And if all we Christians do is serve in silence, then those we serve will never hear about the amazing God we know and love.



PO Box 50 | Portland OR 97207 | www.palau.org

That's why the Luis Palau Association brings congregations to do both – to serve God through both Word and Deed. While bringing friends to CityFest could change their lives, such an experience is often just the first step in the journey. Following up to help people grow in their discipleship is the crucial next step. And of course the work of CityServe will continue for weeks, months, and years after CityFest. We invite you to start praying now that God would help all of the congregations in our city and its surrounding towns to realize that we are all part of the ONE holy Christian and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ.

GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

STEPS OF INVOLVEMENT

PRAYER

Concerted prayer effort for our city and for those who have yet to trust Jesus

SERVE

Joining with other churches, organizations, businesses, and the civic community to meet the needs of the region

EQUIP

Receive tools and encouragement to reach out and speak with others about Jesus Christ

PROMOTE

Help publicize CityFest with a massive grassroots and marketing campaign that will reach a high level of visibility and awareness in the region

GIVE

Consider giving as an individual, as a business, organization, or church

PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Help proclaim the Gospel through affinity events and gatherings leading up to CityFest

FOLLOWING UP

Follow up with new believers referred to your church, helping them grow strong in their relationship with Jesus Christ

CONTINUE

Continue the Gospel Movement in the region through unity, word, and deed

www.palaufestivals.org/greater-bridgeport

God has been working through many organizations larger than local congregations to nurture people's bodies and souls. The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (primarily white mainline Protestant congregations) and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport (black Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations) are 2 such organizations. Some congregations have set up their own non-profit organizations like nOURish BRIDGEPORT (United Church of Christ), FaithActs (Pastor William McCullough of Russell Temple) and the Mount Aery Development Corporation (Mount Aery Baptist Church). And there are other organizations having a big impact as well, such as the NAACP of Greater Bridgeport which received an award for being the most active chapter in the state. But imagine what can happen if all of these organizations, all of the congregations affiliated with them, and all of the other unaffiliated congregations were to work together! That's why the Luis Palau Association is coming to our city – so that we can do together what none of our congregations or organizations can do separately. Look over the many ways to get involved and pray to see how God is calling YOU!



GOOD NEWS IN YOUR CITY

LUIS PALAU ASSOCIATION

TIMELINE 2021-2022

2021 CURRENT - NOVEMBER: INVITATION PHASE

- Formation of a steering committee
- Accomplishment of invitation checklist provided by LPA
- Conduct an official invitation event (November 16)

2021/2022 DECEMBER 2021 - MARCH 2022: FOUNDATION PHASE

- Completion of the CityFest Executive Team
- Pastoral/Church recruitment
- Opening of local office and development of local staff
- CityServe foundation

2022 MARCH-AUGUST: MOBILIZATION PHASE

- Church mobilization/equipping events
- CityServe
- Evangelism orientation/equipping
- Publicity launch

2022 SEPTEMBER: PROCLAMATION PHASE

- Massive targeted evangelism through affinity events
- Two-day CityFest
- Media blitz

2022 SEPTEMBER + BEYOND: CONTINUATION PHASE

- Follow-up with those who respond
- Strategic Gospel Movement planning

CITYFEST is coming in September of 2022!

Prior to that, CITYSERVE will begin in the spring, ramp up in the summer, and will continue long after CITYFEST is over.

If ever there was a time when our city – our world – needed the hope we have in Christ Jesus, it is now.

Please pray and ask God how you can be involved through the Luis Palau Association in living out your baptismal call – “to proclaim the good news of God in Christ” and “to serve all people, following the example of Jesus”.

For more information, speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Cindy Roberts or Bill Winter.