



# SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Living Out God's Love*

An Open and Affirming Congregation

November 14, 2021

Annual Meeting Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship (Responsively):

Our hearts are glad, our spirits rejoice!

**God, the foundation of our lives, is worthy of our thanks and praise.**

Our hearts are glad, our spirits rejoice!

**God, the cornerstone of our lives, brings order to our chaos.**

Our hearts are glad, our spirits rejoice!

**God, the rock and redeemer of our lives, calls us to faith and honor.**

Our hearts are glad, our spirits rejoice!

**God, the enduring good news of our lives, gives us strength and peace.**

**Let us worship the God who is not moved, but endures forever.**

Hymn: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

400

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of our God, and precious,  
binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion's help for ever,  
and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you,  
come, O God of Hosts, today!  
With your constant, loving kindness  
hear your people as they pray.  
Give your fullest benediction:  
grace to follow Christ the Way.

Here renew your servants' vision,  
that by faith they may attain  
peace and hope, renewed compassion,  
strength to comfort those in pain,  
Tears and grief transformed to gladness  
in your everlasting reign.

\*Prayer of Confession (Responsively):

Most Holy and Gracious God, we come to you in hope that you will accept us and forgive our limitations of faith and love.

**Your love is freely given to all, yet we turn away from those who are different from ourselves. You call us to follow Jesus, yet our footsteps falter, our hearts grow weak, and our minds are focused away from avenues of justice and peace.**

You seek us in the midst of the chaos of our isolation.

**Because violence, injustice, and oppression have become such watchwords of our times, we become too accepting of the pain of our society, unless we are directly affected. We risk not; we hope not; and far too often, we love not.**

Cleanse us of our doubts. Give us strength to pray, so that we might know your will for us.

**"Thy will be done", not our own. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):

Holy God, who can doubt your faithfulness to us? You are always there: greeting us rejoicing and crying with us, forgiving us.

**We believe the Word of God. God's grace is like an ever-flowing stream.**

**Alleluia! In Christ, we are forgiven!**

Reception of New Members: Nancy Dearborn, Steve Taylor, and Elsie Oliver

Gospel Lesson: Mark 13: 1-8

Communion Meditation: "The Pillars of the Earth" Dr. Robinson

The Service of Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Consecration

**God be with you.**

And also with you.

**Lift up your hearts.**

We lift them to God.

**Let us give thanks to God Most High.**

It is right to give God thanks and praise

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

The Act of Communing

Prayer After Communion (Unison):

**Today, O God, we have turned to you in search of direction for our lives, and you did not turn us away from your table.**

**You have opened our ears to your word, our eyes to your purpose, and our hearts to your presence.**

**Now make of us people who hear with their ears, see with their eyes, and understand with their hearts, that your word might bear fruit within us and through us. Amen.**

Hymn *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

337

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,  
for when humbly in your name,  
Two or three are met together,  
You are in the midst of them;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Touch we now your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather  
In the name of Christ to sup,  
Then with thanks to God the Giver,  
Break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
So now we bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living  
Make us sacraments of you,  
That by caring, helping, giving,  
We may be disciples true.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
We may serve with faith anew.

\*Benediction

Postlude

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An asterisk (\*) where those who are able should stand as an act of worship.

## Scripture Reading

Mark 13:1-8

### The Destruction of the Temple Foretold

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" <sup>2</sup> Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>3</sup> When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup> "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" <sup>5</sup> Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

## STAFF

### Interim Minister

Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson

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### Director of Music

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### Director of Vocal Choirs

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### Office Administrator

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### Scripture Reader

Randy Marks

## THIS WEEK AT SALEM

**Sunday, November 14**

**Monday, November 15**

**Wed., November 17**

**Annual Congregational Meeting Following Worship**

Eve - Boy Scouts

6PM - BRC

6:30PM - Handbells

6:45-7:30PM - Chancel Choir

**Thursday, November 18**

**Sunday, November 21**

7PM - Koinonia (Women's Fellowship)

9AM - Sunday School

10:15AM - Worship

6:30-8:45PM - Youth Gathering

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Join us following this morning's worship service. This is an incredibly important time for us to begin emerging from the exhausting pandemic experience which may have taken a great deal of energy and motivation out of our faith life!

### THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Once again, due to Covid, the collection of donations and distribution of the baskets will be different than in years past. Most of the food for the baskets will be provided through Second Harvest at no cost to Badger Prairie Needs Network. Congregations are asked to make monetary donations to supplement the food received so clients can receive pies at Thanksgiving and fruit in their Christmas baskets. BPNN can purchase pies for \$6.50 and fruit for \$20. BPNN is anticipating providing 400 baskets to local families both for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Checks should be made out to Salem. Please note that the check is for a Thanksgiving basket.** Checks can be placed in the collection plate or mailed to church by November 14.

Other items currently needed are aluminum roasting pans for the turkeys, sugar, flour and cooking oil. A donation bin is located in the fellowship hall for these additional items.

Thank you for your continued generous support of our neighbors in need.

### WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS – HOLIDAY RAFFLE PLANNED

The Salem Women's Guild has made the decision to have an "In-house" Holiday Raffle this year!

It will be held the first Sunday, December 5 following the church service. Also included will be a sale of baked goods to add to the fun. We are asking those who like to bring items to sell (cookies, fudge, walnuts, Pfeffernusse, etc.) to bring HALF the quantity because the public will not be taking part and we do not want lots left over. As in past years, the donation of items for the raffle will be greatly appreciated, and already included is Fred Wenger's donation of a one-week Time Share Vacation and a quilt made by Salem's Quilting Group.

Raffle tickets will go on sale the first Sunday in November. Cindy Remus is in charge of ticket sales and will be the contact person for your donations of prizes for the raffle. Further details will be given in the bulletin and weekly newsletters.

If you know you can't attend the raffle, the Guild will graciously accept a cash donation to help further our mission of helping people in our church family, in our community, and around the world.

CDC guidelines will be followed. **Note that this event is subject to cancellation if COVID numbers at the time prohibit inside gatherings.**

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