



**SALEM UNITED CHURCH**  
OF CHRIST  
*Living Out God's Love*

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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July 5, 2020

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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## TURNING TOWARD GOD IN A DISORDERED TIME

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship (Responsively):

Psalm 113:2-4

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

The Lord is high above all nations,

**and God's glory is above the heavens.**

Opening Prayer (Unison):

United Church of Christ *Book of Worship*

**Eternal God, companion of all who seek you, and seeker of all who turn away from you, draw near to us that we may draw near to you, and grant us the grace to love and to serve you that we may find in your will our true freedom; through Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.**

Hymn:

*How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies*

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

United Church of Christ *Book of Worship*

**Merciful God, we know that you love us and that you call us to fullness of life, but around us and within us we see the brokenness of the world and of our ways. Our successes leave us empty; our progress does not satisfy. Our prosperous land is not the promised land of our longing. Forgive our willful neglect of your word, our insensitivity to the needs of others, and our failure to feed the spirit that is within us; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**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 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.**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 85:1-13

Anthem: BARRY ROBINSON CHOIR and CHANCEL CHOIR  
Lift Every Voice and Sing, Craig Courtney, Jon Pundt, Soloist

Sermon: When the Church Prays for the Nation  
*Lord, you were favorable to your land . . . . Restore us again, O God . . . . Let me hear what God the Lord will speak . . . .* Ps. 85:1, 4, 8

Hymn: *This Is My Song*

Benediction

Postlude

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Yurs, Pastor  
Dawn Lingard, Organist/Pianist

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"Lift Every Voice and Sing" was first written as a poem performed for the first time by 500 school children in celebration of President Lincoln's birthday on February 12, 1900 in Jacksonville, FL. The poem was set to music and soon adopted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as its official song. Today "Lift Every Voice and Sing" is one of the most cherished songs of the African American Civil Rights Movement and is often referred to as the Black National Anthem.

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,  
'Til earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God,  
True to our native land.