

**Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 24, 2016**

Prelude: Prelude in A Minor Benedetto Marcello
Chiming of the Hour

***Hymn:** #68 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

Welcome

Joys and Concerns

Choral Introit: *Jesus stand among us*

Call to Worship

One: Let the ears of all people be attentive; the heavens are telling the glory of God.

Men: Everything around us proclaims God's handiwork. Let us bow down and worship our Creator.

One: Day and night, God is at work among us. We are brought together as threads in a divine tapestry.

Women: As we commune with God, we need each other to honor the good to be found in us all.

One: Hear once more the laws of goodness and upright living. May they revive our spirits and rest our weary minds.

All: We seek true community in which we can be who we truly are in God's eyes.

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

On this Sabbath day, we come to make sense of our lives. God, we look to you for understanding. Revive our spirits so our hearts and minds are free to soar. Liberate us from our own restrictions. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O God, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Sometimes, God, we do not know what to "confess" during worship. We are tired and often foverwhelmed and overextended. What have we done wrong this time, we may want to say. At times, our faith in you/ourselves/and others is badly shaken. This is what we confess: that we try to order our lives and manage our breakdowns as well as our glorious moments... all by ourselves.

Moment of Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love

***Gloria Patri:** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Responsive Reading – Psalm 19

(Page 613 OT in the pew bible)

Hebrew Scripture Reading – Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (Page 528 OT in the pew bible)

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer

(Children will leave for Sunday School and Youth Discussion Group)

***Hymn:** *They'll Know We Are Christians*

arr. Peter Scholtes (Used with license from Lorenz Corp.)

Offering of our Gifts

Anthem: *The Lord's My Shepherd* Allen Pote

***Doxology:** (Sung first time by Senior Choir)

We give you but your own,

What e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours a-lone,

We give it grate-ful-ly.

(Sung second time by all)

Prayer of Dedication

Dear God, the law of love is to be heartily desired above all else. Now we share what you have allowed us to gather, sometimes with great labor. This is just the beginning of our offering, for we rededicate our lives to you as well. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Gospel Reading – Luke 4: 14-21

(Page 74 NT in the pew bible)

Sermon: "Shields Down"

The Rev. Eileen L. Epperson

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer

Response: *Breathe the Holy Spirit*

***Hymn:** #164 (Insert) *Arise, Your Light Has Come*

(Used with license from New Century Hymnal)

Benediction

You are a light for the nations. May the love of God guide you, the word of Christ dwell in you richly, and the gift of the Holy Spirit give you power, now and in all your days.

All: Thanks be to God!

Choral Response: *Thus with quicken footsteps*

Postlude: Psalm 19 Benedetto Marcello

(*Please stand if able.)

Please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship following worship. Our host today is Janet Kaufman.

The flowers are donated by The Maxwell Family. Our ushers today are Bob Weber & Vince Hanlon. Our Lay reader today is Linda Estabrook.

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2015-2016

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To Be Filled

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CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY

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Rev. Diane Monti-Catania, Minister

Dr. Jack Bowman, Minister of Music

Barbara Collins, Religious Education; Mary Davidson, Bell and Children's Choirs;

Melissa Adam, Financial & Communications Assistant;

Kathy Wiggins Administrative Assistant; Cory Wiggins, Sexton

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Pastor's office hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9-5 or by appointment

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF SALISBURY**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SALISBURY, CONNECTICUT

GATHERED IN 1744
INCORPORATED IN 1949



CREATED BY GOD

CALLED BY JESUS CHRIST

GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

DEDICATED TO LOVING AND SERVING GOD AND NEIGHBOR

The Reverend Diane Monti-Catania, *Pastor*

Prayer List

Alan Weinberg, Sarah and Pete Courtright, David Bernier, Marilyn Ritchie, Rosie Bell, Nancy Tuckerman, Barbara Jacqueline, family and friends of Martha Johnson, Mary Wadsworth, Gloria Buckley, Petie Robinson, Sue Bucceri, Bruce McEver, Jim Aitchison, Jeri Johnson, Nancy Smith, Dick Dwelley, Louise "Weezie" Hannegan, and the family and friends of Al Sly.

Calendar For the Week

Wednesday: 10:30 am Scoville Memorial Library's Children's Story Time In the Parish Hall
5:30 pm Deacon's Meeting in the Meeting House
7:15 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday: 8:30 am "Silent" Retreat in the Parish Hall Library
2:30 - 7:30 pm Bridgeport Community Dinner
4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
7pm HousaTonics

Friday: 8 am Men's Bible Study

Saturday: 10 am Al Sly's Memorial Service

OPPORTUNITIES

AL SLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Hospitality Committee would appreciate your support as we prepare to celebrate the life of Al Sly on Saturday, January 30. If you are interested and able to contribute food for the reception following the service, please complete the form which can be found next to the bulletins and drop it in the offering plate or bring it to the office. Thank you.

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