

March 5, 2017
First Sunday in Lent

Prelude: Our Father Who Art In Heaven J.S. Bach

Chiming of the Hour

***Hymn:** #65 *Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah*

Welcome

Joys and Concerns

Choral Introit: *Jesus Remember Me*

Call to Worship

One: We have entered into the season of Lent.
Sundays, however, are not a part of Lent.

All: We have entered a wilderness time. Yet this day of worship is an oasis in the desert.

One: We are here to worship the God of all creation.
We gather to remember God's revelation in Jesus.

All: Today we revisit the garden of Eden. We remember God's overflowing generosity.

One: We worship God, who gives us choices and limits.
Are we open to God's counsel and instruction?

All: Today we remember the temptations Jesus faced. We want to learn to make good choices.

One: Come, let us worship God together!

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

We listen for your voice, holy God, amid the clamor of a world that scarcely notices this season of self examination and instruction. Too long we have heeded the serpents among us whose craftiness beckons us away from faith and faithfulness. We delight in forbidden fruits and complain when they turn sour. Lead us, faithful Spirit, through the wilderness of our own creation, that we may once more find our way to you. Instruct us in the way we should go, and counsel us day by day. Help us to rediscover your steadfast love. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Holy God, we confess our transgressions before you. We resent limits on our freedom to follow the impulses of the moment. We want life to revolve around us. We want other people to fit into the patterns that serve us best. Like a horse or a mule, we resent the bit and bridle that make us useful participants in the community you seek to create. We have tried to live apart from you. We sense that something is missing from our lives. Will you walk with us in this season and help us become all we are created to be? Hear now our silent confessions as we turn to you seeking mercy, forgiveness and grace. Amen.

Moment of Silence

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 32

(Page 623 HS in the pew bible)

Reading from the Hebrew Scripture –

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

(Page 2 HS in the pew bible)

Hymn: #166 *Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Sacrament of Communion

The cut bread on the communion plate is gluten free.

The communion wine is non-alcoholic juice.

Communion Prayer

Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love by bringing us to this meal. We go from this table, renewed in faith, renewed in courage, and strengthened by your presence. Thank you for loving us so tenderly. Thank you for challenging us to know you better and to receive you more fully. It is in Christ's name that we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** #175 *Seek Ye First*

(Children leave for Sunday School and Youth Discussion Group)

Offering of Gifts

Anthem: *Lonesome Valley* Graham/Nix

***Doxology:** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

New Testament Reading – Matthew 4:1-11

(Page 3 NT in the pew bible)

Sermon: "Watching for Serpents"

Reverend Diane Monti-Catania

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, Lord's Prayer

Response: *Jesus Remember Me*

***Hymn:** #213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Benediction

Response: *Amen*

Postlude: *The Ten Commandments* J. S. Bach

(*Please stand if able)

If you are visiting us today, Welcome! Please sign the guestbook at the front door and introduce yourself to our Pastor or to one of our Deacons.

Please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship following worship. All are welcome. Our hosts today are Susie Belcher & Jeanette Weber.

Please see an usher:

If you would like to use a hearing device;

If you would like to bring your child to the Nursery

Many thanks to:

Mary O'Neill for serving as lay reader

Orrin & Erik Rydingsword for ushering

Prayer List

Alice Gustafson, Leonard Kaufman, Laura Flores, Margie Vail, Gordon Weekly, Paul McAbee, Shirley Rogers, Jane Fitting, Nancy Tuckerman, Barbara Jacquette, Gloria Buckley, Petie Robinson, Gay Ayers, The Sosnoff Family, Wilma Tillerman, Emily, Will, Al.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Today	11:30 am Trustees Meeting 2 -4 pm Lenten Lecture: <i>Understanding Our Church</i> , Reverend Dr. Rich Reifsnyder 2 pm Worship at Noble
Tuesday	5:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	9 am Music Committee Meeting 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	4:30 pm Women’s Bible Study 7 pm HousaTonics Rehearsal
Friday	7:30 am Men’s Bible Study
Sunday	11:30 am Christian Action Meeting 2 -4 pm Lenten Lecture: <i>Understanding Your Relationship with God</i> , Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer

OPPORTUNITIES

LENTEN DINNERS

You are invited to join the congregation for dinner on Wednesday evenings: March 8, 22 & April 5 during Lent. The Deacons host a simple meal of soup and salad from 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm. All are welcome! To sign up, access the *Doodle Poll* in the weekly e-blast or contact the office.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS ON MARCH 26

You are invited to become a Covenant Partner (member) of the Salisbury Congregational Church. If you are interested in formalizing your commitment to this faith community, please contact Pastor Diane.

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE CHURCH
2016 - 2017**

Moderator: Sara Wardell	Treasurer: Jennifer Weigel	Clerk: Louise Brown
Board of Deacons		
Larry Blades '17	Chico Aller '18	Linda Estabrook '19
Mike Clulow '17	Theresa Carroll '18	Sheryl Kennedy '19
Carol Magowan '17	Bob Maxwell '18	Cynthia LaPier '19
Sarah Zarbock '17	Karin Noyes '18	Mary O'Neill '19
Board of Trustees		
Lee Collins '17	Scott Frost '18	Susan Hassler '19
Tony Good '17	David Heck '18	Jim LaPier '19
Sue Morrill '17	Tom Key '18	John Merwin '19
Church Council Members-at-Large		
Judith Frost '17	David Rich '18	Betsy Beck '19
Board of Religious Education		
Jennifer Kronholm Clark '17	Judith Frost '18	Debby Mark '19
	Jenn Good '18	Carrie Smith '19
		Stephanie Tierney '19
Board of Christian Action		
Anne Hughes '17	Jano Fairservis '18	Susie Belcher '19
Peggy Sands '17	Jeanette Weber '18	Rich Reifsnyder '19
Margie Vail '17		Kevin Wolgemuth '19
Music Committee		
Jo Loi '17	Tim Hughes '18	Martin Baltus '19
	Ward Belcher '18	Malcolm Brown '19
	Nancy Kellett '18	Lynn Reifsnyder '19
Ushers Committee		
Sal Accardo '17	Kathy Mera '18	John Arnold '19
Vincent Hanlon '17	Ellie Owens '18	Joe Catania '19
Erik Rydingsword '17	Orrin Rydingsword '18	Pat Palmer '19
Bob Weber '17	Sharon Tingley '18	Stephanie Tierney '19
Hospitality Committee		
Janet Kaufman '17	Sheryl Knapp '18	Sue Bucceri '19
Rosanne Lamson '17	Cynthia LaPier '18	Linda Estabrook '19
Sarah Rydingsword '17	Debby Mark '18	Clare Rashkoff '19
	Christie Olson '18	Nancy Rossi '19
Delegates to State Conference and Litchfield North		
To Be Filled		
Nominating Committee 2016		
Judith Frost	Tony Good	Peggy Heck
Carol Magowan	David Rich	Jeanette Weber

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY

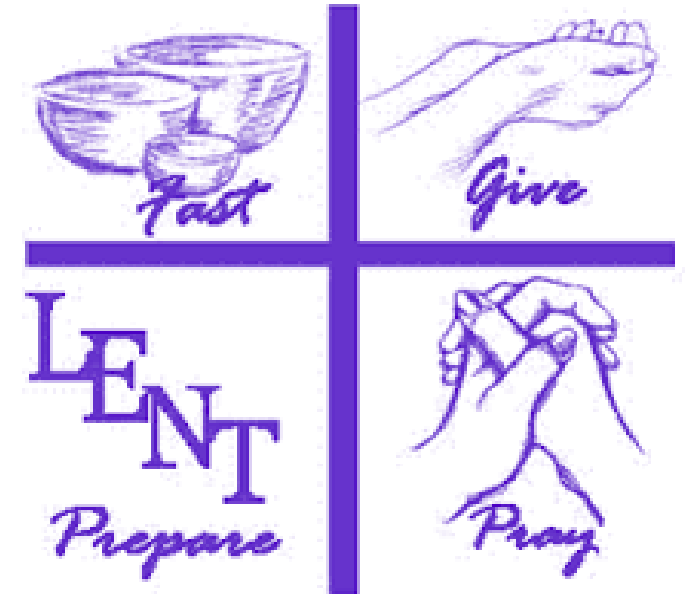
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860.435.2442 (office) 860.435.2056 (fax)
Rev. Diane Monti-Catania, Minister
Dr. Jack Bowman, Minister of Music

Barbara Collins, Religious Education; Mary Davidson, Bell and Children's Choirs;
Melissa Adam, Financial & Communications Assistant;
Kathy Wiggins Administrative Assistant; Cory Wiggins, Sexton
Church website: www.salisburycongregational.org
Church email: salisburyucc@gmail.com
Pastor's email: pastor.diane@salisburycongregational.org
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*