

July 17, 2016
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude: Versus VI Toni Allegretto A.V. Kerckhoven

Chiming of the Hour

***Hymn:** #260 *The Church's One Foundation*

Joys and Concerns

Choral Introit: *Forgive our sins as we forgive*

Call to Worship

One: Come, people of faith, trusting God's steadfast love. Take refuge in the eternal presence.

All: We want to acknowledge God first in our lives. We seek to rely on a power beyond ourselves.

One: Gather in silent awe before the sources of all things. Climb God's holy hill, giving thanks.

All: It is not easy to have faith in one we do not know. It is frightening to realize God's sovereign power.

One: Know that Christ is the image of the invisible God, the one in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

All: We are the church, gathered in Christ's name. We are the body of Christ, seeking to live faithfully.

One: Come let us worship together!

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Awesome God, we thirst for your word. We long to make sense of so much we do not understand. We want our worship to be more than a quick diversion from tasks we see pressing. We want to believe there is more to life than seeking personal gain. We bring to you today our troubles and anxieties, our estrangements and hostilities, our boasting and deceits. Meet us here with truth we cannot avoid. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Take away our distractions, O God, so we may be confronted by your expectation of us. We realize that our busy striving after things has dulled our awareness of you. We have sought fulfillment in ways that deny you and hurt other people. Sometimes our success tramples the needy and brings ruin to the poor. Even our benevolence becomes self-serving. O God, we want to find our hope in the gospel. Help us, we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love

***Gloria Patri:** *Glory be 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.*

**Reading from the Hebrew Scripture –
Genesis 18: 1-10a**

(Page 17 HS in the pew bible)

Responsive Reading – Psalm Psalm 15

(Page 609 HS in the pew bible)

***Hymn:** *Open My Eyes That I May See (Insert)*

Offering of Gifts

Anthem: *Lord, Who May Dwell Within Your House*
Emily Elliott, soprano

***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 – Luke 10:38-42

(Page 87 NT in the pew bible)

Sermon: “In the Presence of the Divine”

Bruce McEver

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Response: *How can your pardon reach and bless*

***Hymn:** #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

Benediction

Response: *In blazing light your cross reveals the truth*

Postlude: *Allein Gott in der hoh sei her* F.W. Zachow
(* Please stand if able)

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

Our thanks to soprano Emily Elliot for singing this morning.

The photo on our front cover today is called “The Trinity” by Andri Rublev.

Our ushers today are Stephanie Tierney & Kathy Mera. Our Lay Reader today is Larry Blades.

Hearing Assist Devices are available in the narthex.

Prayer List

Lynne Kronholm, Paul McAbee, Arden Godshall, Rosanne Lamson, John Merwin, Jack Ritchie, Mark Lundeen, Dan Rashkoff, Jose Luis Marti, Kay & Stan Norman, Shirley Rogers, Jane Fitting, Nancy Tuckerman, Kit Kellogg, Barbara Jacquette, Gloria Buckley, Petie Robinson, Rosie Bell, Jeri Johnson, Nancy Smith, Ben & the Godfrey Family, Brenda and Joe.

Pastor Diane will be on sabbatical leave from June 13th through August 13th. For pastoral emergencies please contact Sarah Zarbock (860) 435-8139 or call the church office (860) 435-2442. Thank you.

Bruce McEver has been a member of this congregation since 1998. His late wife, Georgia, was a soprano soloist for AL Sly and was the founder of the Light Opera of Salisbury (LOCOS) that rehearsed here. Bruce is an investment banker and the founder of Berkshire Capital Securities in NYC. He is a 2011 graduate of Harvard Divinity School with a MTS in Religion and Literature; he teaches this in the Ivan Allen College at Ga. Tech each spring. Bruce is also the co-founder of The Religious Literacy Foundation (www.tfrl.org) and on the advisory boards of HDS and the Candler School at Emory University.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 7 pm Faith Discussions in the Parish Hall

OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR MINDFULNESS BEFORE WORSHIP

A group gathers on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 am in the Parish Hall for meditation prior to the worship service. Open to all!

FAITH TALK

Kevin Wolgemuth initiated a discussion group for people interested in exploring questions of faith over the summer. The group meets on Thursday evenings from 7-8 pm in the Parish Hall for anyone who is interested. Please sign up on the sheet in the Parish Hall. Childcare will be provided. All are welcome!

DEDICATE A HYMNAL

This is your chance to purchase one of our new hymnals for the church. Multiple copies may be purchased, dedicated and donated. Each hymnal is \$25.00. You can pick up a dedication form at the church or download the form from our website.

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

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Delegates to State Conference and Litchfield North					
To Be Filled					
Nominating Committee 2016					
Judith Frost	Tony Good	Peggy Heck			
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CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY

30 Main St., Salisbury, CT 06068
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*