

**November 27, 2016**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Prelude:** Once He Came In Blessing Helmut Walcha  
**Chiming of the Hour**

**\*Hymn:** #93 *Lift Up Your Heads*

**Welcome**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Choral Introit:** *Prepare Ye The Way*

**Lighting of the First Advent Candle – Hope**

One: God of justice and of peace —

You color the world with mercy and kindness.

**All: We stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous artistry.**

One: God of promise and of love —

You illuminate the skies with rainbow and sun-ray.

**All: We rejoice in the majesty of your creation.**

One: The spectrum of your love reveals light all around. The hues of your love warm our spirits. The vibrancy of your love saturates us with hope.

**All: Blessed is the God of love whose art expressed in Christ we anticipate.**

One: We light this candle in abundant hope that the radiance of you, O God, will shine in our hearts, coloring us with hope, as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ,

**All: We who wait on the Lord are filled with hope.**

**Advent Response:** *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

**Call to Worship:**

One: Awaken to a season of anticipation. God is offering peace within us and among us.

**All: How good is it to gather in God's house! God draws us together for this time of worship.**

One: God calls us to celebrate our diversity. Differences shall no longer divide us.

**All: We want to see one another through God's eyes. We will look for the good in our neighbors.**

One: Seek the highest and best for each other. Come to the mountain of God's love.

**All: We will follow in the paths where God leads. Our ears are open to hear God's instructions.**

One: Come let us worship together!

**Prayer of Invocation (in unison)**

You have wakened us from sleep and led us to this place, wondrous God. Now let us feel your presence with us as we encounter your Word. Surely you have blessed us. You have drawn us together and bound us firmly to one another. We give you thanks for giving us an identity as relatives and friends through Jesus Christ. In this season we remember your unexpected appearance among us in the birth of a child. You make yourself known to us again and again. May we know you now! Amen.

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

Eternal God, you have brought us to this moment of confrontation. We cannot escape your judgment of our hidden deceptions. You know when we are jealous of others. You observe our quarrels with one another. You see how we seek self-gratification rather than the ways you intend for us. Our physical desires are more important to us rather than the spiritual hungers we suppress. Come among us now to turn us toward the paths where you want to lead us. Turn to you now with

our silent confession seeking your mercy, forgiveness and grace.

***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 122**

(Page 702 HS in the pew bible)

**Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures –**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

(Page 773 HS in the pew bible)

**Children's Message and Lord's Prayer (Debts)**

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

**\*Hymn:** #107 *Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn*

**Offering of Gifts**

**Anthem:** *People Look East the Time Is Near*

**\*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**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 24:36-44**

(Page 33 NT in the pew bible)

**Sermon: "Living in Hope"**

Reverend Diane Monti-Catania

**Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer**

**Response:** *Prepare The Way of The Lord*

**\*Hymn:** #82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

**Benediction**

**Response:** *Prepare The Way of the Lord*

**Postlude:** Once He Came In Blessing 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 host today is Sue Bucceri.*

*Hearing Assist Devices are available; Please see an usher if you would like to use one.*

*Nursery Care is available for children 0-4. Please ask an usher to direct you to the nursery.*

Thank you to the Clulow Family for lighting the Advent candle of Hope today.

Our Lay Reader today is Mike Clulow.

Our ushers today are Sharon Tingley & Sal Accardo.

Prayer List

*Wilma Tillerman, Emily, Leonard Kaufman, Chris Capecelatro, Trish Johnson, Laura Flores, Margie Vail, Gordon Weekly, Paul McAbee, Shirley Rogers, Jane Fitting, Nancy Tuckerman, Kit Kellogg, Barbara Jacqueline, Gloria Buckley, Petie Robinson, Jeri Johnson, family and friends of Jimmy Noyes & Henry LaTorraca*

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

Tuesday 5:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
 Thursday 4:30 pm Women’s Bible Study  
 5:30 pm Deacon’s Meeting  
 7 pm HousaTonics Rehearsal  
 Friday 4:30 pm Bell Choir performs at Salisbury Boys School  
 Saturday 5:30-8 pm “Leave the Kids”Night  
 Sunday 11:30 am Trustees Meeting  
 3:30 pm Bell Choir performs in Copake (Meet at 2 pm)

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

<b>Moderator:</b> Sara Wardell	<b>Treasurer:</b> Jennifer Weigel	<b>Clerk:</b> Louise Brown
<b>Board of Deacons</b>		
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
<b>Board of Trustees</b>		
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
<b>Church Council Members-at-Large</b>		
Judith Frost '17	David Rich '18	Betsy Beck '19
<b>Board of Religious Education</b>		
Jennifer Kronholm Clark '17	Judith Frost '18	Debby Mark '19
	Jenn Good '18	Carrie Smith '19
		Stephanie Tierney '19
<b>Board of Christian Action</b>		
Anne Hughes '17	Jano Fairservis '18	Susie Belcher '19
Peggy Sands '17	Jeanette Weber '18	Rich Reifsnnyder '19
Margie Vail '17		Kevin Wolgemuth '19
<b>Music Committee</b>		
Jo Loi '17	Tim Hughes '18	Martin Baltus '19
	Ward Belcher '18	Malcolm Brown '19
	Nancy Kellett '18	Lynn Reifsnnyder '19
<b>Ushers Committee</b>		
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
<b>Hospitality Committee</b>		
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
<b>Delegates to State Conference and Litchfield North</b>		
To Be Filled		
<b>Nominating Committee 2016</b>		
Judith Frost	Tony Good	Peggy Heck
Carol Magowan	David Rich	Jeanette Weber

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 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](http://www.salisburycongregational.org)  
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 Pastor's email: [pastor.diane@salisburycongregational.org](mailto: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*