

**Salem United Church of Christ
Worship Order**

October 4, 2020 • The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
—Communion Sunday—

PRELUDE Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard

WELCOME Rev. Russ Kirby
Craig Wilderman
Polly Fumagalli

RINGING OF THE BELL Wilderman Family

CALL TO WORSHIP Jim Dean

One: Open our eyes, that we may see

Many: You are our God of Vision

One: Visions of truth you have for us

Many: You are our God of Vision

One: Open our eyes, illumine us

All: You are our Spirit divine!

Adapted from "Open My Eyes that I May See,"
Hymns for the Family of God, #486

OPENING HYMN *Open My Eyes That I May See* HFFG 486

**Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth you have
for me;**

**Place in my hands the wonderful key That shall unlock and
set me free.**

Refrain 1:

**Silently now I wait for You, ready, my God, Your will to do.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth so sharp and
clear;**

**And while the message sounds in my ear, everything else
will disappear.**

Refrain 2:

**Silently now I wait for You, ready, my God, Your will to do.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my mouth, let me declare Words of assurance
everywhere;**

**Open my heart and let me prepare Your lovingkindnesses
to share.**

Refrain 3:

**Silently now I wait for You, ready, my God, Your will to do.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

UNISON PRAYER

Jim Dean

**Creator God, you call us into endeavors which we cannot
yet imagine. You call us to build: build relationships, build
community, and build your church in the world. Open our
hearts to your calling; prepare our minds for the journey,
and embolden our souls as we step out onto your waters of
faith. Amen.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Ancient Words*

**Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart. (*Repeat*)**

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SCRIPTURE READING *Psalms 119:97-106*

Jim Dean

- ⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
- ⁹⁸ Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.
- ⁹⁹ I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

¹⁰⁰ I have more understanding than the elders,
for I obey your precepts.

¹⁰¹ I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.

¹⁰² I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ I gain understanding from your precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong path.

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.

NRSV

THE MESSAGE

“Be Thou Our Vision: Intro”

Rev. Kirby

MUSICAL OFFERING

Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard

DOXOLOGY NCH #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Norma Hansen

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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 sins, as
we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into**

temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE Hear Our Prayer, O God NCH #769
**Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Kirby
Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion
Musical Reflection

ANNOUNCEMENTS Polly Fumagalli

CLOSING HYMN *Be Now My Vision* NCH 451

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
Now and forever your child I will be.**

**Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.**

**Sovereign of heaven, my victory one,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

BENEDICTION

Deborah Barnard

Leader: May the Peace of God go with you.

People: And also with you. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

God Be With You

NCH 81

God be with you till we meet again;

By good counsel guide, uphold you,

With a shepherd's care enfold you:

God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard