

**Salem United Church of Christ
Worship Order**

October 11, 2020 • The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard

WELCOME Rev. Russ Kirby
Craig Wilderman

RINGING OF THE BELL Wilderman Family

CALL TO WORSHIP Kathleen King

One: Love never fails, for God is love,

Many: And God's love is forever.

One: Our God is generous with us;

Many: And calls us to be generous with one another.

One: In this place and in this time

Many: We are here to celebrate the bounty of God!

OPENING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* NCH #4

**Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun
above.**

**Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of
doubt away;**

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

**All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven
reflect your rays,**

**Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken
praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow,
flashing sea,**

**Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our
praise should be.**

--CONTINUED--

**You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.**

**Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars
began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of
strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.**

UNISON PRAYER

Kathleen King

**Powerfully tender God, as the Goliath of calamity continues our
way, you are the still, small David, rescuing lambs from the
mouths of lions. You bring us hope and heroism through these
challenging times. Your beauty springs forth and blossoms, even
from the waste of the world. You are the One: crucified yet
glorified, dead yet risen, calling us to do more than survive, but
to thrive, and we are deeply grateful. Amen.**

[Inspired by 1 Samuel 17:35]

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 *Matthew 16:21-26*

Kathleen King

²¹ ...Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders
and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day
be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,
saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."
²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You

are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? NRSV

THE MESSAGE

“Be Thou Our Vision:
Loving Our Potential”

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

Rev. Kirby

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.**

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Chuck and Su Wright

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN *Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped* NCH #22

**Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all
creation!**

**Sing praise, my soul, in profound and complete adoration!
Gladsome rejoice— organ and trumpet and voice—
joining God's great congregation.**

**Praise God, our guardian, who lovingly offers correction,
Who, as on eagle's wings, saves us from sinful dejection.
Have you observed, how we are always preserved
by God's parental affection?**

**Sing praise to God, with sincere thanks for all your
successes.**

**Merciful God ever loves to encourage and bless us.
Only conceive, what Godly strength can achieve:
strength that would touch and caress us.**

**Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God
commending.**

**All that have life and breath join you, their notes sweetly
blending.**

**God is your light! Soul, ever keep this in sight:
amen, amen never ending.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Kirby

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