Salem United Church of Christ Worship Order

May 2, 2021 • The Fifth Sunday after Easter

PRELUDE Chappell Kingsland, Piano

"Chelsea Morning"; "Both Sides Now"

Joni Mitchell

WELCOME Rev. Russ Kirby

Craig Wilderman

RINGING OF THE BELL

VIDEO

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pam Neumann

One: Around this Zoom call and around the world,

Many: So many people, each one unique!
One: Here today and down through history,

Many: And throughout our Bible, too...
One: All with different personalities,

Many: And all are God's Children.

One: We celebrate each one in Christ's name.

All: Praise be to God!

OPENING HYMN I Sing a Song of the Saints of God NCH #295

I sing a song of the saints of God, faithful their whole lives through, Who bravely labored, lived, and died for the God they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and another a shepherd in pastures green: they were saints of God if you know what I mean.

God, help me to be one, too.

They loved their God and they lived that love. It was loving that made them strong.
They did what was right, for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long.
And one was a prophet, and one was a priest, and another was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earthly reason, none in the least, Why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still. The world is filled with living saints who choose to do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Beth Hanson and Chuck Wright

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Kirby

UNISON PRAYER

Pam Neumann

Creator of us all, we thank you for your love. You call each of us into your story, whether our roll is big or small. Help us to be your people. Encourage us to play our part. Bring us together in love. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION Sanctuary

Lord prepare me To be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving I'll be a living

Sanctuary For you. (Repeat)

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19 He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. 5 When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." 6 So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost." **NRSV**

THE MESSAGE

"What a Character! Zaccheus" Rev. Kirby

MUSICAL OFFERING

Chappell Kingsland, Organ

"Cantilena" from Symphony no. 3 Louis Vierne

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 SILENT PRAYER PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Kirby

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.

MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

Kathleen King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

O for a World

NCH #575

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice

That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.

Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Kirby

Leader: May the Peace of God go with you.

People: And also with you. Amen.

Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah! Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah! Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah! Halleluja, hallelujah!

Postlude

Chappell Kingsland, Piano

Both Sides Now (reprise)
Joni Mitchell