

# SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, DENVER

*“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.”*



**June 6, 2021**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

# SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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PRELUDE

Chappell Kingsland, Organ

Nearer, My God, To Thee  
Lowell Mason

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Russ Kirby (VIDEO)

RINGING OF THE BELL

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beth Hansen

One: Oh God, you created so many people,  
**Many: Each is special, and you love each one!**  
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

*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.**

**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

Beth Hansen

**God of us all, we come to you with different understandings of faith. Some of us get it, some of are still trying. Hold us close on our faith journeys and guide us each where you need us to go. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Sanctuary*

*Thompson and Scruggs*

**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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SCRIPTURE READING

John 3: 1-17

Rev. Chris Gilmore

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of

Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

NRSV

THE MESSAGE

“What a Character!”

Rev. Chris Gilmore

Nicodemus

*Rev. Chris Gilmore has been the lead pastor at Sixth Avenue United Church of Christ in Denver, CO since 2014. A graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary he has served churches in Illinois, Washington, California, and Colorado. Outside of church, he enjoys hiking, traveling, tennis, reading mysteries, and cooking. He lives in Denver with his fiancée Christine and their cat Phoebe.*

INVITATION & OFFERTORY

Chappell Kingsland, Piano

June Is Bustin’ Out All Over  
Rodgers/Hammerstein

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #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.**

SILENT PRAYER

Norma Hansen

PASTORAL PRAYER

Norma Hansen

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Norma Hansen

**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 Lord*

Hymnal #769

**Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;  
incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Stice

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

*NCH #498*

**Refrain:**

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

**Knelt at the feet of his friends,  
silently washing their feet,  
Jesu, you acted as servant to them.  
(Refrain)**

**Neighbors are rich and poor,  
varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near and far away.  
(Refrain)**

**These are the ones we should serve,  
these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you.  
(Refrain)**

**Loving puts us on our knees,  
showing our faith by our deeds,  
serving the neighbors we have from you.  
(Refrain)**

**Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet,  
this is the way we should live with you.  
(Refrain)**

\*BENEDICTION

Norma Hansen

Leader: May the Peace of God go with you.

**People: And also with you. Amen.**

\*SENDING FORTH

*Halleluja*

*NCH #236*

**Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle, lu-u-jah!**

**Halleluja, hallelujah!**

POSTLUDE

June (Reprise)  
Rodgers/Hammerstein

Chappell Kingsland, Piano

*\*All are invited to stand in body or spirit.*



**SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST • 5300 E. FLORIDA AVENUE, DENVER, CO 80222**

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**CHURCH STAFF:**

Rev. Russ Kirby, Pastor • Chappell Kingsland, Music Director  
Kerry Mayhew, Administrative Assistant • Debbie Gordy, Financial Assistant



# WELCOME TO SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

Whether you are a guest or a member, thank you for worshipping with us.

## THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sun. **9:30 am Worship**

Mon. 7:00 PM Boy Scouts

Tues. 10:00 am Bible Study  
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Wed. **6:00 pm Virtual Community Social**

Fri. 9:30 am Art Class

Sun. **9:30 am Worship**



## SALEM CHURCH OFFICE

Office Hours:

Monday 3-6pm

Tuesday: 10am-6pm

Friday: 10am-6pm

Pastor Russ will be in Monday-Wednesday.



## Missions

The mission for June is Archway clothing drive. We will be collecting gently cleaned and used clothing for Archway new clothing store on the 20th and 27th. Drop-offs are also available anytime from June 14-27th in the Narthex.