

# SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, DENVER

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



**November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

**[salemuccdenver.org](http://salemuccdenver.org)**

# SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

---

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

PRELUDE

Angela Weaver

RINGING OF THE BELL

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Loving God of power and justice and peace, In our broken world. We seek a new order.

**All: Where there is courage to speak truth to power.**

One: We seek a new order.

**All: Where there is mutual support in church and community.**

One: We seek a new order.

**All: Where there is abundant time for healing.**

One: We seek a new order.

**All: Where there is peace and freedom for all!**

~ from <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

## UNISON PRAYER

**God has said: “This is my resting place forever, Here I will reside, for I have desired it.” The Lord has chosen us; God desires to live among us. We are blessed to have God call us home. With God among us, we will be clothed with salvation; The faithful will shout for joy! With a faithful shout, we proclaim Christ our King! May the corners of the earth hear our cry: Jesus Christ is our King! Come let us worship our one and only Savior!**

*-by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

\*OPENING HYMN      *Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing*      NCH #303

FIRST READING

Psalm 93

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

SECOND READING

John 18:33-37

MESSAGE

HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

NCH #277

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING MEDITATION

Angela Weaver

\*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**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Come, O Thankful People, Come*

NCH #422

PRAYER FOR OUR MEAL

\*BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Angela Weaver



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

Phone: 303-759-4649 • Email: [salemuccdenver@gmail.com](mailto:salemuccdenver@gmail.com)

**CHURCH STAFF:**

Designated Interim Minister: Dustin Adkins • Administrative Assistant: Lisa Thomas



## **This Week at Salem:**

**Tuesday - Bible Study** – 10 AM, via Zoom.

Word of the day is ...*Gratitude*.

Does this word mean giving thanks or does it have a much deeper feeling? Our hymns sing of blessings. Television commercials display beautiful scenes to help us (purchase) see thankfulness. In this contemplation go with what your mind sees.

**Thursday** – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**Sunday** - Worship – 9:30 AM

## Announcements

**Stay after worship today** for Thanksgiving Dinner!

**Hanging of the Greens** is Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at 3 PM. See Beth Hansen with any questions.

**Sunday, Dec. 1**, is the First Sunday of Advent!

Advent is the season when Christians all over the world begin to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas Day. Our worship next Sunday will include preparing our Sanctuary for Advent with the presentation of Advent symbols, hearing scripture, singing carols, and celebrating Holy Communion together. Please invite a friend or neighbor and join our Salem family for this joyous worship!

**Pastor Dustin will be traveling** this week for vacation. Don't hesitate to get in touch with him by phone, text, or email if you need him during this time. He will be back on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Between December 4<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, he will be finishing final seminary projects, and his office hours may vary.

**Upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting:** January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **Salem History**

### **“Bradley School”**

Sunday, March 18th, 1956, witnessed the last worship service conducted in Pioneer Chapel. The choir sang “Surely He Has Borne Our Grievs”, and grief must have been the prevailing emotion as Salem's people prepared to say goodbye to their home of 36 years. The gentle hill at 9th and Sherman is now home to an office building and even the name “Pioneer” resides only in memory as the congregation chose to return to the original “Salem” at its new location.

Final furniture moving was completed by April 10, not to the new building, but to members’ homes and garages throughout Denver. A treasured anecdote recalls dropping a piano down the flight of stairs in Schmidt Hall and almost imbedding John Traudt into the plaster wall. What was left of the piano was repaired by Lynn Massa. What was left of John Traudt was revived and sent back to work.

On Palm Sunday members gathered at Bradley Elementary School at East Cornell and Dahlia. What was expected to be only a brief stop became Salem's home for over a year.

Plans for the new church were let for bids in May and on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Frohlich Construction Company was instructed to begin immediate construction at a cost of \$76,425. It wasn't until October 28, however, that construction had proceeded far enough to dedicate and lay a

cornerstone, containing documents from the Chapel's cornerstone and new documents.

Even in its temporary home Salem made plans for the future. A drop in membership might have been expected but membership actually increased by 16%. Pastor Kieker published a series of articles entitled, "So many have asked..." outlining the purpose and goals of Salem. The young, growing suburban community began to provide a welcome increase in Sunday School.

The time of "exile" was filled with the numerous details of moving a church: raising money, keeping on top of construction, and creating a focus for a far-flung congregation. As members would sometimes "take a swing down Florida" they may have chaffed at the slow progress but must have rejoiced at the prospect of finally having a new home.