

# Salem United Methodist Church

February 2, 2025

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 71)

"In you, O Lord, we take refuge; let us never be put to shame. Be to us a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save us, for you are our rock and our fortress. Our praise is continually of you." We offer our worship with glad and generous hearts.

OPENING PRAYER (in unison): **Great and glorious God, we are thankful your faithfulness extends forever, and the power of your righteousness is mighty to transform the world. Shine your light into our confusion and struggle. Open us to receive your guidance and strength. Light our way as we turn to you with hearts longing for forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace. Help us to be blessed by the signs of your everlasting light. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*OPENING MUSIC "Lord of the Dance" #261

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CHOIR ANTHEM "Great is the Lord" by Michael W. Smith/Deborah D. Smith

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:21-30 (CEB)

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

MESSAGE "Truth Lighting the Way"

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

We believe this is God's table, and all are welcome. We invite you to join us in receiving God's gifts through the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you prefer prepackaged wafer/juice, please ask an usher.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **O Source of all true wisdom and goodness, how often we substitute our own wisdom and goodness for the way of life shown to us by Jesus Christ. Forgive us, open our hearts to the simple, gentle, loving ways Jesus taught, and empower us by your Spirit so to live. Amen.**

WORDS OF PARDON

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (pp. 15-16)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison): **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION "How Deep the Father's Love" (see screen)  
"Nothing But the Blood" #362

\*DOXOLOGY #95  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND COMMITMENT (in unison): **Gracious God, thank you for feeding us at your table of mercy and forgiveness. We thank you for the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and for the opportunity to follow in your light. Guide us along the way of Christ; light our path. May we experience signs of your presence in our daily lives. We offer our gifts and ourselves that your glory may shine in our world today. Amen.**

\*CLOSING MUSIC "Dear Jesus in Whose Life I See" #468

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Irish Blessing  
**May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm on your face. The rain fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

\*POSTLUDE

## **SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

Our Unison Prayer of Confession was written by Ruth C. Duck and is taken from Bread For The Journey. Our Communion liturgy is adapted from The United Methodist Book of Worship and used by permission of The United Methodist Publishing House.

Live stream notice: We are blessed to be able to live stream and record our 10:45 a.m. worship service. Anyone in the sanctuary during that time may appear on camera as part of the service and consents to filming. Our camera is directed at the front of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stacey.

Welcome to Salem United Methodist Church! Thank you for joining us today in worship.

Our Worship Leaders Today:

Susan Walker, Liturgist

Scott Shelton, Tech Team Producer

Bryan Niles, Tech Team Director

Katy Stevens, Director of Music

Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson, Pastor (pastor@salemunited.org)

**Junior Church** begins after the Children's Message.

**THIS WEEK** (see our website for details: salemunited.org)

Monday, 2/3 7:00 p.m. – Pastor's Bible Study on Proverbs on Zoom

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>)

Monday, 2/3 7:30 p.m. – Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)

Wednesday, 2/5 10:00 a.m. – Morning Bible Study (Salem House)

**Next Sunday is the Souper Bowl of Caring:** Our youth are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 9 to help tackle the challenge of hunger and food insecurity in our community. On that day, they will be collecting non-perishable foods (canned soup, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, and/or canned ravioli) and monetary donations to benefit the outreach work of the 755 Alliance in Edgewood.

**UPCOMING** (see our website for details: salemunited.org)

Sunday, 2/9 both services – Souper Bowl of Caring

Monday, 2/17 – prepaid soup sale orders due (forms in narthex and online)

Sunday, 2/23 – soup sale pickup (kitchen; 15 minutes after each service)

Saturday, 3/1 8:00-10:30 a.m. – Breakfast Bash (Hall)

Wednesday, 3/5 7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Worship (in person and online)

**February Soup Sale:** This month's soup is either vegetable or vegetable beef – each available for \$12 per quart. Prepaid orders are due February 17<sup>th</sup> and can be picked up Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Order forms are available in the narthex or in the announcement section on salemunited.org.



**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**UPPER FALLS, MD**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025**

Salem United Methodist Church  
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