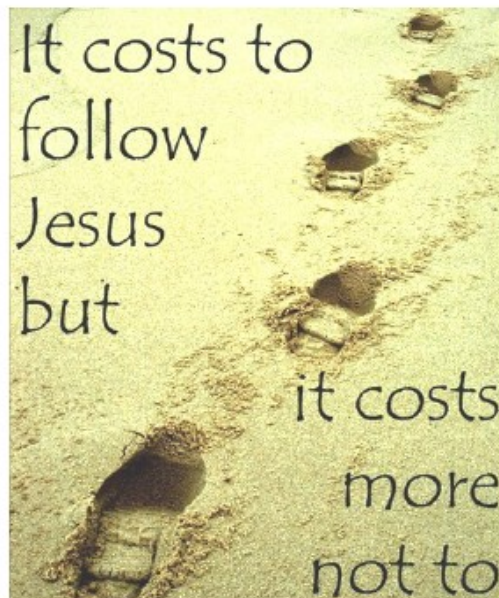


**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CANTON CENTER, CT**



**January 21, 2018 - 10:00 a.m.
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany**



184 Cherry Brook Road, PO Box 133, Canton Center, CT 06020-0133

Office 860-693-4581

E-mail: office@cantoncenterchurch.org

www.cantoncenterchurch.org

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements from the congregation are welcome. Those wishing to make Announcements are asked to be in the front pews at the start of the announcements period.

There will be opportunity to share prayer requests at the time of the Prayers of the Church. If you wish to offer a prayer request in written form, please fill out one of the yellow prayer request cards found in the pews and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering.

Large print editions of the bulletin and Chalice Hymnal are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery Room is available in the lower level of the Parish House. Children ages Birth-3 years may visit the Nursery with a parent at any time.

**All who are able, please stand. Bold denotes unison voice.*

PRELUDE

"Tender Lord, Precious Lord"

Douglas Wagner

CALL TO WORSHIP

From our everyday places and our everyday lives, God calls us,
to be those who follow Christ in the everyday world.

From preoccupation with ourselves, God calls us,
to be those devoted to finding each other.

Whoever we are, whatever our story,
God gathers us in for the work of love.

Now on this day, here in this place,
love finds us again and calls us to come along.

**HYMN 284 Chalice (blue) "Gather Us In"*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

God of grace, you have gathered us in once more
and we remember your call to us,
to rise from where we are and follow where you lead.
We remember how often we follow our own desires,
born not of love, or of the will to serve,
but of the need to prevail.

We ask forgiveness for our failures of justice,
for our ruptures of community,
and our blindness to the world's need.
God who makes all things new, restore us.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As we confess to God all that needs healing within and among us,
let us remember the promise of the gospel: that all who are in Christ
are new creations altogether, forgiven and redeemed in love. Friends,
grace gives us a new chance every day.

Thanks be to God.

Now let us pray in the words that Jesus has taught us:

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for a sung response. The first staff is for the vocal line, and the second is for the piano accompaniment. Both are in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The vocal line consists of four phrases of 'al-le-lu-ia' with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The piano accompaniment consists of four chords: G major, C major, D major, and G major. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Sarah Pradhan

Following this, children may go to church school.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:14-20

SERMON "The Long View"

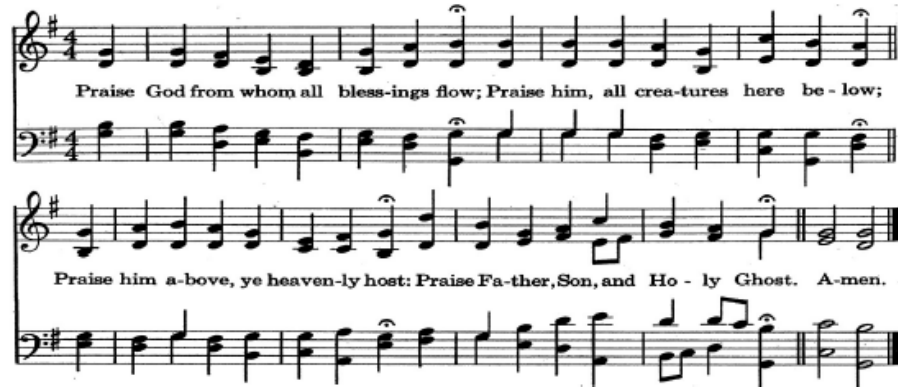
***HYMN 342, Chalice (blue)** "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Senior Choir Mark Hayes

***Doxology**



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of every grace,
we thank you for all the good gifts you give us
for ministries of justice, compassion and care.
We ask your blessing upon these that we offer now,
that they might bear witness to your love,
among us and beyond us.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN 218, Pilgrim (red)** *"O' Jesus, I Have Promised"*

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

***POSTLUDE** *"O' Sing the Glories of Our Lord:* David Harris

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka	Ministers: Every Member
Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe	Sexton: Walt LeGeyt
Director of Faith Formation: Sarah Pradhan	Secretary: Kristen DiMattia
Duty Deacons: Kathy Byko & Dan LeGeyt	Duty Trustee: Tom Goodwin
Ushers: Claire Byko & Steve Byko	Greeters: Linda Kessler
Coffee Hour Host: Carole Fisher	

**The First Congregational Church, Canton Center
January 21, 2018**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The flowers this morning are given by Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka,
in loving memory of her parents, Robert and Arlene Pelc,
who both passed away on Jan. 16, 1997.*

WELCOME

We're glad you've joined us for worship today. Please know that whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! If you are visiting today, please help us get to know you better by filling out one of the visitor cards in the pews and placing it in the offering plate. Questions? Please feel free to ask the pastor, or call the church office during the week.

SUPERBOWL GRINDER SALE - TODAY

***The Junior Youth Formation Superbowl Grinder sales will continue through 1/28 at coffee hour.
Your choice of turkey, ham or Italian with lots of fixings.
Cost is \$6.50 per grinder and proceeds benefit our church school mission,
Asante Sana for Education. Pick up is 2/4.***

SOUPER SUNDAY

***The Missions & Outreach Committee will be selling various soups made by
committee members to raise money for Open Hearth in Hartford.
Open Hearth provides transitional living program through an 84-bed facility
and addiction-related support.
Please buy something delicious for your lunch/supper meal while helping others in need.***

ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING FOR CANTON CHURCHES

Tuesday, January 23, 10 a.m.

Canton Police Department, 45 River Road, Canton

All interested church members and key lay leaders are encouraged to attend this presentation, offered by Captain Lawrence Terra of the Canton Police Department, on how churches can be prepared in the event of an armed aggressor on their premises.

STOP BY THE SCRIP TABLE TODAY!

January is a great time to work on organizing the house or small improvement projects. This week, Home Depot is offering a 7% rebate, which is nearly double their usual rebate.

Stop by during coffee hour and order some scrip for pick up next week.

We also have our usual grocery store cards in stock – first come, first served. Thanks!

PRIME TIMERS

The Out to Lunch Group will meet at Amici's in Avon at 12:00 On Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

If schools are closed we will not meet.

Please call Harriet Vose -860-693-2333 if you have to cancel or have questions.

ANNUAL MEETING & REPORTS

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 25, 2018

If you are a committee chair and need to submit a report -

please email your reports to the church office by January 26

so they may be included and distributed for review a few weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

PRAYER CONCERNS NOW POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARDS

You may now find posted each week on our bulletin boards the prayer requests that were publicly shared in worship on the prior two Sundays, and any others that have arisen that are public.

The postings are on both the main church bulletin board (in the vestibule outside the kitchen) and on the bulletin board right outside the church office.

Sunday 21	Monday 22	Tuesday 23	Wednesday 24	Thursday 25	Friday 26	Saturday 27
Worship 10 am	Choir 7 pm ACA 7 pm	AA 7 pm	Search Committee 7 pm	Handbell Choir 7 pm		AA 11 pm