

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



**May 13, 2018 - 10:00 a.m.  
Seventh Sunday of Easter**



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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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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- Childcare is provided for ages 3 and under, in the lower level of the Parish House.*

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

PRELUDE

*“Serenity”*

Jason Krug

Cherry Brook Chimes Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

To praise and give thanks, for this we gather:  
**to love and to serve, for this we are called.**

In families of many kinds and in the whole family of creation,

**God’s love and grace are known.**

So let us know again, on this day, our belonging –

**to God, to each other, to all creation.**

And let that belonging bear the fruits of our faith:

**love and courage, hope and joy,**

**wisdom, strength and peace.**

*\*HYMN 14 Chalice (blue) “Womb of Life, and Source of Being”*

**\*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Creator God, who gives us life,  
may we know you on this day as a deep and nurturing love,  
a strong and gentle peace, a wisdom that teaches us life,  
a compassion that opens our hearts.  
Abide in us and help us abide in you.

Make your home in us, that we might make our home in you,  
for the sake of our own families  
and for the family of the world.  
This we ask in Jesus' name and spirit, as we also say together;

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**

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**

Acts 17:16-28

**SERMON** "Mothering God"

**\*HYMN 83, Chalice (blue)** "Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

**Invitation**

**Offertory** "I Will Greatly Rejoice"

Butler



**The First Congregational Church, Canton Center**  
**May 13, 2018**

*The flowers this morning are given by Jim & Gina Magennis  
in memory of their mothers, Claudette Magennis and Evelia Guiterrez.*

**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.

**BAKE SALE**

*Please visit our JYF bake sale table in fellowship hall after worship this morning and buy some yummy treats. Cookies, cakes, and muffins make perfect last minute Mother's Day gifts!*

**THINK SCRIP!**

*With so many gift giving occasions in May and June, the Scrip table is the perfect place to shop! We have a wide variety of cards in stock and a list of over 700 retailers you can place an order for. There is sure to be something for that teacher, student, mom, dad, new baby or happy couple in your life! Visit us during coffee hour in the parish hall!*

**SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION**

*Missions & Outreach will be collecting all types of school supplies (notebooks, pens/pencils, rulers, sticky notes, highlighters) and snacks (granola bars, dried fruits, etc.) for the months of May & June. Please put in the Missions box outside of the Kitchen.*

**GARDEN BOX - HELP NEEDED**

*Each year we look for volunteers that could help attend to our garden boxes. Vegetables that are grown next to the parsonage, are taken to the local food banks. If you would like to volunteer for this, please see the sign up sheet on the Mission & Outreach board.*

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We gather as a welcoming community in worship, learning, service and fellowship, to embody Christ's message of love, compassion and justice. Joining faith with action, both within and beyond our church, we strive to build a community that serves all.

### THANK YOU TO THE BRISTOL FAMILY FOR OUR MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS

We are grateful to the Bristol family for once again donating many pansy plants on Mother's Day so our children can give them to their mothers and grandmothers. Here is the lovely background to this tradition, from Hollace Bristol:

*Again this year, the Bristol family will donate pansy plants on Mother's Day. This tradition was started by my grandmother, Ruth Bristol, in the late 1940s in memory of her son, my uncle, 2nd Lieutenant Sterling W. Bristol, Jr., who piloted a B-17 bomber that was shot down by the Germans in WWII.*

*Dan Bristol and his son, Josh Bristol, now do the growing and feel warmly about carrying on this tradition for the fourth generation, in honor of Mother's Day.*

### SUMMER YOUTH MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

**SILVER LAKE** -Anyone in grades 10th - college looking to be involved in a Silver Lake mission opportunity? See Sarah Pradhan or Casey Levine to learn more about the mission trip A Hammer & a Nail in Orland, Maine. Spend a week "helping to build homes, do farm work, and cook in a soup kitchen as we experience what it means to love our neighbors."

**HEADS UP! HARTFORD** -Stay tuned for information about registration for Heads Up! Hartford, a local mission opportunity in the greater Hartford area. A week session starting in the end of June, youth in grades 9-12 work together to improve our communities.

Sunday 13	Monday 14	Tuesday 15	Wednesday 16	Thursday 17	Friday 18	Saturday 19
Worship 10 am Cherub Choir 11:15 am	Prayer Shawl 10 am Trustees 7 pm Choir 7 pm ACA 7 pm	AA 7 pm	Council Meeting 7 pm			AA 11 pm