



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 3, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday



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## ~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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*\*Please stand, if you are able. Bold denotes unison response.*

### CHIMES

Karen Needham

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*Prayer request cards may be found on the tables at the back of the church.*

*Offerings may be placed in the marked boxes on the tables at the back of the church.*

### PRELUDE

*Gift of Finest Wheat*

Westendorf/Kreutz arr. John Ferguson

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to this place,

**where we bring our hungers and find food,  
our brokenness and find healing,  
ourselves and find acceptance.**

Welcome to this place,

**where we remember that “God’s beloved” means us,  
but not only us--  
God’s beloved is all of creation.**

Welcome to this place,

**for here we join with each other,  
with hearts of welcome for all others,  
invited together to the table of God.**

**\*HYMN** *In Christ There Is No East or West* Chalice (blue), 687

- 1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.*
- 2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.*
- 3. Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be;  
all children of the living God are surely kin to me.*
- 4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;  
all loving hearts are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.*

### **\*GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**God of all the world and of infinite worlds,  
we give thanks on this day for the goodness of all that you create,**



## Invitation

On this day, we come to Christ's table with our brothers and sisters  
the world over, to remember the love that makes us one –

**whoever we are, wherever we live, whatever our story.**

We are gathered in the spirit of the risen Christ,

**who sees not our differences but our oneness.**

Singing the song of the sacred in every language, speaking the name of the sacred in every tongue,  
**in conflict and in communion, in discord and desire,**  
**we come to the table of God.**

## Prayer of Preparation

## Words of Institution, Partaking of the Elements

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**\*HYMN**     *They'll Know We are Christians*     Chalice (blue), 494     Vss. 1-3

1. *We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored.*

*Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

2. *We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.*

*Refrain*

3. *We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.*

*Refrain*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (sung by all)

**Reprise:** *And they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love, and they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

**\*POSTLUDE**     *Abbot's Leigh (Lord, Give the Great Commission)*     Cyril Taylor     arr. Lee J. Afdahl