



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

September 19, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m.



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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

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

Charles Wesley arr. Mark Hayes

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, and be gathered in peace,  
**for it is God who gathers us.**

On this day, let our hearts be lifted and our lives renewed,  
**for it is the Spirit that renews us.**

Whether from places of need or places of strength,  
**with hearts of fear or hearts of love,**  
we come to this time of worship with our whole selves,  
**to be nurtured by the waters of faith.**

### \*HYMN

*Spirit, Come, Dispel Our Sadness* Chalice (blue), 253

- 1. Spirit, come, dispel our sadness, pierce the clouds of nature's night;  
Come, O Source of joy and gladness, breathe your life & spread your light.  
From the height that knows no measure, as a gracious shower descend,  
Bringing down the richest treasurer we can wish, or God can send.*
- 2. Let your fire heal our dissensions, let your flame refine our goals,  
Let your peace resolve our tensions, send your dove to soothe our souls.  
Let your wind flow fresh within us, sweeping clean all hate and strife  
From our hearts, O come & win us for a more abundant life.*
- 3. Author of the new creation, come, anoint us with your power.  
Make our hearts your habitation, with your grace our spirits shower.  
Hear, O hear our supplication, blessed Spirit, God of peace!  
Rest upon this congregation with the fullness of your grace.*

## \*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of this brand new day,  
may we remember that there is nowhere we can be  
where you are not.

May we be mindful of your presence everywhere,  
in all that we experience,  
guiding and sustaining us, holding and loving us.  
Through joys and trials, through ups and downs,  
may we remember our connection in Christ, like branches to vine,  
abiding in the love that grounds us all.

And may we, in turn, live lovingly toward all things.

This we ask in Jesus' name and spirit, as we also pray 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

*Alleluia*

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

Karen Needham

## READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE Psalm 1, Jeremiah 17:5-8

## SERMON *Irrigation System*

## ANTHEM *Let the Praise Go 'Round* Members of the Senior Choir

William Boyce arr. Hal Hopson

## DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

**\*HYMN**     *Like a Tree Beside the Waters*

Tune: Nettleton

*Like a tree beside the waters, nurtured by your loving care,  
We, O God, your sons and daughters, your enduring witness bear.  
In each passing generation may your voice of love be heard.  
Bless, we pray, this congregation with your holy living Word.*

*Like a tree beside the river, drawing life from holy streams,  
Fill us with your love forever; recreate our hopes and dreams.  
Through the storms of life, sustain us by the wisdom of your grace.  
May the changing of the seasons find us in your warm embrace.*

*We, beside the living waters, drink from your eternal life.  
Give to all, your sons and daughters, faith that rises over strife.  
O Living God, most glorious, strengthen us for life today.  
By the hope of timeless promise, guide your church upon the way.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

Tune: Dove of Peace

*Together met, together bound by all that God has done,  
We'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,  
The love that makes us one.*

**\*POSTLUDE**     *Sing to the Lord of Harvest*

J.S.B. Monsell arr. Healey Willan

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

**Director of Music:** Mary Lou Keefe

**Office Manager:** Kristen DiMattia

**Duty Deacons:** Tim LeGeyt & Vicki Rees

**Duty Trustees:** Bill Downes & Don Scott

**Ministers:** Every Member

**Sexton:** Walt LeGeyt

**Camera:** Casey Levine