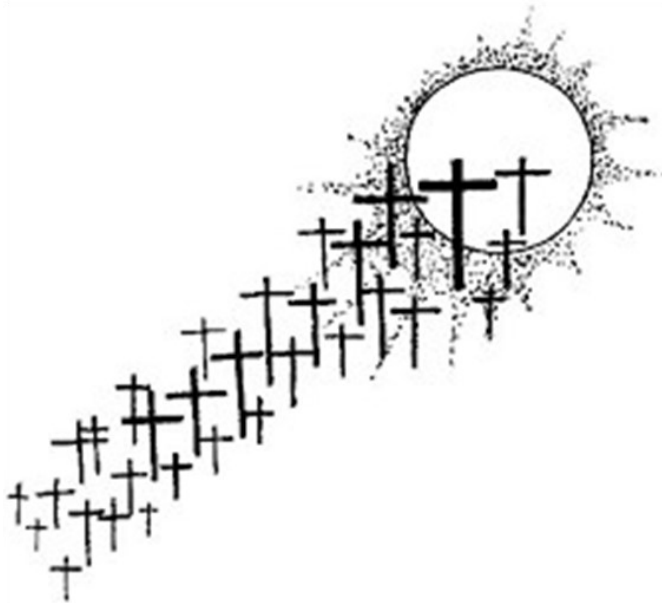




# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 31, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m.

All Saints Sunday



## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

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[www.cantoncenterchurch.org](http://www.cantoncenterchurch.org)

*An Open and Affirming Church*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

## CHIMES

Karen Needham

## WELCOME AND 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

*Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

Trad. American

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Thanks be to God, our Rock and our Redeemer;

**for God has been our dwelling place in all generations.**

Today as we gather, we give thanks for the communion of saints,

**all the faithful and beloved who have gone before us.**

Through time and beyond time, with generations past and those to come,

**we all belong in one God, one source of life, one source of love.**

## \*HYMN

*Forward Through the Ages*

Pilgrim (red), 383

*Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,*

*Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

*Gifts in different measure, hearts of one accord,*

*Manifold the service, one the sure reward;*

*Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,*

*Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

*Wider grows the kingdom, reign of love and light;*

*For it we must labor, 'til our faith is sight.*

*Prophets have proclaimed it, martyrs testified,*

*Poets sung its glory, heroes for it died.*

*Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,*

*Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

*Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall;  
In each loss of triumph, lose or triumph all.  
Bound by God's far purpose in one living whole,  
Move we on together to the shining goal.  
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,  
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

**\*GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Holy One, the beginning and the end of all things,  
we give thanks as we gather here  
for our place in a sacred story and a living history.  
We listen now for the Word you will speak,  
as generations before us have listened.  
We hope in the dawning of your realm,  
as generations before us have hoped.  
May your Spirit awaken us now,  
that with the whole communion of saints  
we might know ourselves as your people,  
made for lives of love.**

**This we ask in Christ's 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.**

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**

Karen Needham

*Following this, children may go out.*

## LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Jewish liturgy, adapted

*Remembering departed loved ones, including those from our congregation who have passed on in the last year:*

*John Edward Cannon III, Barbara Lowell, Carole Fisher*

In the rising of the sun and its going down,

**we remember them.**

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

**we remember them.**

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,

**we remember them.**

In the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,

**we remember them.**

In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,

**we remember them.**

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,

**we remember them.**

When we are weary and in need of strength,

**we remember them.**

When we are lost and sick of heart,

**we remember them.**

When we have joys and celebrations we yearn to share,

**we remember them.**

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are part of us.

**And in the heart of God, they live eternally.**

**READING FROM SCRIPTURE**      Selected verses from Hebrews 11 & 12

**SERMON**      *Cloud of Witnesses*

**ANTHEM**      *Lift Up Your Heads, O Gates*  
Members of the Senior Choir

David von Kampen

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer**

**\*HYMN**

*For All the Saints*

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who to the  
2 You were their rock, their ref - uge, and their might: you, Christ, the  
3 Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold, live as the  
4 Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine, we fee - bly  
5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con - fessed, your name, O Je - sus,  
hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you  
saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a  
strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our  
ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.  
were their one true light.  
glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
faith - ful lives en - twine.  
gain, and faith grows strong.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Praise the Lord with Music*

Jay Althouse

**\*POST-POSTLUDE**

*Theme from Phantom of the Opera*

Andrew Lloyd Webber

## 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!  
Questions? Please feel free to ask the pastor, or call the church office during the week.

*The flowers this morning are given by Jan Tanner and family  
in loving memory of Rosalie Bolland, my mom and Gramma Schramm,  
for whom I will be forever grateful.*

## MISSIONS COLLECTIONS

**Non-perishable food items will be collected** by the Missions and Outreach Committee and the CE Committee for the Canton Food Bank. **Brown bags and a list of food suggestions will be handed out on Sunday, 10/31 and on Sunday, 11/7.** Food items may be returned to the area under the stairs by the church office anytime before or on Sunday, 11/21. If you wish to deliver during the week call the church before coming as office hours are intermittent. Please check the dates on what you donate to make sure items are not expired. Thank you for taking the time to share with others who are not as fortunate.

**Grocery store gift cards to Stop & Shop, Shop Rite or Aldi** are requested in order to purchase the necessary items for boxes that The Canton Social Services Department is putting for some Canton families, similar to what they did last year. **If you wish to purchase gift cards through our Scrip program please contact Casey Levine** at 860-371-1016 or [c.levine@comcast.net](mailto:c.levine@comcast.net). Aldi is not available through Scrip. Please indicate that the gift card/s are for the Thanksgiving boxes and have them in to the church office by Thursday, November 11th.

**Donations are also being accepted in support of recently arrived refugees from Afghanistan.** They are being brought to the New Haven and Hartford areas by IRIS ( Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services) and placed in apartments in the area to start a new life here. To see a complete list of needs please go to [irisct.org](http://irisct.org). To arrange for a furniture pick up of dressers, dining tables and chairs, side tables, small sofas and carpets please send photos to [mariesmovers@yahoo.com](mailto:mariesmovers@yahoo.com) or contact Gina Magennis at [g.magennis76@gmail.com](mailto:g.magennis76@gmail.com) to arrange next group pickup in our area. First pickup is scheduled for November 2. Thank you!

**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING of the First Congregational Church, Canton Center, Connecticut**, on Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. OR on subsequent Sundays at 11:00 a.m. until a quorum is obtained.

**AGENDA:**

1. Call to order and opening prayer.
2. Reading of the call to the meeting.
3. Presentation of the proposed changes to the Church's by-laws included in Amendment 14
4. Any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bev Sealand, Clerk

**COME HIKE WITH US!** -Sunday, November 7th after church. We invite you on a family hike on the Mary Conklin trail up on Indian Hill, just a few minutes from the church. The trail does not have a lot of elevation and we will walk about two miles, noticing the beauty of the woods this time of year. Wear sturdy shoes, dress in layers and bring a hat and water. We will meet after church and carpool to the parking area off Indian Hill Road. Call Hollace Bristol with questions (928) 853-0311 or email [hlbristol@msn.com](mailto:hlbristol@msn.com). Depending on the participation we may make hiking a regular church activity. Rain date: Sunday, November 14th.

**THE ROAMING SCRIP LADY!** - Scrip gift cards are still available for immediate purchase or order every week. Since we are not having a traditional coffee hour for the time being, there will not be a table set up on Sundays. Just look for Casey in church or reach out via phone (860-693-0134) or email ([c.levine@comcast.net](mailto:c.levine@comcast.net)) to place an order. Thanks for your support!

**NEWSLETTER & WEEKLY REMINDER EMAILS**— If you are not receiving our monthly newsletter or weekly reminder by email and would like to, please log on to our website [CantonCenterChurch.org](http://CantonCenterChurch.org) and subscribe or forward your email to [office@cantoncenterchurch.org](mailto:office@cantoncenterchurch.org).

Sunday 31	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6
<b>Worship 10 am</b>	Sr. Choir 5 pm ACA 7	AA 7:00 pm	<b>Deacons 7 pm zoom</b>	Choir 7 pm		AA 11:00 pm

