



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

Service for January 23, 2022

Live streamed on Sat., Jan. 22, 2022, 10:00 a.m.



*Cherry Brook*

*Photo by church member John Lester Raye*

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *My God and I*

J.B. Sergei

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!  
Whatever energizes our spirits and deepens them,  
let us experience that today.  
Whatever challenges our spirits and wearies them,  
let us remember that God strengthens us through everything.  
Whatever will awaken us to our place in the Body of Christ,  
let that be stirred in us now.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us receive it as the gift of God.

HYMN *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* Chalice Hymnal, 251

*O Holy Spirit, Root of life, Creator, cleanser of all things,  
Anoint our wounds, awaken us, with lustrous movement of your wings.*

*Eternal Vigor, Saving One, you free us by your living Word,  
Becoming flesh to wear our pain, and all creation is restored.*

*O Holy Wisdom, Soaring Power, encompass us with wings unfurled,  
And carry us, encircling all, above, below and through the world.*

GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of times and seasons, God of days and years,  
let us not forget that you are always and everywhere –  
with us when we are gathered and when we are not,

with us through days of joy and hours of trial.  
Remind us today that we belong to one another,  
and all belong to you –  
parts of a whole, members of one body.  
Help us to hear that wisdom and to heed its call,  
that we might be the presence of love in our world,  
for each other and for all others.

We pray 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.

#### SUNG RESPONSE

*Bless God, O My Soul*

Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!  
Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!

#### READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:14-21: 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26-27

SERMON *Something to Believe In*

ANTHEM *One Church, One Faith*  
Members of the Senior Choir

Getty/Shackley

#### DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

God of every goodness,  
may your spirit bless all the offerings we make,  
that they might become love, compassion and justice.

Take our minds and think through them,  
our voices and speak through them;  
take our hands and serve through them,  
our hearts and love through them,  
for the sake of the gospel and for the sake of the world. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

**HYMN**     *Be Thou My Vision*

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,  
Though in me dwelling and I with thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and though only, first in my heart;  
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*Great God of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

## BENEDICTION

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**     *Just a Closer Walk With Me*     refrain  
Senior Choir

**POSTLUDE**     *Abbot's Leigh*

Cyril V. Taylor arr. Lee J. Afdahl