



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Live Streamed



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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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**CHIMES**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*

Craig Courtney

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Friends, let us be gathered in spirit,  
even where we are not gathered in person.  
Let us remember the bonds of our fellowship  
that abide no matter the setting.  
May our hearts and minds be ready,  
may our spirits be present,  
for the word that God will speak to us today:  
faith, hope and love for our paths.

**HYMN**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Pilgrim 228

Vss. 1, 3 & 4

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art!  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.*

*Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above.  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.*

*Finish then, thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.*

## GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Loving Spirit, ground of our being,  
help us to remember again today your goodness,  
to hear your voice and follow your call.  
Help us to know again the pull of love,  
patient and kind,  
in all the places of our lives,  
so that when we are tempted to be  
less than loving, or less than kind,  
or less than patient,  
we will rise to our better selves  
and be with each other in Christ-like ways.  
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

*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.

### READING FROM SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

### SERMON *Growing Up is Hard to Do*

**ANTHEM**     *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*  
                  members of the Senior Choir

Frederick Atkinson

## **DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer**

**HYMN**         *The Gift of Love*                     Chalice 526

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
And have the gift to all inspire,  
And have not love, my words are vain,  
As sounding brass and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess,  
And striving so my love profess,  
But not be given by love within,  
The profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
Our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed;  
By this we worship and are freed.*

## **BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** from *The Gift of Love* tune *O Waly Waly*; words Hal Hopson

**POSTLUDE**     *A Thousand Storms*

Frombach/Sorenson