



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m. In Person & Live Streamed



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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

**Please stand if 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 *O Breath of Life*

Clement Scholefield

CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends, we come together again in the presence of our life-giving God,
the One who breathes life into everything.

We trust in the Spirit that stirs among us,
the Spirit that makes all things new.

If we are seeking hope today,
let us trust in the return of hope.

If we are seeking courage today,
let us trust God to awaken it in us.

Wherever we are, whatever our need, God is still and always creating –
even us, even here, even now.

***HYMN** *Wind Upon the Waters* Chalice (blue), 247

*Wind upon the waters, voice upon the deep, rouse your sons and daughters,
Wake us from our sleep, breathing life into all flesh, breathing love into all hearts,
Living wind upon the waters of my soul.*

*Showers from the heavens, water from the earth, gift so wholly given,
Source of every birth; joy of every living thing, making all creation sing,
Shower down upon the dry earth of my soul.*

*Rock and hill and garden, wood and desert sand, prairie, field and meadow,
Shaped by Love's own hand, love that fills the world around, springing up
from barren ground, grow your love within the garden of my soul.*

*Blazing light of wonder, flame that pierces night, burst the dark asunder,
Fill our souls with light. Lord of glory, fill the skies, make an end
To hatred's cries, be the blazing sun of justice in our lives.*

*Wind upon the waters, rains upon the sand, grace your sons & daughters,
Newborn by your hand. Come, O Spirit, and renew all the life
That comes from you, send your winds upon the waters of my soul.*

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

Life-giving God, who makes us new for every day,
let our eyes see you, our ears hear you, our hearts know you.
Stir us alive, that we might arise from all that deadens us –
help us awaken, help us grow.
Give us courage enough to become what you have made us for,
and faith enough to follow Jesus, crucified yet risen.
In his name and spirit we pray, 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 the Lord, My Soul*

Musical notation for the first line of the sung response. It consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time. The treble staff has a melody starting on a G4 note, with lyrics "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." below it. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present at the beginning.

Musical notation for the second line of the sung response. It consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time. The treble staff has a melody starting on a G4 note, with lyrics "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." below it. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present at the beginning. Chord symbols are written above the treble staff: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm.

ANTHEM *Draw Me Near*
Senior Choir

Mary McDonald

Following this, children may go out to church school.

REFLECTIONS ON VOCATION

Ali Hager

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14

SERMON *Not Finished Yet*

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN** *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* Chalice (blue), 251

Based on the writings of Hildegard of Bingen, 12th c.

*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.*

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Amen*

***POSTLUDE** *Praise We the Name of God*

J. S. Bach

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

Ministers: Every Member

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Ali Hager & Hugh Anderson

Camera: Casey Levine

Duty Trustee: Julius Ziemba & Dina Pelham Raimos