



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

September 4, 2022 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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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 *Come Labor On*
Cindy Webb - flute

Thomas Tertius Noble

CALL TO WORSHIP

From out of our silent depths into our visible gathering,

Come, Holy Spirit!

Calling us from our separateness into our oneness,

Come, Holy Spirit, and draw us together.

Blessing our labors in this life, whatever they may be,

Come, Holy Spirit, and energize us.

Revealing your presence in and among us all,

Come, Holy Spirit, and open us.

***HYMN** *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* Chalice (blue), 18

*All people that on earth do well, sing out your faith with cheerful voice;
Delight in God whose praise you tell, whose presence calls you to rejoice.*

*Know that there is one God indeed, who fashions us without our aid,
Who claims us, gives us all we need, whose tender care will never fade.*

*Enter the sacred gates with praise, with joy approach the temple walls.
Extol and bless our God always as people whom the Spirit calls.*

*Proclaim again that God is good, whose mercy is forever sure,
Whose truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.*

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

Creator God, this is a new day; help us to receive it.

This is a new chance; help us to live it.

**In our hopes and our labors, in your call deep within us,
may we hear the promise of love and the sound of grace,
so that all we do might serve your purposes in us.**

We gather our prayers into one prayer, 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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody and accompaniment for the first line of lyrics: "Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!". The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment for the second line of lyrics: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The lyrics are written below the notes.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE Psalm 139:1-18 Pew Bible, p. 503

SERMON *All Our Labors*

ANTHEM *Anthem* Benny Andersson/Tim Rice (from Chess)
Jerry Alonzy - soloist

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

HYMN (seated) *One Bread, One Body*

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.*

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be served in the pews. As the elements are passed, please wait until all have been served and all will partake together. Gluten-free bread is in the center of each bread plate. The juice trays hold non-alcoholic grape juice, with a few cups of water also available on each.

Invitation

Friends in Christ, we come to this table of grace,
each of us individually and all of us together.
We come to this table of blessing,
to meet the Risen One who calls us.

Prayer of Preparation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving God, giver of life and new life, we thank you for all your good gifts.
Now fed by your love, we go out into the day and the week,
to be bread for each other and light for the world. Amen.

*HYMN *Take My Gifts* Chalice (blue), 381

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!*

*Tale the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.*

*Take whatever I can offer, gifts that I have yet to find,
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be;
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.*

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen*

*POSTLUDE *Lord, You have searched me and known me* Allen Pote (based on Psalm 139)

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT. 11 – GATHERING SUNDAY!!

We open a new church year, celebrate our coming back together as a faith community, welcome back the choir, begin church school after some intergenerational time in the service, and enjoy a pizza lunch afterwards. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, if you wish. Join us!