



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 2, 2022 ~ 10:00 a.m.

In Person & Live Streamed



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

**All who are able, please stand.*

Bold denotes unison voice.

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 *Gift of Finest Wheat*

Robert Kreutz arr. John Ferguson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to this place,
**where we bring our hungers and find food,
where we bring ourselves and find acceptance.**

Welcome to this place,
**where we remember that “God’s beloved” means us,
but not only us: God’s creation is a whole world.**

Welcome to this place,
**where we join with each other and with all others,
seeking the Bread of Life.**

*HYMN *In Christ There Is No East or West* Chalice (blue), 687

*In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate’er your race may be;
All children of the loving God are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;
All loving hearts are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.*

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE, GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Reader: Because God is infinite in love and gracious toward all,
because God's mercy is greater than our transgression,
we know that whatever is not yet fully loving and faithful,
God can make new – even us, even here, even now.

In this assurance, let us pray:

**God of all the world and of infinite worlds,
we praise the goodness of all you have made,
even as we remember our failure to love all that you love.
Because we divide what is whole and betray what is one,
because we do violence to our world,
we need your spirit of peace.
God of our one world,
may our hearts today receive your peace.
In Christ's name 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

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.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 10:14-17

Pew Bible, p. 932

John 6:25-35

Pew Bible, p. 867

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.

An Open and Affirming Congregation.

Announcements

*The flowers this morning are given by Darryl Swain Habernern
in loving memory of her parents, Edna & Robert Petersen.*

Next Sun., Oct. 9: UCC Disabilities Awareness Week

Casey Levine, who has been involved with our Conference's Disability Awareness ministries, will share a reflection on that work.

Shop Scrip Today!

The Scrip table is open during coffee hour to supply all your gift card needs! We have lots of cards in our inventory that you can purchase and take home today. There are also over 750 different retailers you can place an order for and have your cards in one week. As mentioned in our recent mission moment, food banks can use gift cards to local grocery stores to purchase perishable items for their clients. Scrip is a great resource for helping the church while you help others!

Help Make a Hot Lunch and Sandwiches for Brian's Angels on Oct. 22nd

The Missions and Outreach Committee has made plans to have our congregation provide a hot meal to Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach in Bristol several times per year and to provide sandwiches approximately monthly. Brian's Angels serves lunch to approximately 50 people every Tuesday through Sunday. Among other services, they also send each person away with a snack bag with food such as sandwiches for dinner. **We are looking for volunteers to help cook the hot meal and make sandwiches on Saturday, October 22nd.** We'll meet in the church kitchen at 10:30 and work until approximately 12:30 to prepare the food. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the kitchen door. Please help feed those in need in the greater Canton area.

The Cake Auction is Back by Popular Demand!!

The Missions and Outreach Committee is sponsoring the return of the Cake Auction on **Sunday, Oct 30th**. All proceeds will be put into the committee's special fund to benefit food ministries such as the Canton Food Pantry, Brian's Angels, Hands of Grace, Thanksgiving meals, etc. The theme this year is Fall/Halloween.

CHICKEN PIE BUFFET

SAT., OCT 15TH ~ OPEN SEATING 4-6 PM

Handcrafted Chicken Pie, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Turnip, Green Beans,
Coleslaw, Rolls, Cranberry Sauce, Beverage, Choice of Pie
\$15. Adults \$6. Children under 12

We are looking for volunteers. Please see sign up sheets on the kitchen door.

STAGES OF FAITH:

A Small Group Learning Opportunity (in-person)
Tues., Nov. 1, 7:00 p.m. OR Wed., Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m.

Three article-length readings will
be the basis for our discussion on
a spectrum of stages of spiritual growth,
and why it is that we can see things quite
differently at different stages in our lives.

Please sign up for one of the sessions by contacting Rev. Brenda
and to receive the materials.

Sunday 2	Monday 3	Tuesday 4	Wednesday 5	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Saturday 8
Worship & Communion 10:00 am	Choir 5 pm ACA 7 pm Al-Anon 7 pm	AA 7 pm	Diaconate 7 pm zoom	Cub Scouts Bell Choir 5:30 pm	Cub Scouts	AA 11:00 pm

