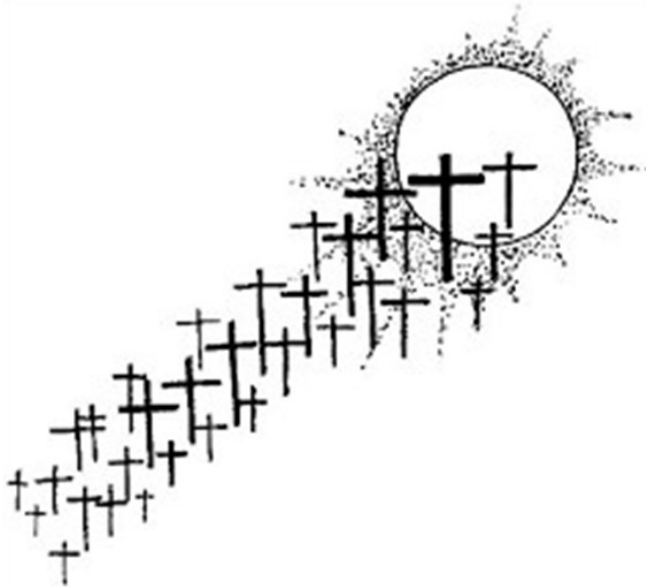




THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 30, 2022 ~ 10:00 a.m.

All Saints Sunday



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

184 Cherry Brook Road, PO Box 133, Canton Center CT 06020-0133

Church Office 860-693-4581

E-mail: office@cantoncenterchurch.org

www.cantoncenterchurch.org

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 *Only Thou Art Holy*

Mary McDonald

CALL TO WORSHIP

Thanks be to God, our Rock and our Redeemer;

for God has been our dwelling place in all generations.

Today as we gather, we give thanks for the communion of saints,

all the faithful and beloved who have gone before us.

Through time and beyond time, with generations past and those to come,

we all belong in one God, one source of life, one source of love.

*HYMN

Forward Through the Ages

Pilgrim (red), 383

*Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.
Gifts in differing measure, hearts of one accord,
Manifold the service, one the sure reward;
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

*Wider grows the kingdom, reign of love and light;
For it we must labor, 'til our faith is sight.
Prophets have proclaimed it, martyrs testified,
Poets sung its glory, heroes for it died.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

*Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall;
In each loss of triumph, lose or triumph all.
Bound by God's far purpose in one living whole,
Move we on together to the shining goal.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.*

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

**Holy One, the beginning and the end of all things,
we give thanks as we gather here
for our place in a sacred story and a living history.
We listen now for the Word you will speak,
as generations before us have listened.
We hope in the dawning of your realm,
as generations before us have hoped.
May your Spirit awaken us now,
that with the whole communion of saints
we might know ourselves as your people,
made for lives of love.**

This we ask 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.**

RITUAL OF REMEMBRANCE

*Remembering departed loved ones, including those from our congregation who have passed on
in the last year: Ellie Thomas and Richard Pedersen*

Recalling the meaning of All Saints

Bringing forward photos and names

*All are invited to come forward with photos and/or names.
Unframed photos may be tucked under the ribbon on the photo board.
Framed photos may be placed around the board.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all things everywhere, for our remembered saints,
we give thanks.
For the ways in which they have walked with us, or before us,
we give thanks.
For the love between us that we continue to feel,
we give thanks.
For the strength that comes to us when we remember them,
we give thanks.
For all glimpses of your love that we know because of them,
we give thanks.
For a world they have helped to build
and for our call to live faithfully in it,
we give thanks.
For all the saints, who from their labors rest, alleluia. Amen.

ANTHEM *Psalm 139 Lord, You Have Searched Me and Known Me* Allen Pote
Senior Choir

Following this, children may go to church school.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Selected verses from Hebrews 11 & 12

SERMON *The Communion of Saints*

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

The God of every goodness blesses us abundantly,
giving us gifts to use for the blessing of the world.
From our own lives into the lives of others,
**may the offerings we make,
in all the forms they take,
help us be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.**

*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
One God, triune, whom we adore*

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

For All the Saints

Chalice (blue), 637

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who, thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest, Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might,
Their strength and solace in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear, their one true light: Alleluia, alleluia!*

*O blest communion, company divine!
We live and struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine: Alleluia, alleluia!*

*And when the strife is fierce, the conflict long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong: Alleluia, alleluia!*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia, alleluia!*

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Grant Us Thy Peace
Senior Choir

Ellers E. J. Hopkins, arr. F. Werle

*POSTLUDE

Peace like a River

Ragan Courtney, Buryl Red

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 Ed & Chris Welcome to share love, gratitude and prayers for all of our selfless first responders and a message of hope for healing and peace.

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.

Do you ever wonder why for some, religion is all rewards & punishments, while for others it's not about that at all? Or why you can find yourself saying "I used to see God one way.... now I see God a different way..."? 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. They can be emailed to you, or picked up at church.

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALES to benefit the Susan B. Anthony Project, Torrington - Benefits those victimized by domestic violence & abuse. Three wreath sizes and other greenery will be available. **Orders must be in by Nov. 1**, delivery date is Nov. 20. See wreath table at coffee hour.

FALL HIKE RESCHEDULED - The family hike scheduled for Oct. 23 was postponed, and is tentatively rescheduled for Nov. 6, after the service. Watch for further info.

SHOP SCRIP TODAY! -Weekly Bonuses are back at the Scrip table! Stop by to see what brands are on special for this weekend only. Brands change every weekend through the month of October. Our church earns more when you purchase a brand on bonus! We're available during coffee hour every week to supply all your gift card needs. We have lots of cards in our inventory that you can purchase and take home today or you can place an order and have your cards in one week.

COLLECTION FOR WELLMORE - Our mission box collections for November will be **gift cards for Christmas for Wellmore**. Gift cards should be for **Walmart and Target** and can be easily purchased through our Scrip program. Let's make the season joyful for Wellmore, who provides social services to many families in Western Connecticut.

BRIAN'S ANGELS - Please consider helping to **make sandwiches for Brian's Angels, on Friday, Nov. 18th at 11:00 am**. Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach in Bristol 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. Please consider helping since it only takes an hour when we have enough people. A sign up sheet will be on the kitchen door



Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Potluck
November 20, 2022

Our annual Sunday before Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday Nov. 20 after the church worship service. This event is annually sponsored by Wider Church Fellowship. This event brings our church family together to enjoy a thanksgiving style lunch.

We will need a few people to bring roasted turkeys and others to bring side dishes and dessert. Please see the sign-up sheet on the kitchen door.

Sunday 30	Monday 31	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
Worship 10:00 am	Choir 5 pm ACA 7 pm Al-Anon 7 pm	Stages of Faith 7 pm AA 7 pm	Diaconate 7 pm zoom	Bell Choir 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm		AA 11:00 pm

