



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

November 13, 2022 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-fourth 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 or front of the church.*

PRELUDE *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

arr. Kevin Hildebrand

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, and awaken to a new day --
where, for all its challenges, faith, hope and love await.

Come, friends of Christ, and remember his call to us –
to be the presence of love, compassion and justice.

Come, all hearts that seek the Spirit –
and join with the hearts of all.

Come, people of God, and awaken to this day --
where God will sustain us in everything.

***HYMN** *O God of Vision* Chalice (blue), 288
Verses 1-4

*O God of vision far greater than all human scheming,
Gather us now in your presence, refreshing, redeeming.
Show us anew life in your breathtaking view,
Lovely beyond all our dreaming.*

*Pour out your Spirit on all now assembled before you.
May our diversity here be a means to adore you.
Women and men, young, old and youthful again,
Make us as one, we implore you.*

*Grant to us insight, O God, for this time of decision.
May we dream challenging dreams of both depth and precision.
Speak through the dark, dispel by lightning's bright spark
Whatever clouds dim our vision.*

*Break the sun's rays into color, a rainbow around us.
Storm clouds, though real and hear, are not enough to confound us.
Arched in the sky, beauty and promise are high,
Giving us hope to astound us.*

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

God of peace, who is within us and among us,
as we gather today, may we remember
that through all our experience –
our hopes and fears, our desires and discords –
your love is the ground of our being.
May we know that again, may we trust it anew,
committing ourselves to being the beloved community
We gather our prayers into one prayer, as we 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 2/2 time. The first staff contains the melody and accompaniment for the lyrics: "Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!". The second staff continues with: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady accompaniment.

ANTHEM *Sing to the Lord a New Song* Craig Courtney
Senior Choir

Following this, children may go out to church school.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Isaiah 58:1-12 Pew Bible, p. 600

SERMON *Repairers of the Breach*

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

Ours the Journey

Chalice (blue), 458

*In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples, wandering their separate ways?*

*Refrain: God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey, now and evermore.*

*Through the flood of starving peoples, warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?
(Refrain)*

*Though we reach the highest heavens, holding worlds at our command,
We are yet a desert people searching for the promised land.
(Refrain)*

*Should the threats of dire prediction cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.
(Refrain)*

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Fourfold Amen
Senior Choir

*POSTLUDE *Hallelujah, Praise the Lord in His Holy Place* Louis Lewandowski arr James Allen Dash