

BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

GOD'S FAITHFUL

LOVE LASTS

FOREVER!



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC CANTON CENTER, CT

November 20, $2022 \sim 10:00$ a.m.

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

Canticle of Faith
Cherry Brook Chimes Handbell Choir

Cynthia Dobrinski

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come thankful people, let us gather together as we are called especially on this day, and as a nation in the week ahead, to reflect intentionally on the many gifts we receive.

We give thanks for the gifts we take for granted,

for those that are especially evident, that come to mind immediately.

We ask, too, for the wisdom to know, and to wait with anticipation for, ones that have yet to come to our awareness.

Come thankful people, let us acknowledge and celebrate, too, the opportunity to worship freely in this sanctuary as members of this community of faith.

Seeking to follow Jesus, with gratitude, we open our hearts and minds to receive his wise and compassionate teaching and his call on our lives. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; All is safely gathered in 'ere the winter storms begin; God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied; Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield, All the fruits in fully supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky, All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land, All that liberal autumn pours from her rich o'er-flowing stores.

These to thee, our God, we owe, source from whence our blessings flow; And for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise. Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God, we give thanks to you,

who have created in love people all around this planet,
people who long for peace and justice,
and the desire to seek the common good.
Those of us who live in countries that grant freedom,
and provide us with our basic needs and even abundance,
are not always grateful.
Further, we are not always mindful of those
who live in too many parts of the world
in the midst of hunger, poverty, injustice, despair and violence.
Make us not only thankful, but show us the ways in which our gratitude
can grow into compassion so that we might work together
to bring to life your intentions for the flourishing of everyone, everywhere.

And so we pray for your kingdom to come, saying together these beloved and familiar words:

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 Now Thank We All Our God, v. 1

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices, Who, from our [parents'] arms, has blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

ANTHEM

Let the River Run

Carly Simon

Senior Choir and Guest Singers, Jon Keefe-drums

FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE CANTON FOOD BANK

Following this, children may go to church school.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE Philippians 4: 8-13 Pew Bible, p. 955 Luke 17: 11-19 Pew Bible, p. 852

SERMON Thanksgiving Plus The Rev. Marcia Lynn Cox

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

In the help we give our neighbor,

your will, O God, is done.

In the worldwide task of caring, in the harvests we are sharing, your will, O God, is done.

Receive our offerings, Loving Creator, given with our gratitude and pleasure.

-Fred Pratt Green, For the Fruit of All Creation, adapted

*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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN For the Fruit of All Creation Chalice (blue), 714

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God; For good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God; For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done; In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done; In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God; For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God; For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE From Whose Abundant Stores Haydn from the Seasons Senior Choir

*POSTLUDE All Good Gifts Stephen Schwartz from Godspell

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

Our Thanksgiving Table was created by Joan Noel and Nancy Alford in gratitude for all of the blessings they have been given.

> We welcome our guest pastor this morning, the Rev. Marcia Lynn Cox. She is 1993 graduate of Yale Divinity School and has served nine churches as an Interim Pastor. Born in Kew Gardens, New York, she has been a resident of Avon for 36 years.

<u>TODAY – JOIN US FOR A THANKSGIVING POT-LUCK LUNCHEON</u>

In Parish Hall, right after the service, come and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal! Thank you to everyone who has donated something for our buffet, and to the Wider Church Committee for organizing.

SHOP SCRIP TODAY!

The Scrip table is open during coffee hour to supply all your gift card needs! The Missions committee is collecting gift cards for Target and Walmart for Wellmore and we have plenty in stock. We also have lots of Shop Rite and Stop & Shop, which are great to donate to the food bank to purchase perishable items for their clients. Scrip is a great resource for helping the church while you help others! by the table to pick up the list of all our available brands so you can start planning for Christmas as well!

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.

THANK YOU TO THE SENIOR CHOIR

SOPRANOS	ALTOS	TENORS	BASSES
Donna Hammond Megan Keefe * Marilyn Larose Gina Magennis * Judy Robinson Kathy Todd	Gert Delin * Kathleen Lundgren Linda McAllister Karen Needham Kathy Pickrell Clare Workman	Jerry Alonzy Tim LeGeyt Scott Neumann *	Art Dewey Dan LeGeyt Paul Stansel Jim Todd

^{*} denotes guest singers

THANK YOU TO THE CHERRY BROOK CHIMES HANDBELL CHOIR

Karen Needham, Gina Magennis, Cindy Webb, Allison Potter, Hugh Anderson, Kathy Pickrell, Donna Hammond, Martha Stansel, Allison Reder, Megan Keefe

Sunday	20	Monday	21	Tuesday	22	Wednesday 23	Thursday	24	Friday	25	Saturday	26
Worsh 10:00 a Food Colle Thanksg Potluc	am ection iving	Choir 5 ACA 7 p Al-Anon 7	om	AA 7 pn	n		Happy Thanksgivi	A			AA 11:00 p	om

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We gather as a welcoming community in worship, learning, service and fellowship to embody Christ's message of love, compassion and justice.

Joining faith with action, both within and beyond our church, we strive to build a community that serves all.

An Open and Affirming Church

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszcza **Director of Music**: Mary Lou Keefe

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Hollace Bristol **Asst. Director of Faith Formation**: Karen Needham

Ministers: Every Member

Duty Deacons: Casey Levine & Hugh Anderson

Camera: Noah Herbek



God is still speaking !!! ,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Visit our website at www.cantoncenterchurch.org

Listen to recorded Sermons and Music from worship services!

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