

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

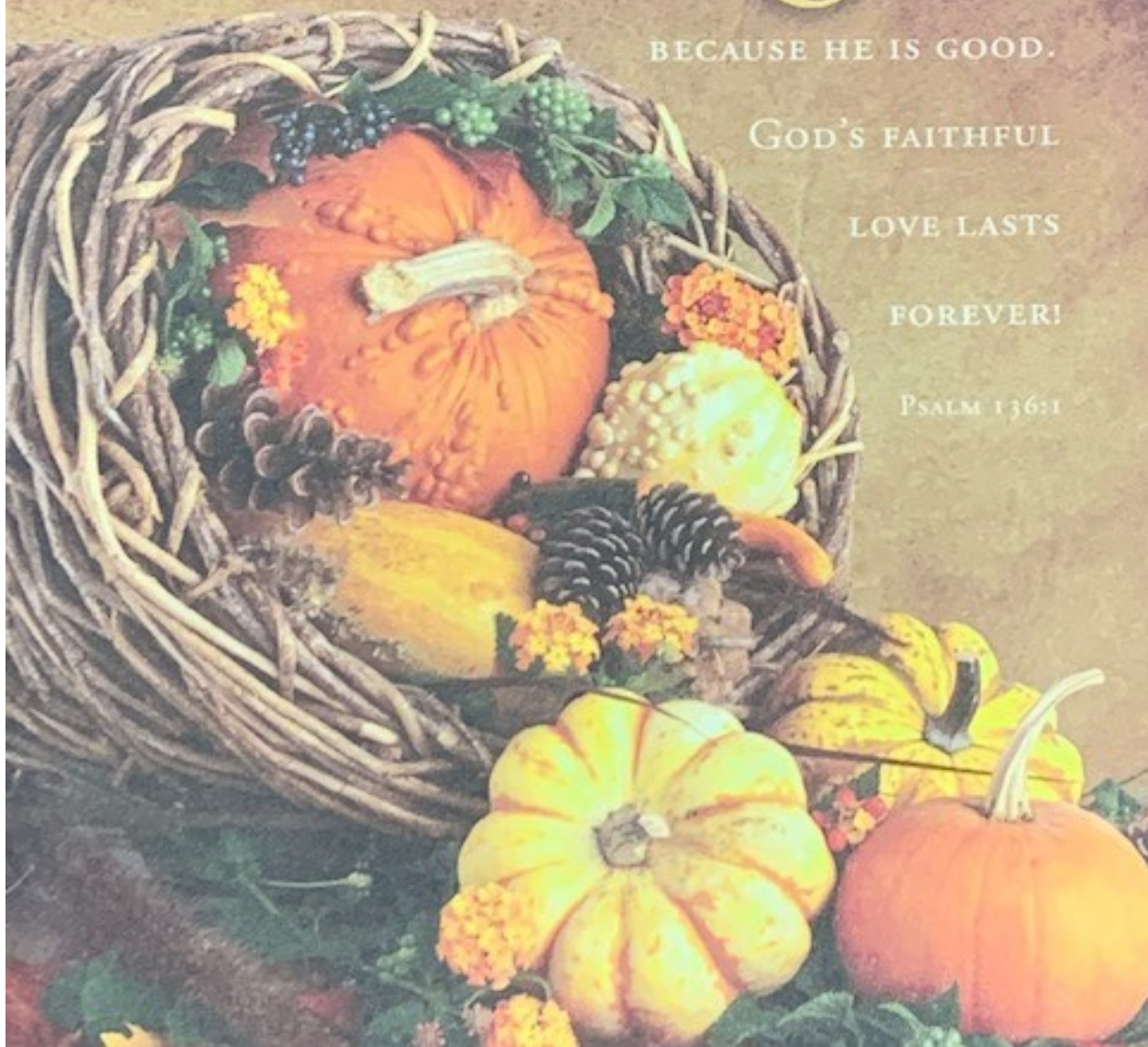
BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

GOD'S FAITHFUL

LOVE LASTS

FOREVER!

PSALM 136:1



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
CANTON CENTER, CT

November 20, 2022 ~ 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

Cynthia Dobrinski

Cherry Brook Chimes Handbell Choir

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.

***HYMN** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* Pilgrim (red), 462

*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:

***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.*

TODAY – JOIN US FOR A THANKSGIVING POT-LUCK LUNCHEON

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

* 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
Worship 10:00 am <i>Food Collection</i> Thanksgiving Potluck	Choir 5 pm ACA 7 pm Al-Anon 7 pm	AA 7 pm				AA 11:00 pm

