



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

January 29, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



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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 *Winter 2nd Movement* (Four Seasons) Antonio Vivaldi arr. Kris Anthony

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the cold of winter,

the warmth of God.

In nature's beauty,

the power of God.

In caring community,

the grace of God.

In times of darkness,

the light of God.

In everyday living,

the call of God.

Friends, we gather to be centered again

in the heart of all things:

the love of God.

***HYMN** *The Sun Is on the Sea and Shore* Chalice (blue), 3

*The sun is on the sea and shore, a new day has begun;
With morning hymns we will adore the blessed Three in One;
And we shall praise you evermore, until the day is done.*

*Your love is ever in our view, like shining stars by night;
Your gifts are every morning new, O God of love and light;
Your mercy like the heaven's blue, fills all our dazzled sight.*

*We do not know what grief and care each coming day may bring;
The heart shall find some gladness there that trusts you in each thing;
The life that serves you everywhere shall never cease to sing.*

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God whose hand shapes all creation,
whose love is a summons to all things,
may we open our hearts and minds in these moments
so that your call might awaken us
and your peace find us.

In whatever our blessing or need this day,
in whatever our worry or joy,
may we remember and trust that you make all things new –
even us, even here, even now.

In Christ's name and spirit 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 *Bless, God, O My Soul*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody and accompaniment for the first line of lyrics: "Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!". The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment for the second line of lyrics: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The lyrics are written below the notes.

ANTHEM *We Are Called*
Senior Choir

David Haas/Mark Hayes

Following this, children may leave for church school.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE Micah 6:1-8 Pew Bible, p. 757
Matthew 5:1-12 Pew Bible, p. 785

SERMON *On Humility*

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 God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN** *Be Thou My Vision* Chalice (blue), 595

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*Great God of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Amen*

***POSTLUDE** *Father, We Seek Thee* Gounod-Bach (Ave Maria arr. James Allan Dash)