

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

June 11, $2023 \sim 10:00$ a.m.



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

Office 860-693-4581 E-mail: office@cantoncenterchurch.org www.cantoncenterchurch.org *Please stand if able.

Bold denotes unison response.

CHIMES

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

Let us gather here to renew our hearts in God's love.

We come here in need of refreshment in the deepest senses.

Let us gather to open our minds to God's guidance for our lives.

We accept the challenge to be open to changing our lives in order to live God's good.

Let us be ready to view the world in new and hopeful ways.

We join together to become better versions of God's people, and stronger advocates for God's love for all. Amen

*HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

Chalice (blue), 4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, God ever living, through eternity.

Holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see; Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and see; Holy, holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.

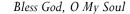
*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

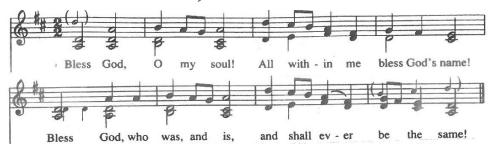
Gracious and loving God, we ask that you would fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we might always be alive in your love, empowered by your hope, and filled with the purposes you have for us. Help us be the body of Christ for the good of the world around us, within us, and among us.

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.







ANTHEM

Kyrie Senior Choir John Leavitt

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

Hands of Grace, Linda McAllister

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Romans 4:13-16a Pew Bible p.916

2 Corinthians 4:7-16 Pew Bible p.939

SERMON

Empowering Thanks

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Gracious God, you have given us blessings more than we can count and resources that are larger than we can manage. It is not simply our duty to return these gifts to you, but it is our joy as well. Accept these gifts as one of many ways in which we give thanks to you and share your blessings throughout out world. Amen.

*Doxology

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 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Chalice (blue), 254

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, Until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be served in the pews; all are welcome to participate. As the elements are passed, please wait until all have been served and all will partake together. Gluten-free bread is in the center of each plate. The juice trays hold non-alcoholic grape juice, with a few cups of water also available on each.

Invitation

As we come to Christ's table, we remember that we are one body, that God's love makes us one,

whoever we are, whatever our journey, whether we have been here many times before or never before.

We remember that we are gathered in the spirit of the Risen Christ, who sees not our differences but our oneness.

As the many grains of wheat become the one loaf and the many grapes become the one cup, so do we become the one Body of Christ.

Let this sacrament renew us in faith, hope and love,

binding us in covenant with God and with all others.

Prayer of Preparation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, Holy One, for the gifts of your table, reminders of all that strengthens us for faithful life. As we go out into the world to live the gospel, we pray that today and tomorrow we might learn to see the world with Christ's eyes and love the world with Christ's heart. Amen.

***HYMN** All Creatures of our God and King

Chalice (blue), 22

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing: Alleluia, Alleluia! O burning sun with golden beam, O silver moon with softer gleam, O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O rushing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise God, Alleluia! O rising mourning in praise rejoice, you lights of evening find a voice,

O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your God to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia! O blazing fire who lights the night, providing warmth, enhancing sight, O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

And all forgiven tender hearts, forgiving others, take your part, sing praises, Alleluia! You who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God who knows your every care. O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Amen

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!

If you are visiting today, please help us get to know you better by filling out one of the visitor cards in the pews and placing it in the offering plate.

Questions? Please feel free to ask the pastor, or call the church office during the week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers today are given by Cora Mutch.

We welcome this morning as our guest pastor, the Rev. Terry Schmitt, who was formerly the Executive Director of the CT Council for Interreligious Understanding and who has served as pastor and interim pastor for several CT churches.

Rev. Schmitt and his family live in West Hartford.

SCRIP

There is no Scrip table in coffee hour today. If you'd like to place an order or purchase a card from inventory, please call or email Casey (860-693-0134 or c.levine@comcast.net). I'll see you next week!

MISSIONS

The June and July Missions Box collection will be backpacks and school supplies for the children served by Wellmore.

Some of the suggested items for donation are pencils, pens, markers (non-permanent), colored pencils, crayons, binders, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, colorful folders& pocket folders, glue sticks, blunt scissors, tape, rulers...

Any supplies a child would need to have a good start and be successful in school.

SUMMER SERIVCES

We will be sharing services in **July & August** with the Canton Community Baptist Church. We will host in July, they will host in August on Sundays at **10:00 a.m**.

Please save the date and sign up to help make this event successful.

This is a Wider Church event and we are all members of Wider Church. Many hands make light work! If you have any questions, please call Donna Hammond: 860-693-8676 or 860-882-8375.



Ministers: Every MemberDir. of Faith Formation: Dr. Hollace BristolDirector of Music: Mary Lou KeefeAsst. Dir. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt **Office Manager**: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Cora Mutch & Phil Doyle

Coffee Hour: Carol Orlando

Trustees: Bob Howson & Sue Lampros

Sunday	11	Monday 12	Tuesday 1	13	Wednesday 14	Thursday	15	Friday	16	Saturday	17
Worship Commur 10:00 a Moment Missior	nion m for	Sr. Choir 5 pm Trustees 7 pm ACA & Al-Anon 7 pm		1	Council Meeting 7 pm					AA 11 ;	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

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

Visit our website at www.cantoncenterchurch.org

Listen to recorded Sermons and Music from worship services!

Like us on Facebook

