



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

June 4, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday after Pentecost



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

Office 860-693-4581

E-mail: office@cantoncenterchurch.org

www.cantoncenterchurch.org

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

**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 *What a Wonderful World* Weiss/Thiele
Senior Choir, Scott Neumann - guitar, Rose Minichiello - saxophone

CALL TO WORSHIP

God of delight, your Wisdom sings your Word
at the crossroads where humanity and divinity meet.

**Invite us into your joyful being
where you know and are known**

in each beginning, in all sustenance, in every redemption,
that we may manifest your unity

in the diverse ministries you entrust to us,

truly reflecting your triune majesty

in the faith that acts,

in the hope that does not disappoint,

and in the love that endures. Amen.

***HYMN** *God is Here!* Chalice (blue), 265 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

***GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

O God of Mystery,
Within your very self you model the beloved community.
You are the Wisdom within our hearts,
The Word who dwells among us,
The Spirit who calls us beyond ourselves.
Let us know your presence here today
In a new way, that we might celebrate your love
and go forth rejoicing with the Prophet Isaiah,
saying: "Here am I. Send me."

This we ask in Jesus' name and spirit, as we also pray 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 with the second line of lyrics: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

ANTHEM

Steal Away

Howard Helvey

Senior Choir, Rose Minichiello - clarinet

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 14:25-27 *Pew Bible p. 877*

Matthew 28:16-20 *Pew Bible p. 812*

SERMON *Holy Trinity*

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

God is the Giver of life, Christ is the Gift sent to share our life,
and the Holy Spirit the power that enables us to continue
in generosity, justice and joy.

Let us open our hearts and our lives as we offer our gifts to God
in service to one another.

***Doxology** (please stand)

*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 & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN** *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian* Chalice (blue), 450

*God the Spirit, guide and guardian, windsped flame and hovering dove,
breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:
give to those who lead your people, fresh anointing of your grace;
send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.*

*Great Creator, life-bestower, truth beyond all thought's recall,
fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all:
as you know our strength and weakness, so may those the church exalts
oversee its life steadfastly yet not overlook its faults.*

*Triune God, mysterious being, undivided and diverse,
deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse:
help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,
that our ministries uniting may give glory to your name.*

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Sevenfold Amen*
Senior Choir

***POSTLUDE** *The Church of Christ in Every Age* (Wareham) arr. David Cherwin