



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

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

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

In Person & Live Streamed



Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.

~Albert Einstein

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Please stand if able. **Bold denotes unison response.*

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Brief announcements are welcome, please be in the front pews at the start of the announcements.
Offerings and prayer request on the yellow prayer cards found in the pews may be placed in the offering plate at the time of the offering or in the designated boxes on the back table.*

PRELUDE

Canticle of Faith

Cynthia Dobrinski

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we read in Ephesians 4:25: *Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.*
Let us then worship as one church family joined together by our mutual faith.

**We come together to celebrate the gift of life
God has bestowed on each of us and offer our
gratitude that Your presence is filling our hearts.
Let us proclaim God's glory to all.**

***HYMN**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Pilgrim (red) 15

***GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Spirit of Unity, God of all Creation, may we be channels of harmony and beacons of light that lead the world to You. You have created us to live in oneness with each other, respectful and loving of our differences. May our hearts rest in Your grace and our lives imitate our Lord's unconditional acceptance and love of all people. Amen.

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.

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.*

OFFERING

As we take the offering today,
I want to thank you for your continued support of our church.
Your gifts help us to make a difference in the lives of many people.
Let us now receive our Sunday morning offering.

OFFERTORY

Shelter Me

Michael Joncas

Senior Choir & Soloists- Jerry Alonzy, Judy Robinson, Paul Stansel

***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**

Loving Lord, may our gifts be a reflection of our love for You.
We ask that You bless these offerings and multiply them
so that they may be used to bring glory to Your name.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

(The youth are excused for Church school)

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE



Samuel 10:1,5-7 Pew Bible page 220
Mark 5:21-24;35-42 Pew Bible page 816

SERMON

Human Happenstance or Divine Intervention

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer*

***HYMN**

I've Got Peace Like a River

Chalice (Blue) 530

***BENEDICTION**

The service is now ended and go out into the world trusting in God's promises. Continue to seek the presence of the Lord as you each stand firm in your faith. May Christ gather you under His safe wings of mercy and love. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. As you exit the sanctuary, please greet your neighbors with, *May the Peace of Christ be with you. Amen.*

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Amen

***POSTLUDE**

Rondeau

Henry Purcell

Theme from Phantom of the Opera Andrew Lloyd Webber

*The Worship is ended...
~Our Service Now Begins~*