



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

**May 26, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Memorial Day Sunday**

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends ~ John 15:13



*In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.
~Martin Luther King, Jr.*



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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those wishing to make a brief 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.

PRELUDE

Lord, You Have Searched Me and Known Me

Allen Pote

During the prelude silently send Christ's Joy, Peace, & Love to the person near you, to others in the church & to God's world

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come before God to honor and celebrate the men and women who lost their lives as they fought against chaos and evil that is war.

Let us honor and pray for the brave men and women who paved the way for the freedoms we enjoy.

Let us pray for the families who mourn the loss of their loved ones.

Through the ills, deaths, and sorrows of war, we are all affected.

Bring now your prayers to God for all those who have been touched by war with petitions for comfort and healing.

Let us begin our worship recognizing all people are beloved by God.

***HYMN**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Pilgrim (red) #440

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

God of love, compassion, and peace, You have created humanity to be one great family. Grant that our words and actions may always promote peace. Benevolent Being, we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil and the power of love to overcome hatred. We pray for the vision to witness and the faith to believe in a world emancipated from violence, hatred, and war. Encourage each of us to remain steadfast to eliminate hostility and exclusion as we endeavor to commit ourselves to concrete action for peace and justice.

***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

With open hands and open hearts, we come together to share our gifts. May our offerings be a joyful expression of our faith and gratitude. Let us now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY



Speak, O Lord
Senior Choir

Getty/Townend

***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**

Gracious God, we offer these gifts with open hearts, knowing they are but a seed in the fertile ground for Your purpose. We pray You will multiply their impact, fostering growth within our church and allowing us to reach those beyond our walls. May this offering be a catalyst for expansion, spreading Your love and message to a wider community. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION

SCRIPTURE



Ephesians 2:11-22 Pew Bible pg. 950
John 15:9-17 Pew Bible pg. 878

SERMON

Commemorate, Appreciate, Emulate

LIST OF FALLEN SOLDIERS FROM FCCCC DURING PAST WARS *Tim Lundgren*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Joys & Concerns ~ Moment of Silence ~ Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

Chalice (Blue) #705

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Bless America
Senior Choir

*POSTLUDE

Rondo Exultate

Margeret Tucker

The Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins

Interim Minister: Rev. Kurt Satherlie

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Asst. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Kristin Oswald & Tim Lundgren

Camera Operator: Hugh Anderson

Ministers: Every Member

Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Duty Trustees: Art Dewey & Don Scott

Coffee Hour: Gail Macbeth