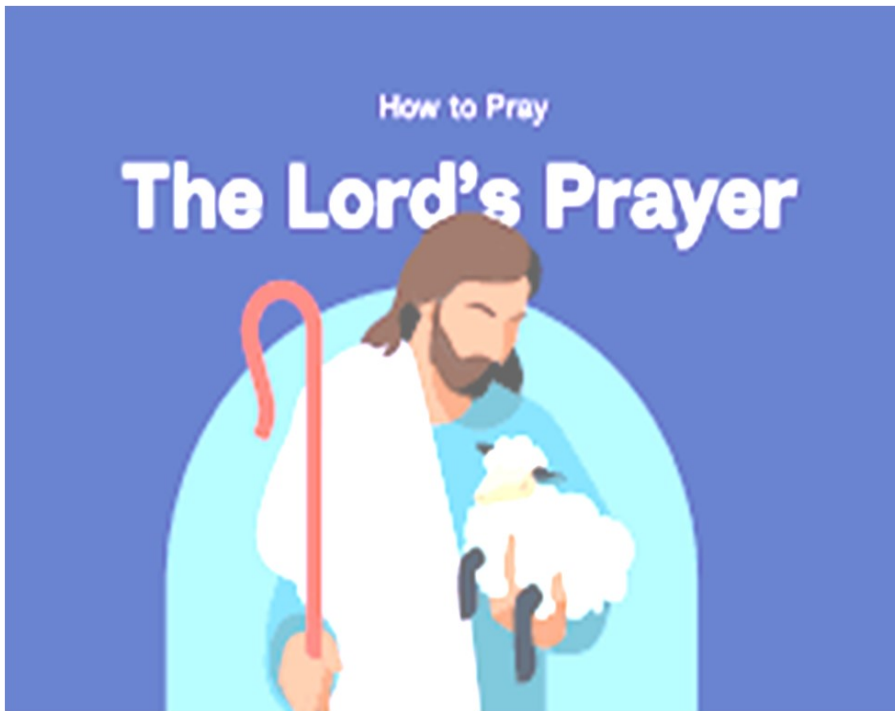




THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

May 5, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday of Easter
In Person & Live Streamed



Prayer is man's (sic) greatest power! ~W. Clement Stone

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

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

Lift Up Your Heads O Gates

David von Kampen

CALL TO WORSHIP

The world whispers us to conform to the values that are not lasting.

**With hope and renewed faith,
let us step forward and seek God's will.**

Let our voices rise today in praise and prayer, lifting them to the heavens,
to our God and Redeemer.

**We come today in praise, prayer, and love
to worship our Rock and Redeemer.**

***HYMN**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Pilgrim (Red) #15

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION**

**May we see clearly what Christ proclaimed – that when we see You,
Jesus of Nazareth, we see all things made new. Deep down inside we
struggle when challenged, and are reluctant at times to change our
worldly ways. Yet blow upon the failing embers of our faith, Spirit of
God, renewing our hope and restore us to life, Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news and be of good hope – Jesus Christ is the Anointed One, the Light shining in the darkness, the Savior of the world, the Word made Flesh, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Be of good cheer then brothers and sisters in Christ, for your transgressions and mine are but a vapor blowing into nothingness by the grace of Jesus Christ so let us with steadfast voice say, **“Thanks be to God.”**

*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*

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

OFFERING

Our blessings are meant to be shared! With thankful hearts, let's use this time to give back to the church that nourishes our faith and allows us to connect with this wonderful community. We will now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Jamaican Folk Melody arr. Bradley Ellingboe
Senior Choir, Cindy Webb - flute, Judy Robinson - maracas

*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 God, You call us to be instruments of Your love and hope in the world. May these gifts be used wisely by our church to further Your work in the world, spreading love, justice, and compassion. In Jesus' name, Amen

SCRIPTURE



Psalm 24 Pew Bible page 436
Matthew 6:5-13 Pew Bible page 787

SERMON

Pray the Lord's Way

*HYMN

The Lord's Prayer

Chalice (blue), #307

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Joys & Concerns ~ Moment of Silence _ Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN (seated)

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Chalice (Blue) #392

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer over the Elements

Serving of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Gracious God, our hearts overflow with gratitude for the gift of communion.
We thank You for the spiritual nourishment and strength You have given us.
We thank You for the hope and joy You have instilled in our hearts.
May we live our lives in a way that reflects Your love, compassion, and grace.
With grateful hearts, we offer this prayer to You, O divine Creator.**

*HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

Pilgrim (Red), #63

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Lift Up Your Heads O Gates

Senior Choir

*POSTLUDE

Postlude in C

Christian Cappelen

The Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins