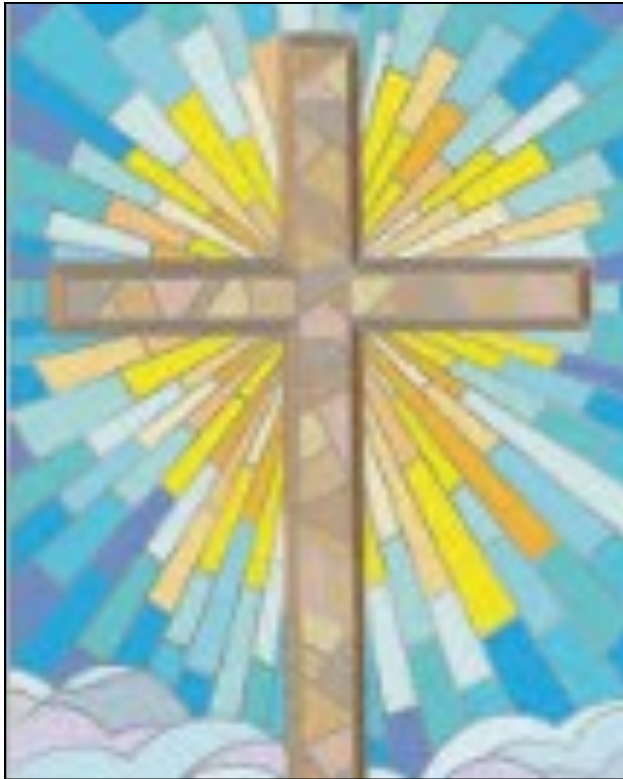




THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT



JUNE 2, 2024 ~ 10:00 A.M.

ORDER OF CONFIRMATION

Tyler David Baldwin

Sean Russell Collins

María Dolores Emirzian

Jack Clinton Goodwin

Noah Anthony Herbek

Jack Edward Neumann

Mentor: Keven Baldwin

Mentor: Darryl Haberern

Mentor: Judy Robinson

Mentor: Jeffrey Goodwin

Mentor: Tim Lundgren

Mentor: Scott Neumann

ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION: AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PASTOR:

We invite to come forward those who wish to affirm their baptism by being confirmed. Please come forward as your names are read accompanied by your Mentor.

(Deacon reads names of Confirmands and Mentors)

PASTOR:

Friends in Christ, we all are received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. These people have found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ. Through prayer and study, they have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. They are here for service to Jesus Christ, using the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

DEACON:

Hear the words of Jesus from the Gospel of John, chapter 15: *I am the vine; you are the branches. Anyone who abides in me, and I in that person, is the one who bears much fruit. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.*

DEACON:

You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are equally citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus alone being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Christ; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

PASTOR:

With the following questions, if you so agree, respond together saying, *We do*.

- 1.) Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?
- 2.) Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?
- 3.) Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

With the next two questions, if you so agree, respond together saying:

We promise with the help of God.

- 4.) Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?
- 5.) Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

PASTOR: Will the congregation please stand.

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

PASTOR: Do you believe in God?

PEOPLE: I believe in God.

PASTOR: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE: I believe in Jesus Christ.

PASTOR: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

PEOPLE: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

DEACON: Let us join in reading the **COVENANT** of The First Congregational Church Canton Center found on the inside cover of the Chalis Hymnal. (*provide the Chalis to the Confirmands & Mentors*)

DEACON: The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CANDIDATES

CANDIDATES:

O God, my God, known to me in Jesus Christ, I give myself to you as your own, to love and serve you faithfully all the days of my life. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

DEACON: Let us pray together. (congregation remains seated)

Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION & LAYING ON OF HANDS

PASTOR: Will the Confirmands now kneel. Parents, will you please come forward and place your hand on your child. Mentors, please place your hand on your Confirmand.

PASTOR: Let us be at prayer: O God, in the grace of Jesus Christ you have accepted these servants through the water of baptism. Nourish in them the power of your Holy Spirit that they may serve you in the world.

DEACON: Let us be at prayer. We rejoice, O merciful God, with these people in the gift of the Holy Spirit, and in the Spirit's power to awaken us to new truth and to inspire us to venture into fullness of life. We give you thanks that they have been moved to affirm their baptism. Help them to live not for themselves but for Christ and those whom Christ loves. Keep them steady and abounding in hope, never giving up, pressing toward the goal of life with you in Jesus Christ. **ALL: AMEN**

DEACON: The newly confirmed please rise and stand in place.

PASTOR: By your baptism you were made one with us in the body of Christ, the church. Today we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We celebrate your presence in this household of faith.

DEACON: Will the members of the First Congregational Church, Canton Center, please stand and express your welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ. (Deacon leads the People)

PEOPLE: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

DEACON: The congregation may be seated.

(The Pastor and Deacons will greet each newly confirmed person extending the right hand of fellowship and welcoming them as new members of the church as they receive their certificate and gift.)

PASTOR: Go in the peace of Christ.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Those who have participated in the Order for Confirmation may return to their pews.