

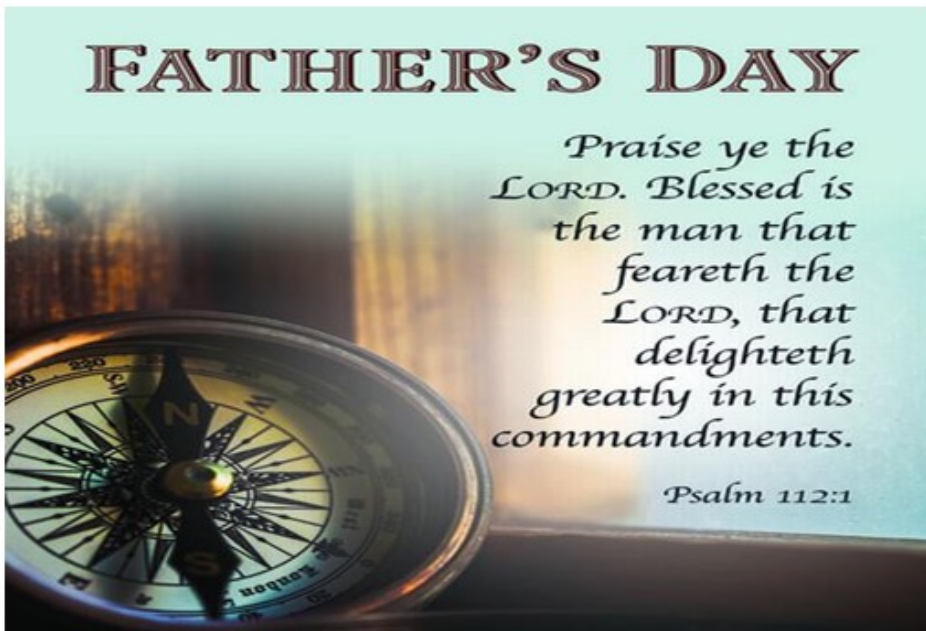


THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

June 16, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

In Person & Live Streamed



I want to congratulate all the men out there who are working diligently to be good fathers whether they are stepfathers, or biological fathers or just spiritual fathers.

~Reverend T. D. Jakes

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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

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 *Andante* from 1st Sonata, Op.27 Josef Rheinberger

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us come before the Lord with minds open to His truth,
hearts receptive to His love, and wills subject to His Spirit.

**We are reconciled with God, not because of any religious
achievements of our own, but because of the righteousness of Christ.**

Even as transgressors, God's love is poured out for us. That was
the kind of love Jesus expressed when He died for us on the cross.

**We rejoice in our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has brought us back into fellowship with God!**

Salvation is possible through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**We are at peace with God who transforms
even our difficulties into reasons for rejoicing!**

***HYMN** *This Is My Father's World* Pilgrim (Red) #485

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

Gracious God, we stand ready and open to receive the flame of Your Spirit. Give us the ability to speak Your truth so our words witness to others a loving spirit. Whirlwind Breath of God, blow down the walls that separate us. Enter into empty spaces of our minds and hearts filling us with courage to challenge injustice, and change negative practices into optimistic, encouraging, kindness and generosity. Let the gentle still small voice become in us loud proclamations of Your wonder and glory. 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

Our offerings are like seeds that we plant. They allow the work of this church to flourish and bear fruit that benefits us all. Let's consider what seeds we can sow today. We will now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY

Voluntary in G



Francois Couperin

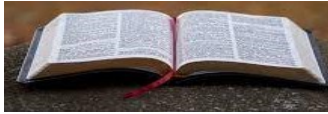
***Doxology**

*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**

Almighty God, from Your bounty comes all that we have. We offer these gifts with grateful hearts, acknowledging that all things are Yours. May these offerings be used wisely to further Your work in our church and beyond. Guide us as we use them to spread Your message of love, to serve those in need, and to strengthen our community of faith.

SCRIPTURE



Luke 15:11-32 Pew Bible pg. 850
{Parable of the Prodigal Son: Focus is on the father}

SERMON

A Loving Father – A Model for Us All

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer*

*HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Chalice (Blue) #557

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Amen

*POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power

Oliver Holden, setting by Edward Broughton

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: Phil Doyle & Cora Mutch
Coffee Hour: Martha Stansel

Ministers: Every Member
Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol
Sexton: Walt LeGeyt
Trustees: Sue Lampros & Bob Howson