



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
CANTON CENTER, CT  
AND THE CANTON COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**September 1, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**In Person & Live Streamed**



*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” ~Matthew 11:28-30.*

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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*\*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**

*When Peace Like a River*

Philip Bliss arr. John Ness Beck

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come together before God seeking Her guidance and peace. Almighty One, may our hearts be open to Your wisdom, and may we find solace in Your presence. As we journey through life, help us to embrace the beauty and challenges that come our way.

**Let us commit to living lives of peace, serenity, and compassion.**

**Let us strive to be gentle, kind, and understanding.**

**Let us seek wisdom, strength, and courage in our daily endeavors.**

**Let us embrace the beauty of the present moment  
and trust in the unfolding of life's journey.**

**\*HYMN**

*We Gather Together*

Chalice (Blue) #276

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

**Divine presence, fill our hearts with longing for the good, the true, and the beautiful. Let us come together in this sacred space to seek the divine, to find solace, and to yearn for the things that truly matter in life. We acknowledge the complexities of life, the challenges we face, and the desires that often pull us in different directions. May we cultivate a spirit of thankfulness that sustains us through these challenges. Guide us beyond the superficial and fleeting, recognizing they hold little meaning of the joy and peace Jesus preached. Let us embrace peace of mind, love for others, and the fulfillment of our souls. May we be guided by a sense of purpose and a commitment to making a positive difference in the world. Fill our hearts with gratitude for the blessings we have received, both great and small. 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**

We now offer our gifts as a token of our gratitude for the blessings we have received and as a way to contribute to the ongoing work of this community. May our offerings be a symbol of the love and generosity that unite us all. We will now receive our Sunday morning offering.



**OFFERTORY**

*Anthem*

Jerry Alonzy - soloist

Benny Andersson/Tim Rice  
(from the musical Chess)

**\*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**

We dedicate this offering as a symbol of our gratitude and our desire to contribute to the betterment of our community and the world. May it be a source of inspiration and encouragement for others as well as a reminder of the blessings we have received and a source of inspiration for the good work that lies ahead.

**SCRIPTURE**



Psalm 46 ~ Pew Bible pg. 450

**SERMON**

*Simplicity's Serenity*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns*  
*Moment of Silence*  
*Pastoral Prayer*

**Song**

sung by Jon & daughter Melaney,  
(Canton Baptist Church)

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation  
Prayer over the Elements  
Serving of the Elements  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

**\*HYMN**

*Go in Peace*

Chalice (Blue) #445 (2x)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Amen**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*One Church, One Faith*

Keith Getty arr. Larry Shackley

*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 Trustees:** Sue Lampros & Bob Howson

**Coffee Hour:** Karen Needham

**Ministers:** Every Member

**Dir. of Faith Formation:** Hollace Bristol

**Sexton:** Walt LeGeyt

**Deacons:** Cora Mutch & Phil Doyle