



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

September 15, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
In Person & Live Streamed



*We are all different. Yet we are all God's children.
We are all united with a common cause of freedom, justice, fairness, and equality.
That is what unites us. ~Barbara Boxer*

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

The Song that Nature Sings

Ruth Elaine Schram

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God as children ~ with wonder and awe.

Let us worship God as youths ~ with enthusiasm and eagerness.

Let us worship God as adults ~ with loving praise and gratitude.

**Let us worship God as one Body of Christ with love, joy
and songs of praise to our awesome Creator.**

***HYMN**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Chalice (Blue) #631

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

Let all of God's children come together in the house of the Lord! We are all sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved by Almighty God. And God has blessed us abundantly so we might pass those blessings along. As God's children throughout our world, we deserve to live in peace and abundance using our skills and love to grow and spread compassion in the world. We are all one family invited to lift up members of God's children throughout our church, community, and world. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

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

As we reflect on the many blessings in our lives, let's take a moment to express our gratitude through our offering today. The gifts you give for our offering support the ministries that nourish our faith and allow us to serve our community and world.



OFFERTORY

Shall We Gather at the River / Deep River

John Carter

***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**

Everlasting God, as we bring forth these gifts, our hearts brim with the joy of giving. We are inspired by Your boundless generosity and love. We offer not just our resources, but also our commitment to spreading that joy throughout the world.

INTERGENERATIONAL SHARING

SONG

Matsiko World Orphan Choir

(Youth will exit for Church School)

SCRIPTURE



Matthew 18:1-5 Pew Bible pg. 799
Matthew 19:13-15 Pew Bible pg. 800

SERMON

The Childlike Heart: A Gateway to God

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Hymnal (Red) #478

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The Lord Be with You

Charles Yannerella

*POSTLUDE

Kyrie

Franz Schubert

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

Ministers: Every Member

Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Deacons: Cora Mutch & Phil Doyle