



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CANTON CENTER, CT**

**October 20, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
In Person & Live Streamed**



Every tomorrow has two handles.

We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith.

~Henry Ward Beecher

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~ 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

Theme and Variations on Rockbridge

Edward Broughton

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us come together in peace and quiet, seeking the presence of God.

In this moment of stillness, let us find solace and strength.

We come to you, O God, seeking your peace that surpasses all understanding.

**May Your Spirit fill our hearts with joy
and Your love surround us with comfort.**

We open our hearts to receive Your grace and Your guidance.

**We worship You in spirit and in truth, acknowledging Your
sovereignty and Your goodness offering our thankfulness
for all You have done.**

***HYMN**

Gather Us In

Chalice (Blue) #284

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

**Creator of all life, as we gather together in this sacred space, we
acknowledge Your sovereignty over our lives. Thank You for Your
steadfast love, Your comfort especially in stressful times, and Your
guidance. In this storm-tossed world, we seek refuge in Your presence.
May Your peace fill our hearts and minds as we worship You today.**

**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

In the midst of life's trials, our faith offers a beacon of hope. Just as the Psalmist wrote, *Though the mountains be shaken, and the hills be overthrown, your steadfast love will not depart from us* (Psalm 46:2), so too can we find solace and strength in our relationship with God. We are fortunate for the gift of abundance and may very well have pangs of anxiety over scarcity. Yet we realize there are those in our world who struggle to put food on the table or even a roof over their head. Jesus told his disciples, *Freely, you have received, freely give.* (Mt. 10:8). Your offering, whatever is comfortable for you, supports the work of our church and spreading the message of hope and peace. Please do not give out of obligation, but out of a heart filled with gratitude. Let us now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY

Psalm 139 Allen Pote
Senior Choir



***Doxology**

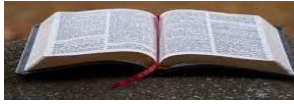
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Dear God, You are the source of all that we have, and we give back to You in gratitude for Your bountiful blessings. We pray these offerings may be used to further Your kingdom on earth. May they support the work of our church, strengthen our community, and spread the message of hope and peace. May we trust in Your loving care and find solace in Your presence.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(following the message children are excused for Sunday School)*

SCRIPTURE



Philippians 4:6-7 Pew Bible pg. 955
Luke 12:22-31 Pew Bible pg. 847

SERMON

Finding Solace in God's Presence

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Chalice (Blue) #586

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

May You Go in Peace
Senior Choir

Grier/Emerson

*POSTLUDE *Fanfare from The Planets (Jupiter)* arr. Kevin McChesney Gustav Holst

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
Trustees: Sue Lampros & Bob Howson

Ministers: Every Member
Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol
Sexton: Walt LeGeyt
Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia
Deacons: Beth Lingenheld & Paul Stansel