



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 6, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
In Person & Live Streamed



*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.
~Psalm 32:8*

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your
ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. ~Proverbs 3:5-6*

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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

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Harry Rowe Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Each Sunday, we make time to refresh our souls with music, scripture, sermon, and prayers: to listen for God's voice and yearn to be enfolded in God's love.

Each Sunday we rest from societies claims on our time; our bodies and our minds have a chance to be refreshed.

Now is the time to set aside your cares and open yourself to the Holy Presence. Let yourself be immersed in love and grace.

Let us come together with joy to serve God and one another.

***HYMN**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Pilgrim (Red) #363

***GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)**

Dear Lord, our own personal search for finding Jesus and our life's meaning has brought us to this place. Here we find Jesus, the Savior of the world. However, the search does not end in this place, does it? You invite us to enter the lives of others by bringing them support, hope and encouragement for the future. This is the way we experience true and lasting joy. Make us aware of Your presence, Your love, and Your guidance as we go about our days in ways to serve others to Your glory. 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

Lord, we offer our time, talents, and treasures to You. At this time, we offer what we can financially and pray they serve You and others with love and compassion. Help us to be faithful in fulfilling the tasks You have given us. We will now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY

The Whisper
Senior Choir



Craig Courtney

***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**

Lord, we offer our gift to You. May it be used to further Your kingdom and bring glory to Your name. We pray that it will touch the lives of those in need and make a positive difference in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE



Eight scripture readings from the Old and New Testament

SERMON

Navigating Our Spiritual Journey

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer*

***HYMN**

Now We Come Before God's Presence

Chalice (Blue) #410, vs.1&4

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer over the Elements

Serving of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are we Lord for filling us with Your presence, a flame of love that warms our hearts and renews our spirits. May this holy meal flow through us into the world. Make us beacons of light radiating Your compassion and grace lifting praise to Your Holy Name. This we pray nourished by Your love. Amen

***HYMN**

God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Chalice (Blue) #439

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Go In Peace

Kenneth White

Senior Choir

***POSTLUDE**

Lord, Above All Other Treasures

J. S. Bach arr. Roberta Bitgood

The Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins