



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

May 11, 2025 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Easter



As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you

~Isaiah 66:13

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements from the congregation are welcome. Those wishing to make an 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

In Remembrance

Buryl Red/Bill Ingram

Cherry Brook Chimes Handbell Choir

{During the prelude feel God's love and peace surround you}

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come today to celebrate a mother's heart: the bright joy,
the quiet strength, the comforting warmth, and the steadfast love.

**Let us open our hearts to the beauty and complexity
of motherhood, and together offer our praise
to the Creator who colors every life with love.**

We remember the early years of nurturing care, the sacrifices made, the constant
guidance through childhood, and the resilient support through every age and stage.

**We come to give thanks for the enduring strength and unwavering
love that transcends the years, connecting generations.**

We lift our voices in song, our hearts in praise,
celebrating the masterpiece of love that surround.

**As we gather in Your presence, help us see the enduring
power of love that binds us all together. May our worship be
a reflection of the gratitude we hold in our hearts. Amen.**

*HYMN

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Pilgrim (Red) #481

*GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Gracious God, on this Mother's Day, we thank You for the gift of mothers –
for their tireless love that mirrors Your own, for their guiding wisdom that**

illuminates our paths, and for the enduring legacy of faith and love they weave into the fabric of our lives. We pray for all those who embody the spirit of motherhood in our lives, whether through birth, adoption, kinship, or mentorship. Bless them with Your grace and fill their hearts with the joy of knowing they are deeply loved and appreciated. For some, this can be a solemn time for those who have lost a mother and for others whose experience of motherhood is shaded with sorrow, longing, or difficulty so we turn our hearts to You, loving God asking for Your tender comfort and healing touch. 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.*

(The youth are excused for Church school)

OFFERING



OFFERTORY

We Are Called
Senior Choir



David Haas/Mark Hayes

***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 God Almighty, through the many blessings You provide, with hearts full of gratitude and joy, we bring these gifts before You. May they be a blessing to those in need, a testament to Your abundant grace, and an offering of our love. Multiply these gifts, Lord, and use them to spread Your light and love throughout our community and beyond. Amen!

SCRIPTURE



Proverbs 31:10-31
2 Timothy 1:2,5-7

Pew Bible pg. 535
Pew Bible pg. 966

SERMON

Experiencing God's Nurturing Heart - Like a Mother's Love

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer*

***HYMN**

The God of Us All

Chalice (Blue) #84

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Teach Us In Every State
Senior Choir*

Floyd Werle

***POSTLUDE**

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED



OUR SERVICE NOW BEGINS