



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

June 7, 2026 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after Pentecost

In Person & Live Streamed



*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

~Joshua 1:9

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

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.

PRELUDE

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep

John Rutter

{During the prelude silently send Christ's Joy, Peace, & Love, to others in the church & to God's world}

CALL TO WORSHIP

Across the changing seasons of our lives, God goes before us like the dawn breaking on a new day. In every moment, whether bright with hope or heavy with burden God remains our constant and our comfort.

God guides our steps, surrounds us with grace, and strengthens us through one another.

In the laughter of community, the prayers of friends, and the love that binds us, God's Spirit is alive and moving.

In the touch of caring hands, the wisdom of companions, and the embrace of this church community, God's presence becomes visible and real. With grateful and expectant hearts, we come to worship the God who fills our lives with light.

*HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Pilgrim (Red) #272

*GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy and Faithful God, remind us that Your presence is not bound to a place or a season. You are the One who leads us into new beginnings and walks with us through every change. Today we gather as Your people, young and old, confident and uncertain, trusting that You meet us right where we are. We thank You for the ways Your love has reached us through others. Ignite within us a living faith that goes with us, grows within us, and shines through us reminding us that we never travel alone. Be with us now as we worship, and send us out with hearts rooted in Your love. 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 every gift we give, God's love takes on new life. As we give today, we join in God's work of healing, restoring, and renewing the world. Through our generosity, hope is strengthened, burdens are lifted, and grace is shared. Let us offer what we have with joyful hearts, trusting that God will use these gifts to bless others. May we give with open hands and open hearts, trusting the One who provides. We will now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY



A Song at the Crossroads
Senior Choir

Larry Shackley

***Doxology**

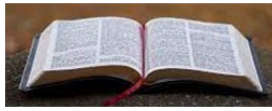
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Eternal God, take these gifts and weave them into Your work of mercy and justice. May these gifts become instruments of hope, compassion, and transformation in our community and beyond. Make us faithful stewards of Your love, and let our giving reflect Your generosity. Amen.

SENIOR RECOGNITION

The youth are excused for Church School



SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 31:1-3,7-8

Matthew 28:16-20

SERMON

Standing on the Threshold: Stepping into God's Future

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Meditative Music from the Choir Loft

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer over the Elements

Serving of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***HYMN**

Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us

Chalice (Blue) #231

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Amen

The Lord Be With You

Senior Choir

Charles Yannerella

***POSTLUDE**

Lord, Above All Other Treasures

Roberta Bitgood

Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins