



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CANTON CENTER, CT
September 6, 2026 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
In Person & Live Streamed**



*Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
~Galatians 6:9*

*Always be on the lookout for the presence of wonder.
~E.B.White*

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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

CHIMES

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

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

CALL TO WORSHIP

My brothers and sisters in Christ, September starts us on a holy threshold between what was and what will be for Canton Center Church's future, and God meets us right here with renewal, joy, and purpose. Let us worship with gratitude, hope, and harmony.

This is the Sunday when every voice, every gift, every generation gathers again in one joyful chorus. God is tuning our hearts, aligning our purpose, and filling this place with wonder. Let us worship with energy, delight, and expectation.

*HYMN

We Gather Together

Chalice (Blue) #276

*GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious Lord, You greet us at the doorway of September with warmth still in the air and a latent potential, promising future rising in our hearts. Awaken our joy, renew our purpose, and bless this gathered church. Make this hour a celebration of harmony, hope, and Your abiding love. As we enter anew and energized by restful summer months, fill us with the bright spirit of childlike wonder. Let our voices blend in praise, our lives align in service, and our hearts open wide to Your presence. Make us one in joy, one in purpose, one in Christ. 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

Every act of generosity, large or small, becomes part of the harmony God is creating here. When we give, we say “yes” to God’s work among us: yes, to joy, yes to unity, yes to the future God is shaping. Let us offer our gifts with bright spirits and open hearts.



OFFERTORY

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Quartet~ Judy Robinson, Linda Ripley, Paul Stansel & Art Dewey

***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**

God of wonder, Lord of harmony and Spirit of hope, we dedicate these gifts to Your joyful work. May they bring light where there is need and hope where there is longing. Shape us into a community that gives freely, serves gladly, and lives in accord with Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE



Colossians 3:3;12-17

SERMON

September's Invitation to God's Harmony

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

Thank You, 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

Go in Peace

Chalice (Blue) #445 (2x)

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE **Amen**

He Lives

Alfred Ackley

Sung by Quartet

*POSTLUDE

All Good Gifts from Godspell

Stephen Schwartz

Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins