

The First Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
Canton Center, Connecticut

April 19, 2009

10:00 AM

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "The Lord Is My Shepherd"

-Irvine

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

Life has been revealed to us in this Easter season.
Gather once more to testify to life.

**We declare to each other what we have experienced.
In community we find the life God intends.**

Early believers were of one heart and soul.
We, too, are called to find common ground in Christ.

**How very good and pleasant it is
When kindred live together in unity.**

Peace be with you as we celebrate resurrection.
Christ is with us to renew our faith.

**We are here to testify to God's grace.
We will share our story and ourselves.**

*HYMN 180 (*Pilgrim*) "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in **unison**) followed by

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors):

Your pour out upon us the oil of gladness, gracious God, as we gather in the name of our risen Savior. You have given us the Word of Life; we have heard and seen your greatest of all gifts and testify to that experience by our presence here. Let Jesus Christ be known among us, in our conversation and in our prayers. May our thoughts center on the message that light has come to chase away the shadows, community has been born to remove our isolation, joy has been heaped upon us that we might share it with the world. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...*

*GLORIA PATRI (*Pilgrim* # 513)

RESPONSIVE READING # 105, Page 536 (*Pilgrim*) Psalm 136

OFFERTORY: "Hosanna"

-Courtney

Senior Choir

*DOXOLOGY (*Pilgrim* # 515)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (in **unison**)

We offer to you our common stewardship, loving God. We want to be faithful in meeting one another's needs and in serving the world in Christ's name. The gifts we bring today will not mark an end to our giving. We sense that you are sending us, as Jesus was sent, to share the light with the world. Thus, we dedicate our time and effort as a further offering. May life and faith be extended to many through us. Amen.

*HYMN 205 (*Pilgrim*)

"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN 188 (*Pilgrim*)

"Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 107)

SERMON:

"ANY DOUBTS?"

*HYMN 192 (*Pilgrim*)

"The Day of Resurrection"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE: "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

-Haydn/arr. Hustad

(*All who are able, please stand)

The Rev. Susan M. Prichard	Interim Minister
Sarah W. LeGeyt	Director of Christian Education & Youth
Mary Lou Keefe	Organist; Director of Music
Geri Bunnell and Curt Johnson	Duty Deacons
Dave Downs	Duty Trustee
Larry Minichiello and Rose Minichiello	Greeters
Art Dewey and Dave Poleyestewa	Ushers
Pastoral Search Committee	Enhanced Coffee Hour Hosts

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THE FLOWERS today are given in everlasting and loving memory of our departed family members, Melissa, Bissy and Margotski, by the Hooker-Minichiello family.

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME those who are visitors to this church and to this morning's worship service. Please sign the guest book in the vestibule. Or, fill in a Friendship Card found in the pews. Also found with the Friendship Cards are Pew Envelopes. Please feel free to use them for any donation.

NURSERY CARE is available in the lower level of the Parish House for infants through 2 years old.

LARGE PRINT COPIES of today's bulletin are available on the ushers' tables in the back of the church. Large print editions of the Chalice Hymnal are also available for use during worship.

PLEASE JOIN US for a time of refreshment and fellowship following worship. Today, the Pastoral Search Committee is hosting an Enhanced Coffee Hour. Details may be found on the announcement insert.

Please see bulletin insert for announcements



184 Cherry Brook Road – PO Box 133
 Canton Center CT 06020-0133
 Church Office 860-693-4581 Fax 860-693-4216
 E-mail office@cantoncenterchurch.org
 www.cantoncenterchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2009

JUNIOR CHOIR: Today, 11:15 AM in the Music Room.

OUR MISSION COLLECTION for April is toiletries for men and women to be donated to My Sister's Place and South Park Inn.

COME TO OUR ENHANCED COFFEE HOUR TODAY! The Pastoral Search Committee needs your input! Sit at one of the tables for coffee and delectable treats and discuss or listen in on short discussions with others on what the most important thing to you is in selecting a new Pastor, and other suggestions you have for our Pastoral Search Committee. We'll ask each adult and youth of Confirmation age and older to fill out a placemat survey, and to take home a more detailed Pastoral Search Inventory. The take-home survey we ask you to complete and return by May 5th. Thanks! By the way, Pastoral Search Committee members now sport a **new blue nametag with binoculars** on it, so you can spot us easily for questions and/or suggestions.

TALENT SHOW/LUNCHEON TICKETS (for the May 3rd event) will be available during coffee hour today and April 26.

DEADLINE IS TODAY for submitting items for the May issue of *The Churchmouse*.

COMING UP

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 PM.

CHERUB CHOIR begins rehearsals next Sunday for Christian Education Sunday at 11:15 in the Music Room. Children age 4 through Grade 2 are invited to join. When Cherubs rehearse at 11:15, the Junior Choir rehearsals will take place at 11:30 AM.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Next Sunday, 11:45 AM – 1:45 PM.

JYF will be playing mini-golf next Sunday, April 26, after church. Parent volunteers are needed. Sign up on youth bulletin board.

SYF will be hiking next Sunday, April 26, leaving at 1:30 PM, for Sessions Woods in Burlington. Please bring a signed permission slip. Sign up on youth bulletin board.

TALENT SHOW DRESS REHEARSAL: Sat., May 2, 9 – 10:30 AM.