

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

May 24, 2009

10:00 AM

CHIMES

Lydia Petersen

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Hail, Blessed Trinity" (Christe Sanctorum) -arr. Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

Come together expecting great things.

Wait for the promises of God.

**Is this the time when God will come to reign?**

**Will we receive power and authority?**

In God's time, the Holy Spirit will come to you.

You will be empowered as faithful witnesses.

**We are here to learn about all that Jesus did.**

**We are ready to listen to all that Jesus taught.**

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

Sing praises to God, sing praises.

**God is ruler over all the earth.**

**We seek to experience God's rule in our lives.**

\*HYMN **725** (*Chalice*)

"God of the Ages"

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

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

**Appear to us again, risen Savior, for we have lost sight of you. We have come to find you here so we may recognize you among all who suffer. We seek wisdom and revelation to cope with the confusion we face every day amid competing claims. We are here to remember the authority with which you spoke so we may walk amid the rulers of our day, speaking in Christ's name. We who seek to be your body, the church, need the eyes of our hearts enlightened so we may once more embrace hope and know your joy. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...***

\*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* # 35)

RESPONSIVE READING: Page **728** (*Chalice*) Psalm 8

\*HYMN **720** (*Chalice*)

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

OFFERTORY: "Thy Word"

-Michael Smith/Amy Grant

Jerry Alonzy, soloist

\*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* # 46)

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

**May our offerings leave no doubt that you are head of our church and the inspiration for our lives. Empower our ministries with the fullness of Christ that we may be inclusive in our outreach and effective as teachers and healers. Help us to find joy in our praying and in our serving. For these purposes and to the glory of your name, we dedicate our money and our lives. Amen.**

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

\*HYMN **631** (*Chalice*)

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

SCRIPTURE: Acts 1:1-11 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 109)

SERMON: "WHY DO YOU STAND THERE LOOKING TO HEAVEN?"

\*HYMN **722** (*Chalice*)

"This Is My Song"

\*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE: "The Saints Victorious"

-Blake

(\*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             |
| Cindy Griggs and Dan LeGeyt     | Duty Deacons                            |
| Ron Olejniczak                  | Duty Trustee                            |
| Phyllis Meeker and Sue Jennison | Greeters                                |
| Dan LeGeyt and Matt LeGeyt      | Ushers                                  |
| The Hagedorns                   | Coffee Hour Hosts                       |

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

**THE FLOWERS** today are given by the LeGeyt Family in memory of Mortimer R. Bristol, WWI veteran; Henry A. LeGeyt, WWII veteran; and Laura Ingraben.

**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.

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**TRUSTING IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD**, and with thanksgiving, we remember the following members of our church family who have entered upon the larger life of the heavenly kingdom over the course of the last year:

- |             |               |                |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Robert Baum | Ruth Case     | Ralph Ehrhardt |
| Ruth Evanyo | John Hoidge   | Prosper Larose |
|             | Barbara Young |                |

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**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 in the Parish Hall following worship today.

**Please see bulletin insert for announcements**



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**ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009**

**JUNIOR CHOIR** is today, 11:15 AM in the Music Room.

**CHERUB CHOIR** will **NOT** meet today.

**MISSION COLLECTION FOR MAY** is business attire for men and women to support “Suit a Brother, Dress a Sister” in good condition, but not necessarily dry-cleaned.

**SIGN UP TO WORK AT THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**, Sunday, June 21. Check out the poster on the kitchen door to find the right job for you. Especially needed are **berry pickers** for Saturday, June 20!

**TEACHERS** are needed for fall - opportunities at coffee hour.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to serve at the Canton High Senior Class Breakfast here on **Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please see Sarah LeGeyt or sign up during coffee hour.

**COMING UP**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed Monday for Memorial Day.

**SENIOR CHOIR** will **NOT** meet Monday.

**MINISTER’S BIBLE STUDY**: Tuesday, 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE**: Tuesday, 7 PM and next Sunday, 8 AM.

**BELL CHOIR** will **NOT** meet Thursday.

**C.E. SUNDAY REHEARSAL**: **Sunday, June 7**, 9:00 AM. in the sanctuary.

**MEMORIAL FLOWERS** are needed for **Sunday, November 15, 2009**. Contact Polly Rice, 651-7813, to provide worship flowers.

**“STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH” SPECIAL OFFERING** of the United Church of Christ will be received next Sunday. This offering builds the UCC’s future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. Directed to local Conferences, Local Church Ministries and the Stillspeaking Ministry, Strengthen the Church gifts help to create vibrant church communities.