

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

January 10, 2010

10:00 AM

EPIPHANY

CHIMES

Lydia Petersen

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Awake, Thou Wintry Earth"

-J.S. Bach

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (**responsively**):

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

The glory of God has risen among us.

**We are awake; we are alive!**

**Praise God for deliverance and blessings.**

Lift up your eyes to see all around you.

Let your hearts rejoice, and be radiant with hope.

**May justice water the earth like a shower;**

**let righteousness and peace abound.**

Receive again the promises of the gospel.

Participate in the mystery of Jesus Christ.

**God's ways are being revealed to us today.**

**Our church proclaims the unsearchable riches of Christ.**

\*HYMN 173 (*Chalice*)

"As With Gladness"

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

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

**Eternal God, because your purposes become clear to us in Jesus Christ, we come with boldness to claim our relationship with you. We are grateful for pioneers in the faith whose stewardship has salvaged for us a way of life rooted in the gospel. The flames you ignited in them have not gone out, in spite of our faithlessness. Your wisdom is still proclaimed in the church, challenging centers of earthly power with the claims of heaven. Today our search for meaning has led us to this place of worship. You are here; we rejoice! In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...***

\*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice #35*)

RESPONSIVE READING: Page 767 (*Chalice*) Psalm 147

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERTORY: "I Wonder as I Wander" -Appalachian carol/arr. Niles Senior Choir; Jerry Alonzy, soloist

\*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice #46*)

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

**For the joy of giving, we offer the products of our labor for the ministry of this church, in outreach to the world. With concern for those who are poor, oppressed, and needy, we rededicate ourselves as helpers and advocates. Out of devotion to Christ, we commit our best, that the church may bear witness among the principalities and powers of this world. Help us all, O God, to be faithful stewards. Amen.**

\*HYMN 160 (*Chalice*)

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

***The church school children may pass to their classrooms  
when the congregation begins singing.***

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

\*HYMN 174 (*Chalice*)

"Brightest and Best"

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2: 1-12 (Pew Bibles N.T. p. 1)

SERMON: "WHAT'S OUR HURRY?"

\*HYMN 176 (*Chalice*)

"Sing of God Made Manifest"

\*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE: "The Snow Lay on the Ground"

-Lindh

(\*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
Lydia Petersen and Dave Ayres	Duty Deacons
Dave Heyer	Duty Trustee
Charlie and Marlene Whitney	Greeters

**THE FLOWERS** today are given by the Byko family in loving memory of their parents and grandparents, George and Angela Zamborksy and Mary Byko.

**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.

**PLEASE JOIN US** in the Parish Hall following the service for a time of fellowship and refreshment.

**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 the service.

**Please see bulletin insert for announcements.**

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## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010**

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

**SYF MISSION TRIPPERS & PARENTS MEETING:** Today, 11:15 AM, in the double classroom.

**OUR MISSION COLLECTION FOR JANUARY** benefits Hartford's Interval House. Needed items are Pampers (lg), Pull-ups (lg), toilet tissue, Kleenex, paper towels, cleaning products - bleach, glass cleaner, Lysol disinfectant, sponges. Plastic tall/large garbage bags (55+size).

### **COMING UP**

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** Monday, 10:00 AM.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Monday, 6:30 PM.

**MUSIC COMMITTEE:** Monday, 6:30 PM.

**SENIOR CHOIR:** Monday, 7:00 PM.

**PRIME TIMERS** will meet Wednesday, January 13, at 12 Noon for "Souper" Wednesday. Please bring a can of soup (not creamed) to add to the mixture for our lunch. The program is "The Game" (Scattergories). Dessert & coffee provided.

**CHURCH COUNCIL:** Wednesday, 7:00 PM.

**BELL CHOIR:** Thursday, 7:00 PM.

**JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE,** 1:00 – 4:00 PM, here at the church this coming Saturday, January 16. There will be a time for meeting and greeting and all kinds of good things to eat.

## **Bulletin Announcements, Sunday, January 10, 2010**

**PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE ROAST BEEF POTLUCK DINNER** next Saturday, January 16, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, in the Parish Hall. The roast beef will be supplied; you bring the side dishes. Come, share and enjoy the fellowship of the day.

**CHURCH SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BEGIN IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY,** January 17. Children aged 3 to 8 will leave the service when indicated in the order of worship and child care will be provided for them for the remainder of the service and the following congregational meeting. All other children are encouraged to remain in church for the entire service and meeting.

**WARNING** of a special meeting of the congregation on Sunday, January 17, 2010, following worship. Details are posted on the church bulletin board.

**IF CHURCH SERVICES OR OTHER EVENTS ARE CANCELLED** for any reason, you may check for the notice on WTIC AM 1080 radio, or watch local CBS channel 3, or check our church's website [www.cantoncenterchurch.org](http://www.cantoncenterchurch.org)

**ANNUAL REPORTS** will be due in the church office on January 17. Committee chairpeople and officers of the church, please take note.

**ALL-CHURCH RETREAT PLANNING COMMITTEE** is forming for the Silver Lake Retreat set for March 12, 13, 14. Contact Sarah LeGeyt to help.

**JYF, MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 24, at 8:30 AM in the Parish Hall. Sign up on the youth bulletin board in the lower level.