



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

April 11, 2021

~ Second Sunday of Easter ~

10:00 a.m.



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 you are able.*

Bold denotes unison response.

CHIMES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Here I Am Lord*

Daniel Schutte, James Snyder

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this season of resurrection, renewal and hope,
 may our own spirits feel risen, renewed and hopeful.
May the love of God that surpasses all human understanding
 hold us in our questions, doubts and fears.
Today may the abundant gifts of God be evident to us,
 awakening us to the blessings of this life.

***HYMN** *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

Come ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness,
God hath brought for Israel into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today, Christ hath burst his prison,
And from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
All the winter of our sins, long and bleak is flying
From his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the brightest season dawns with the day of splendor,
Now the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

***GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

... this we pray in Christ's name and spirit, as we also say together:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine
is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

READING FROM SCRIPTURE John 20:19-31

SERMON *The Opposite of Faith*

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

ANTHEM *One Bread, One Body*
Judy Robinson, vocalist

John Foley

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to participate. If joining us online, you are invited to use whatever you have for elements at home.

Invitation

Prayer of Preparation

Words of Institution & Partaking of Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**To you, God of resurrections, we give thanks,
and to you we turn our minds and our hearts,
our being and our doing,
that all might flow from love.
Send us now to be bread for each other
and light for the world,
as the community of the Risen Christ. Amen.**

***HYMN** *I Come with Joy*

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
The life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen but ever near,
Is in [our] friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
We'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The flowers this morning are given by the Minichiello-Hooker family
in loving memory of our departed family members: Melissa, Bissie, Margot and Polly.*

TODAY – SECOND HOUR ON PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

Members of our congregation are urged to remain today, right after the service in the sanctuary, for a Second Hour informational presentation on proposed changes to the church bylaws. These will be voted on at a congregational meeting following worship on April 25.

**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING of the First Congregational Church,
Canton Center, Connecticut**, on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.
OR on subsequent Sundays at 11:00 a.m. until a quorum is obtained.

AGENDA:

1. Call to order and opening prayer.
2. Reading of the call to the meeting.
3. Presentation of the proposed changes to the Church's by-laws included in Amendment 13
4. Any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bev Sealand, Clerk

5 YEARS OF SCRIP!

Our Scrip program kicked off in April 2016 and since then we have raised nearly \$8000 for church expenses! Even with no coffee hour shopping, we're still up & running and you can still place gift card orders on a weekly basis. Casey can be reached via phone (860-693-0134), email (c.levine@comcast.net) or in church most Sundays. You can also download the RaiseRight mobile app that allows you to see all 750+ retailers available and place an order right from your phone. For more information about the program or to get our church's enrollment code for the app, just reach out. You can also visit www.shopwithscrip.com. Remember, every gift card you purchase raises money for our church!

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka
Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe
Director of Faith Formation: Sarah Pradhan
Duty Deacons: Darryl Haberern & Steve Byko

Ministers: Every Member
Sexton: Walt LeGeyt
Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia
Camera: Steve Byko