

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
CANTON CENTER, CT  
and  
THE CANTON COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**July 18, 2021 ~ 9:30 a.m.  
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**



184 Cherry Brook Road, PO Box 133, Canton Center, CT 06020-0133



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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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*\*Please stand, if you are able.*

**Bold** denotes unison response.

**CHIMES**

Karen Needham

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ali Hager

*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.*

***Prayer request cards** may be found on the tables at the back of the church.*

***Offerings** may be placed in the marked boxes on the tables at the back of the church.*

**PRELUDE**     *Still, My Soul, Be Still*

Getty/Townend

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Vicki Rees

The sinners, the saints, the broken, the whole:

**all come together in this sacred place.**

The doubters, the devout, the wonderers, the wanderers:

**all are gathered in by the same Spirit.**

The eager, the fearful, the hesitant, the heroic:

**all are invited and blessed by God.**

Friends, let us center again in the great Love,

**that makes us whole, that makes us one.**

**\*HYMN**     *Creator God, Creating Still*     Chalice (blue), 62

1. *Creator God, creating still, by will and word and deed,  
Create a new humanity to meet the present need.*
2. *Redeemer God, redeeming still, with overflowing grace,  
Pour out your love on us, through us, make this a holy place.*
3. *Sustainer God, sustaining still, with strength for every day,  
Empower us now to do your will, correct us when we stray.*
4. *Great Trinity, for this new day we need your presence still.  
Create, redeem, sustain us now to do your work and will.*

## GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Vicki Rees

... This we ask in Jesus' name and spirit, as we also pray 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.**

### \*SUNG RESPONSE

*Bless God, O My Soul*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the sung response. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!". The second staff contains the lyrics: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the second staff.

### READING FROM SCRIPTURE Ephesians 1:3-14

### SERMON

*"#Blessed"*

Ali Hager

### ANTHEM

*Where We'll Never Grow Old*  
Soloist Jim Todd

James Moore

### DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Amy Johnson

**Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer**

### \*HYMN

*Take My Life and Let It Be* Pilgrim (red), 404

1. *Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.*
2. *Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.*
3. *Take my will, and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.*
4. *Take my love, my Lord I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**     *Amen*

**\*POSTLUDE**     *Lord, Above All Other Treasures*

J.S. Bach

Thank you to Ali Hager, our preacher this morning. Ali is a member of our congregation, currently a student at Hartford Seminary, and a Member in Discernment in the United Church of Christ (exploring the path toward ordination).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The flowers this morning are given by Phil & Jeannine LeGeyt  
in loving memory of their children, Casey, Brett and Denise.*

**NEXT SUN., JULY 25**: Our congregation says thank you & good-bye to Sarah Pradhan, our Dir. of Faith Formation. Music by the handbell choir. Reception following the service. It's also **Fourth Sunday Food Collection** – your non-perishable food donations for the Canton Food Bank will be much appreciated.

**AUGUST SERVICES** - will be held at the Canton Comm. Baptist Church (125 Dowd Ave), **at 10:00 a.m.**

**IT'S SCRIP BONUS TIME!** - The Scrip program is offering additional bonuses on 50+ retailers this and next week as part of their annual "Back to School" event. You still pay for and get face value on every card you purchase, but the church makes an extra bonus rebate on certain brands these two weeks. Retailers include Barnes & Noble, Gap / Old Navy, Home Depot, Staples and many more. Stop by the Scrip table in the parish hall during coffee hour to see all brands available and place an order that can be picked up or delivered next week.

**MISSIONS** - This month we are **collecting backpacks and school supplies** for Wellmore. Please put backpacks/school supplies in the Mission Box next to the kitchen door. Thank you for your support!!

**CHURCH OFFICE** - The church office will be closed August 2 - 6. Phone messages will be monitored.

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

**Director of Music:** Mary Lou Keefe

**Director of Faith Formation:** Sarah Pradhan

**Duty Deacons:** Casey Levine & Vicki Rees

**Camera:** Evan Rees

**Ministers:** Every Member

**Sexton:** Walt LeGeyt

**Office Manager:** Kristen DiMattia

**Trustees:** Bill Downes & Dina Raimo-Pelham