

Order of Worship

First Church Congregational

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the

United Church of Christ

Fairfield, Connecticut

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP OF WORD AND SACRAMENT



Behold, I Make All Things New by Davey Cheng

NOVEMBER 1, 2020

Prelude

Opus I & II

Beverly Simpson

Welcome and Announcements

We seek to extend the extravagant love of God to all people, all the time. Regardless of your race, class, ancestry, gender identity, marital status, ability, age, immigration status, political orientation, or sexual orientation -who you love - you are always welcome at First Church, on line, on the lawn, or eventually in the Sanctuary and Chapel. God loves you just as you are. So do we!

Interlude

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Pete Cutts

Call to Worship

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times.

God's praise will continually be in my mouth.

**People: My soul shall rejoice in the Lord,
let the humble hear it and rejoice**

Leader: Come, glorify our God with me.

All: Let us exalt God's name together!

Hymn

“For All the Saints”

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the
And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the
world their stead-fast faith confessed, your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blessed.
ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a - gain, and faith grows strong.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison Prayer of Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

O Living God of past and future, we praise you for this present moment. Fill us with your peace and empower us with your Holy Spirit, that our strength may be renewed to sing a new song of your glory in a world which longs for your justice and peace. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, in whom we become your new creation and who taught us to pray: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Children’s Sermon

Candle of Witness

(Names on page 9)

All Souls Remembrance

Interlude

Pie Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Scripture

Revelation 21:1-6

Sermon “A Peculiar Kind of Hope”

The Reverend David W. Spollett

A Time for Silent Reflection

Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Hymn

“God of Change and Glory”

God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space, when we fear the fu - ture,
God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs, you have made us dif - ferent,
7 give to us your grace. In the midst of chang - ing ways give us still the grace to praise.
bless - ing man - y kinds. This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.
14 Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways. In our dif - fer - ence is bless - ing,
20 from di - ver - si - ty we praise one Giv - er, one Word, one Spir - it, one God
26 known in man - y ways, hal - low - ing our days. For the Giv - er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation

Come, for the banquet of hope and praise is ready.

We come at Christ’s invitation, seeking to be fed.

Feed on the love of God in Jesus Christ

We come at Christ’s invitation, needing healing.

Be healed by God’s gracious mercy

We come at Christ’s invitation, longing for forgiveness

In Christ’s Name, you are loved, you are healed, and you are forgiven.

Alleluia, Praise be to God. Amen.

Leader: We are one bread, one body, one cup of blessing. Though we are many throughout the earth and this church community is scattered, we are one in Christ. In our many places, let us rest our hands lightly upon these elements which we have set aside to be a sacrament and ask God’s blessing upon them.

Unison: God our Redeemer, there are no limits to your blessing and no social distance on your grace. Send your Spirit of life and love, your power and blessing, upon every table where your children have gathered in worship, that this Bread which is broken and this Cup poured out, may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ.

Words of Institution

Leader: The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Let us in our many places take the Bread and break it, to receive and share the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

All: We are one in Christ in the Bread we share.

(All partake of the Bread.)

Leader: In the same way also, the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” Let us in our many places take the Cup, to receive and share the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the Cup we share.

(All partake of the Cup.)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have renewed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith in you, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. Amen.

A Time for Silent Reflection

Benediction

God Be With You

Postlude

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Lowry

Thanks to Rev. Maren C. Tirabassi through her blog Gifts in Open Hands, Rev. Jon Komperda, Point Place, UCC, Toledo, Ohio, and Dr. Marcia McFee for providing inspiration for the Communion liturgy.

You can make your donation, gift or pledge at any time by **Mail** to 148 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT 06824; the secure **Church Website** <https://firstchurchfairfield.org>, click on the tab “Giving,” and scroll down to access Online and PayPal; or **Electronic Transfer of Funds** from your bank.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

The Reverend David W. Spollett

The Reverend Vanessa Rose

Ms. Heidi Butler, Student Pastor

Mr. Robert Codio, Worship Music Leader

Ms. Cheri Evan, Minister of Congregational Life

Handbell Choir: Pete Evan, Heidi Butler, Tim Clark, Ainsley Dolan,
Jane Barnes, Emily Fuehring, Andrew McKinnis, and Marilyn Lord

Please hold in your prayers...

Disciples at First Church: Theodora Bamford, Sandy Bromer, Michael Dyslin, Bill Gatto, Sonia Gutierrez and Henry Hernandez, Gayle Hand, Joyce Hutchings, Christy Jefremow, Cathy Kane, Adelaide Kitchen, Alice and Jerry Krenke, Lillian Klein, Gerry Kuroghlian, Stu Nazzaro, Kathy O'Brien, Jack Robinson, Esther Sotolongo, Rachel Spollett, Joe and Lauren Strickland's five grandsons in Libya, Arlene Studer, Joann Van Esselstyn, Bill Verdier, Elinor Wilber, and Edith Zambo.

Those on the Front Lines of COVID-19:

Eric Anderson, member of First Church; Michelle Baker, member of First Church; Elizabeth Brennan, friend of Jeanne Reed; Laura Burr, member of First Church; Raquel Canete, friend of Joe and Fran Evan; Pertrinea Cash, First Church Member; Kim Chaffee, member of First Church; Marguerite Dolan, mother of Matt Dolan and mother-in-law of Vanessa Rose; Ericka Gordon, niece of Jane Keller and Davis Miller; Brooke Hine, granddaughter of Jerry and Alice Krenke; Stephen Huelskamp, friend of Nina and Mark Engstrom; Greg Jefremow, member of First Church; Kristin Koch, member of First Church; Tracie and Devon Lingenfelter, niece and great niece of Charlotte Dyslin; Kristin Lupo, member of First Church; Lauren Redler McGrath, friend of Nina and Mark Engstrom; Maria Pellegrino, colleague of Beth McKinnis; Beth McKinnis, member of First Church; Diane Marble, sister-in-law of Charlotte Dyslin; Casey Redler, friend of Nina and Mark Engstrom; Maria Sutton, member of First Baptist; Anna Taft and her group of volunteers Tandana Foundation, works in Ecuador and Mali, friend of Jeanne Reed; Edite Weddle, member of First Church; Westport EMS; Ann Yergeau, friend of Nina and Mark Engstrom.

Serving in the military: James Classy, Sam Classy, Trevor Dawson, David Elmore, Sean Lomnitzer, Alec Lee and Chris Muschett.

Family and Friends: Gabe, George, Gloria and Eric, Brenda Baker, Nick Bandanza, Anne Barnes, Walter Beck, Michelle Browser, Kevin Butler, Meg Cavanaugh, Amber Chiang, Clara Chokenea, David Ciaburro, Aristodemo Ciabatta, Elizabeth Clark, Charlotte Cole, Kathy Cook, Jan Craig, Tedi Crawford, The Daly Family, Steve Daniels, Brandon Deedon, The DiGioia Family, Jacqueline Geoffroy, Greenawalt and Darnall Families, Linda Drew, Janet Faller,

LaTonya Franklin, Scott Ferguson, Nat Ferrante, Allen Freedman, Lauren Frey and Brian's parents, Sharon Friedlander, Joan Grabowski, Dave Gurrieri, Ira Jane Han-Cajegas, Nancy Huber, Keli Imperatori, Mary Jean Jacob, Norma Jenkins and Family, Barton Jones, Art Keller, Patricia Keller, Barnie Keller, Steve Kinne, Ed Kitchen, Nancy Kovacs, Rose Kovacs, Desmond Leach, Jan MacMillen, Michael Maxwell, Eileen Maloney, Tim Marble, Verne Marble, Nicole Mateo and her grandmother Bunny Deubner, Peter J. McGuinness, Lyn McCullers, MaKayla and John McGovern, Claire McMonagle, Matilda, Moeller and Schumann families, Michael Moran, Kathy Murdock, Joelle Murphy, Anne and George Noel, Parus Family, Erika Pascarello, Amadeu Pereira, Mike Platt, Dimitri Psachoulias,, Katie Pieterse, Sara Redeghieri,, Dick Reese, Sally and Paul Robinson, Katelyn S., Greg Sago, Larry (Connie Sargent's cousin), Wes Schultz, Violet, JoAnn Sharnick, Darlene Scaia, Kristin Schleiter, Louise M. Schmidt, Levi Schmidt, Sergei, Nasir Sellers, Connie Sokalsky, Ryan Steward, Seth Sullivan Steven Szymczak and family, Paul Taylor, Jenny and Mike Tkacz, Harumi Ishihara Sugiyama, Danielle Taal and her five sons, Max Varalli, Sarah Wakeman, Andy Yuan, Virginia MacDonald and her children Linda Hotchkiss, Dan MacDonald, Gianfranco Grande's mother, Elizabetta, Sydney West and family, Brian Zagorski, and Reva Zamero.

The Needs of God's Beloved World

- The people of the Yucatan Peninsula and of Louisiana, battered by Hurricane Zeta
- The victims of COVID-19: nearly 1.2 million deaths worldwide, over 225,000 in the US, and 44 million who have been sick, ten percent who have chronic afflictions
- Those who are suffering economically due to the pandemic and the economic crisis
- All health care workers who continue to provide care at the risk of their own lives
- Essential workers who have continued to work in spite of the risk
- Those who are lonely, anxious, afraid, and isolated in this time of social separation
- All who suffer from depression, anxiety, and all mental illnesses and their families
- Mental health providers who care for all who are suffering mentally and emotionally
- All who work to prevent domestic violence and to care for the victims of such violence
- People targeted by hatred of all kinds, including anti-Black, anti-Migrant, anti-Gay, anti-Trans, anti-Semitic, anti-Islamic, anti-Christian prejudice, and actions
- All who are committed to the work of antiracism and the eradication of white supremacy
- Survivors of sexual assault, abuse, and harassment and those who love them
- Parents and all who are involved in education: teachers, administrators, and staff
- Those who suffer from catastrophic diseases who are not receiving adequate health care
- Syrian refugees, especially the children, and all the world's 71 million refugees
- Uighur Muslims in China and Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar and Bangladesh
- Those who are addicted and their loved ones; those who have died and those in recovery
- Migrants and asylum seekers who flee gang violence and grinding poverty
- Refugees and immigrants, especially at risk of deportation

- Victims of war in Iraq, Sudan, the DR of Congo, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, & Libya, especially the grandsons of Joe and Lauren Strickland,
- Our Brothers and Sisters at the First Baptist Church of Stratford
- Our community partners: Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, School Volunteer Association, Mercy Learning Center, Operation Hope, Westbridge, Simply Smiles, Make the Road Connecticut, and the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants
- We work and pray for justice and its fruit which is peace

Pray for Our Nation

Democracy was brought to North America by our Puritan ancestors in the 17th century. Decisions of vital interest in church and community were to be made by the people in “meeting assembled,” not by bishops, kings, or oligarchs. The New England “congregational way,” in which each member had a vote, was the beginning of the American experiment in democracy. This year, Americans have been “voting early” and by absentee ballot for weeks. On Tuesday, November 3 is Election Day when millions more will go to polling places across the nation.

On Tuesday, November 3 the Sanctuary will be open when the polls are open, 6:00 am – 8:00 pm. Come to the Sanctuary to pray for our nation and those elected to public office. Come when you can and stay as long as you like or need to pray. Wear a mask, practice social distancing, and ask for God’s will to be done.

On Wednesday, November 4 at 9:00 am we will gather on the front Lawn for a Prayer Service. Please bring a chair and practice social distancing. Masks are required. Let us pray for God’s guidance for us all, for wisdom for our leaders, and for justice and its fruit which is peace.

UN-COWAY
UN-ERASURE
CEREMONY

Land Acknowledgement
November 1st 12 noon
First Church Fairfield
148 Beach Road
Fairfield, CT 06825

Hosted by the Fairfield
Education Association
Anti Racism Committee
with
First Church of Fairfield

MASKS MANDATORY



You Can Help!!

Deliver Non-Perishable Food, Diapers, Checks, and Gift Cards
to Wakeman Hall
By **Thursday Noon** for delivery
to the Food Pantry at Mercy Learning Center on Friday Morning!!

These are basic items that will help right now:

- bags of rice and bags of any type of dried beans, lentils, etc.
- tomato paste, tomato sauce, or diced tomatoes
- oatmeal, cream of wheat, corn meal,
- pasta, cooking oil, flour
- powdered or evaporated milk
- canned meats, canned fruit, canned vegetables
- toilet paper, bars of soap, other toiletries
- Diapers: sizes 4, 5, and *especially 6*
- Gift cards: Stop and Shop, Shop Rite, Walgreens, CVS
- Financial Donations: Mail to First Church, check payable to Mercy Learning Center.

This Week:

Sunday, Nov. 1 ~ All Souls

9:00am Bible Study on Zoom
 9:00am Confirmation
 9:30am Disciple Road on Zoom
 10:15am Worship Facebook Live
 10:30am Middle Road
 12:00pm Land Acknowledgement

Tuesday, Nov. 3 Election Day

6:00am-8:00pm Pray for Our Nation
 12:30pm Pastoral Team Meeting
 6:00pm Handbell Choir, Webb Room

Wednesday, Nov. 4

9:00am Pray for Our Nation – Prayer
 Service on the Lawn
 10:00am Bible Study on Zoom

Thursday, Nov. 5

6:30pm High Road

Sunday, Nov. 8

9:00am Bible Study on Zoom
 9:00am Confirmation
 9:30am Disciple Road on Zoom
 10:15am Worship Facebook Live
 10:30am Middle Road
 12:00pm Worship on the Lawn

Welcome the Stranger ministry, has identified some specific key items needed by resettled refugee families as winter approaches:

- Baby clothes for winter (3 boys and 1 girl), 3-6months
- New Blankets
- New scarves, hats and gloves for both children and adults.

Please drop off your items in Wakeman Hall, box near the stage, **by Friday Nov 13**. I will deliver these items to CIRI (CT Institute for Refugees and Immigrants) who will distribute the items to families in need.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or if you are unable to make a drop-off and would like to make alternative arrangements.

Patty Gregory

(203) 209-9129

IN REMEMBRANCE

Elizabeth Hugus
Lucille Marottoli
Bob Stevens
Kathleen Kennedy
Bill Tomczyk
Nelda Hull
Mildred Hauser
Charles Lomnitzer
Fred & Nancy Barnes
Cynthia Gowen
B.J. Hawes
Greg Stout
Don Woodman
Sussie Tyrrell
Albert Ray Tyrrell
Ingrid and Henry Engstrom
Ann Avery
Howard Avery, Sr.
Virginia Avery
Joseph Avery
Marge Avery
Linda Dickmann
Lee Freese
Carol Kent
Fred Pascariello
August Rake
Jim Ranholm
Kay Sargent
Bill Sargent, Sr.
Joseph Sargent
Teresa Sargent
Tom Kelly
Edward Austin
Marleen Austin
Tom Conwell
Carmine Pascarelli
Paul Parfitt

Keith Roberts
Noel Yannotti
David Rees
Jonathan Rees
Elouine and Harold Green
Tom Green
Eva and Stephen Kuroghlian
John and Jim Lehaney
Edith Naomi Huber Verdier
Elizabeth Verdier Zellers
George & Vivian Harris
David Moran
Timmy Berens
Charley Hamin
Susan Harmon
Arthur Chokenea
Jean & Albert Harmon
Romano Aldean Howlett
Lindsey O'Neil Brown
Margaret Carter
Tracy Tarver
Gloria Laks Schnyder
Alison Campbell
Elizabeth & Gunnar Skog
Giuseppe Caruso
Maria Pereira
Mary Nunes
Sandra Kliolz
Jack Kliolz
Kathryn Clarkson
Bob Barr
Lefty & Jane O'Dea Gomez
Gery Gomez
Shawn Gomez
Duane Gomez
Andrew (Drew) Trupp
Linda J. Toth

Bob Barnum
Rev. Don Studer
Paul Knox
Vera & Frank Nosal
Eileen Milazzo
Charlie & Irene Eckert
Kal or Karl & Marian Medve
David Edwin Hey
Cameron Bruce
Leslie McGrath Taylor
Clorinda M. Barone
Cynthia & William Barone
Phil & Arlene Dwyer
Barbara & Don Minton
Ed Klumpp
George & Ann Anderson
Eva Schrellechner
Rodger Randall
Joseph Nemeth
Mary Nemeth
Genevieve Hilton
Marie McDonald
Anna Lorinc
John Lorinc
Gil & Rosemary Mott
Peter Bollier
Don & Shirley Banks
Charlene Amour
Angela & Edward Gordon
Vera & Maurice Brown
Matt Gressel
Geza & Elnora Evan
Alan & Mary Evan
Edward & Thelma Radowiecki
Frederick & Amy Spollett
Scott F. Andresen
Daniel Klein