

***GLORIA PATRI** Chalice #35

ANTHEM *A Joyful Alleluia* Gordon Young

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MESSAGE Lynn Dunn

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PARISH Rob Godzeno

PASTORAL PRAYER Rob Godzeno

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS John Jelliffe

OFFERTORY *May the Words* Max Helsman
Arlene Adler, soprano

***DOXOLOGY** Chalice #46

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** John Jelliffe

***HYMN** *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* Chalice #101

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 8:27-38 John Jelliffe
New Testament, pp. 43,44

SERMON “Who Do You Say Jesus Is?” Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** *Praise Him! Praise Him!* Chalice #93

***BENEDICTION** Dr. Jackson

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*
Music: Sicilian Mariners
Words: Attr. John Fawcett

POSTLUDE Timothy A. Wallace

*The flowers today are given by the Shadford family
in loving memory of Pam’s sister, Melissa Baynes.*

USHERS: Hilda Cook, Denise Gajadhar, Bill Hensley, Pam Shadford

TODAY

Hospitality: Please join us for a picnic in the garden immediately following worship.

Songs of Gathering: Today we begin a new tradition today of starting our worship service with two “Songs of Gathering” instead of a Prelude so that we may enter into the praise of our Lord as one voice in Spirit.

Joys and Concerns cards are available from the ushers. If you have joys or concerns that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out one or more of the cards, which will be collected by the ushers following the Children and Youth Message.

Red Worship Register: We are glad that you are worshiping with us today. If you are here with us for the first time, please write your name and contact information in the red register at the aisle end of your pew. If there is any specific need or request that you or your loved ones have, feel free to indicate that in the register. Regular worshippers, we also ask you to write your names in this register as well.

Child Care: Child care is available for infants to 5-year-olds during worship. If you are a visitor or new to our congregation and would like to utilize this service, please ask an usher to introduce you to our caregivers, Elfriede Mallin and Alex McGregor.

Children's Bulletins: Children's bulletins and pencils may be found in the basket on the table at the front of the sanctuary next to the baptismal font.

Food Trunk Offerings: Donations of canned goods and non-perishable food staples are now being collected weekly and may be placed in the large basket in the narthex. These offerings of food are delivered by a member of the Board of Missions to Person-to-Person in Darien for distribution to those in need.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member Sessions: If you are thinking of joining First Congregational Church or have questions regarding membership, please speak with Senior Deacon Hilda Cook following worship, or contact her at 203-322-7549. We hope to start our new member sessions in October and would like to accommodate busy schedules.

Spiritual Journeys: How did it all start? Creation? The world as we know it? How do our interpretations of "the beginnings" of the world and humanity influence how we live today? Join Pastor Cari Jackson and Deacon John Jelliffe this fall for a special study of the Book of Genesis (Beginnings). The first session features a special guest speaker, Lydia Bartholomew, a UCC Global Missionary serving in Israel, where her specific work focuses on issues of justice and reconciliation with Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center and B'Tselem: Israeli Information Center for Human Rights. Invite friends and neighbors. The study of Genesis begins September 14 and continues through December 14. Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

Sacred Conversations: Our first Sacred Conversation is planned for Sunday, October 4, after worship. A light lunch will be followed by Pastor Cari summarizing the information from the "Conversations with Cari" meetings of the summer. The need for, the expectations of, and the topics for the future Sacred Conversations will be presented. If you have questions, please contact Joe Belisle (914-771-8037) or Pam Shadford (203-322-6838).

Hiking on October 10: Come celebrate the beauty of God's world in all its Fall splendor. The Mianus River Gorge Preserve is just over the state line in Bedford. Meet at the church parking lot at 9 a.m. to carpool, wear sturdy footwear, and bring water and a snack for a 3-hour hike following the course of the Mianus River through rich woodland and old growth forest. Children are welcome. If the weather is bad, we will reschedule for another day. Contact Kathie Laug at 203-348-3993 if you have any questions and to let Kathie know if you plan to join the hike.

Save the Dates:

Sunday, September 27 5:30 p.m.	"Sunday Night Live" in the Chapel
Sunday, October 4	Lunch and Sacred Conversation #1 following Sunday morning worship service
Saturday, October 10 9:00 a.m.	Hiking at Mianus River Gorge
Wednesday, October 14 7:00 p.m.	Sacred Conversation #2
Sunday, October 18	Budget Information Meeting following Sunday morning worship service
Tuesday, October 20 7:00 p.m.	Sacred Conversation #3
Saturday, October 24 6-9 p.m.	Halloween Party
Sunday, October 25	Annual Budget Meeting (following Sunday worship)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Cooking for New Covenant House: Volunteers prepare and deliver a meal for New Covenant House of Hospitality each month except December on the Saturday or Sunday before the fourth Monday. Susan De Simone, our NCHH cooking coordinator, reports that we have volunteers signed up through January. Thank you!

Volunteers for Hospitality: You are invited to sign up on the calendar on the table in the parlor. Maureen Matthews, Hospitality Chair (203-274-5354), would be happy to answer questions about our hospitality hour.

Musicians for “Sunday Night Live”: Our “Sunday Night Live” informal worship services will be held weekly starting September 27. If you would like to share your musical gifts at one or more of these services, please call Pastor Cari at 203-323-0200 or email her at joyouscari@aol.com.

Rentals Coordinator: Your volunteer service can help make our church more accessible to the community and increase our church revenue. Be the contact person for individuals and organizations needing space for weddings, workshops, meetings, and more. Please contact Bill Hensley (203-325-0077, wbhensley@optonline.net) or Pastor Cari (joyouscari@aol.com).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pastoral Office Hours: Pastor Cari’s office hours are generally Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please contact her directly at the church office (203-323-0200) or by email at joyouscari@aol.com.

Church Library: Our library, located across from the Parlor, is open whenever the church is open.

Newsletter and Calendar: Copies are on tables in the narthex and in the parlor.

Schedule for Today and the Coming Week

Today

8:45 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
12:00 noon
12:00 noon

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Family and Friends Sunday

Chancel Choir rehearsal
Worship—Sanctuary; Church School
Picnic in the garden
Board of Missions
Iglesia Discipulos de Cristo—McGown Chapel

Monday

12:00 noon
7:00 p.m.

Library Committee
Spiritual Journeys (*Genesis*)—Parlor

Tuesday

7:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

Board of Stewardship—West Parlor
Iglesia Discipulos de Cristo—McGown Chapel

Wednesday

7:00 p.m.

Prudential Council—West Parlor

Thursday

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thrift Shop

Friday

6:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

“The Rock on Lock” sleepover
Iglesia Discipulos de Cristo—McGown Chapel

Saturday

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Car Wash and Bake Sale

Next Sunday

8:45 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon
2:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chancel Choir rehearsal
Worship—Sanctuary; Church School
Iglesia Discipulos de Cristo—McGown Chapel
Chancel Choir rehearsal
Installation Service for Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson—Sanctuary

Alcoholics Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon—Dining Room
Overeaters Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon—Room 309

The church building and office are open weekdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Church Directory

Ministers—All the people

Senior Pastor—The Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson

Organist and Choir Director—Timothy Wallace

Christian Education Coordinator—Lynn Dunn

In Care—Michelle Wiltshire-Clement

Administrative Assistant—Wendy Avirgan

Administrative Assistant—Peggy Kittle

Sexton—Flor Beltran

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