# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered 1635, Open and Affirming since 2007 Walton Place

Stamford, Connecticut 06901

Today Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion, Deacons Fund and Food Trunk offering

8:45 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary 12:00 noon Chapel reserved 12:30 p.m. Sanctuary reserved

Monday

9:30 a.m. Fusion Dance Class—Dining Room

6:30 p.m. Missions-Room308

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Rainbow Café – Room 308

Wednesday

12:00 noon Sanctuary Open for prayer and meditation (until 2:00 p.m.)

**Thursday** 

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop (until 3:00 p.m.)

Saturday

11:30 p.m. Stamford EATS

Next Sunday Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary
12:00 noon Second Sunday Walk
12:00 noon Chapel reserved
12:30 p.m. Sanctuary reserved

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Alcoholics Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon—Dining Room Overeaters Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon—Room 309 Al-Anon: Wednesdays, 12 noon—Room 308 The church building and office are open weekdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

# **Church Directory**

Ministers—All the people
Interim Senior Pastor—Reverend Susan Gibson
Organist and Choir Director—Timothy Wallace
Administrative Assistant—Peggy Kittle
Sexton—Flor Beltran
Phone: 203 323-0200; Fax: 203 348-2270
Website: www.fccstamford.org

Email: fccstamford@gmail.com

# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Gathered 1635

# Member of the United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Congregation

Walton Place Stamford, Connecticut 06901

# Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 3, 2013



No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this United Church of Christ congregation.

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST November 3, 2013 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

\*All that are able please stand. *Please silence cell phones.* 

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PRELUDE Timothy Wallace

WELCOME

INTROIT Chancel Choir Psalm 91: The Psalm of Protection Music: Timothy Alexandre Wallace

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We have good news today! God knows where we are and calls to us, offering new life.

Jesus calls to us, wherever we are, no matter what we were doing.

"Zacchaeus hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today" Your past does not matter; God has a place for you and for me.

"Peter, come follow me and I will make you fish for people.

Matthew, leave your tax booth and follow me!"

We come to celebrate good news today! God, who knows who we are and where we are, offers us new life!

# \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

For All the Saints

Chalice #637

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. Have mercy on us, and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



To be a spectator of Reality is not enough. The awakened subject is not merely to perceive transcendent life, but to participate therein; and for this, a drastic and costly life-changing is required.

-Evelyn Underhill 1875-1941 Mysticism

# LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY November 4, 2013

Join us for Hospitality in the Parlor (light refreshments & friendship).



Dear FCC family and friends,

In approximately four weeks, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. Just a friendly reminder that we will need your support.

If you and your family, or even your friends, would like to volunteer this year that would be great. Perhaps you would like to make a donation - that would be awesome! Also, as in previous years, we need apple or pumpkin pies from everyone - that would be delicious! Any and all donations are deeply appreciated.

Today if you can spare an hour, we will be polishing some of the silverware for Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you.

Thank you and Blessings. Thanksgiving Co-Chairs Ellen Taylor and Warren Richardson.

**Keep us informed!** If you are hospitalized, please call the church office, and let us know. We would like to include you in our prayers and visit you!

We welcome Children to our worship! Children's bulletins and pencils available; if you prefer, childcare for infants – 5 year-olds available during worship in the upstairs nursery with caregivers, Elfriede Mallin and Margaret Simpson. An usher can direct you. Church school classes for ages 3 thru 12 years old begin after Passing of the Peace – visitors welcome.

Visit our Church Library, located across from the Parlor.

Volunteers are needed to host our hospitality hour after worship. A sign-up calendar is on a table in the parlor, and instructions are posted in the kitchen. Our hospitality chairs, Jan Fuechsel and Lynne Koellner, would be happy to answer any questions.

# \*GLORIA PATRI

Chalice #35

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen

#### PASSING THE PEACE

#### **ANTHEM**

Chancel Choir Mark Hayes

*In the Morning Joy* 

Blue mist rising from the hollows to the hills. Morning comes, and with it all the joy that morning brings. Gone the weeping, weeping of the long night slowly stills. Morning comes, and with the morning, joy.

Pale sun glowing, drives the darkness from the night. Morning comes, promise for the day. Shadows dancing freely in the breaking light. Morning comes, and with the morning, joy.

Anxious mother, wayward child, lost, alone. Grieving father, lonesome soldier far from home. Heartsick family, weeping through the long dark night, waits for morning, for it comes, and with it, joy.

Bright sun shining burns the rising mist away. Morning comes, full of promise and delight. No more waiting for the warmth of day. Morning comes, and with the morning, joy.

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 32 Luke 19:1-10

Old Testament. pp.506, 507 New Testament, p.82

#### **SERMON**

#### MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

# **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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.

#### PRAYER RESPONSE

Into My Heart Chalice #304

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus; come in today, come into to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

# **INVITATION TO SHARE OFFERINGS**

## **OFFERTORY**

Open Prayer
Frances McGovern, soprano

# \*DOXOLOGY

Chalice #48 *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;* 

Pepper Choplin

Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; one God, triune, whom we adore.

# \* HYMN

Come Share the Lord Chalice #408

# **COMMUNION**

## HYMN

Spirit Song Chalice #352

# \*BENEDICTION

# \*CHORAL BENEDICTION

# You Are My Hiding Place

Chalice #554

You are my hiding place, you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you.

I will trust in you; let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of my God." You are my hiding place, you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you.

## **POSTLUDE**

Timothy Wallace

The flowers today are given by Pam Riley, in loving memory of her brother John H. Judson

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