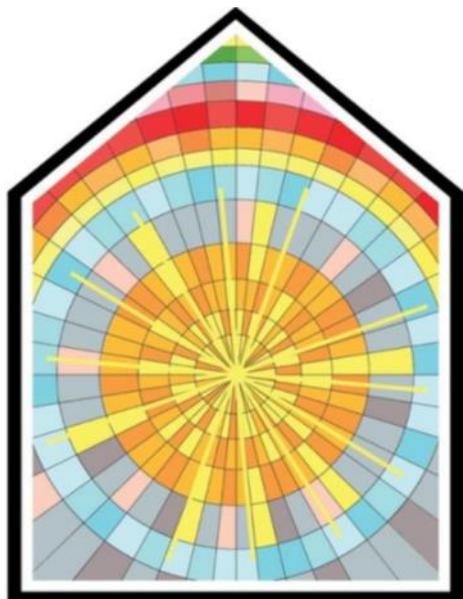


Welcome to
South Congregational Church, UCC
1301 Forbes St. East Hartford, CT



SOUTH
Congregational Church

East Hartford, CT

November 20, 2022

Senior Pastor
Minister of Music
Coordinator of CEFE

Stewardship Sunday

The Reverend Fredd Ward III
Jeff Cregeur
Lisa Griffen

Meditation

“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” – Psalm 46:10

Welcome and Announcements

† Passing the Peace

Musical Selection

Be Still, My Soul
Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Chalice Hymn #566

Call to Worship

Debbie McNamara

Lay Reader: Praise God, all people of faith and hope. God has looked favorably upon us².

People: God is our refuge and strength in trouble. God is our guide and inspiration in triumph too.

Lay Reader: God gives light to those who live in the shadows. God offers stillness amid the turbulence of these trying times.

People: We live in covenant with God, who bestows the best blessings. We are eager to give our best to God in return.

Lay Reader: By the tender mercy of our God, we meet for worship. God has brought the dawn of a new stage in our ongoing development.

ALL: Praise God for signs and wonders all around us. Praise God for peace and progress!

Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer

In Unison

God our refuge and strength, you gather us here to dwell and delight in your love. You comfort and guide us. As we sing your songs of praise, send your light into our lives. As we dedicate our pledges and devote ourselves to the ways of the Savior, bless this day with your presence. These things we ask in the name of Christ the King 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 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.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Fredd Ward

Act of Praise

Give Me a Clean Heart

Chalice Hymn #515

**Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee.
Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee.
For I'm not worthy of all these blessings.
Give me a clean heart and I'll follow thee.**

Offertory Sentences

Debbie McNamara

The Holy Spirit moves us to offer the world light to those who dwell in darkness, forgiveness to those who yearn for mercy, and peace to those who live in conflict. Let us carry the good news with gladness in our hearts.

Offertory

The Lord's Prayer
Chancel Choir

arr. Jeff Cregeur

† Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Chalice Hymn #46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

† Prayer of Dedication

In Unison

Gracious God, you gave us the gift of your presence by sacrificing your beloved Son for our benefit. Now we offer these gifts to you, asking that you bless them and use them to create your kingdom in the midst of the city. It shall not be moved. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Introduction to Scripture

Psalter Reading

Psalms 46

Pew Bible Page 450

Sermon

“Victorious Secret”

Rev. Fredd Ward

Musical Interlude

It Is Well with My Soul
Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Chalice Hymn #561

Stewardship Litany of Dedication

Rev. Fredd Ward

Leader: Because of our faith in you, O God, we acknowledge you as the source of all that we have and all that we are. Thus, we understand that stewardship is a sacred responsibility every day and in every season.

People: **Help us to make you our highest priority by being more prayerful, more merciful, more mindful of the needs of others.**

Leader: Help us to find the true source of happiness and fulfillment that we all seek and that only you can provide.

People: **Help us to hear your call to be faithful caretakers of all that you have entrusted to us. Help us align our priorities with your priorities.**

Leader: Help us challenge each other, as disciples of Jesus Christ to put our faith into action.

People: **As we make plans and realize progress, may we be mindful of those in need both locally and globally.**

Leader: Gracious God, let us share in proportion to what has been given to us. Help us return a portion of all that we have been blessed to receive from you.

All: **As we give, help us to put our trust and faith in you. As people who have been richly blessed, we pray for the willingness and readiness to share love and light in your name without counting the cost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication In Unison
Loving God, pledge cards are symbols of our trust and faith in you. The promises we have written upon them are offered with thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, and for all we are challenged to become as we go forward. Bless our investment in the hopeful future you have prepared for us, that it might be increased by the power of faith, hope and love. Amen.

Liturgy of Farewell

Greeting Moderator

Ending of Authorized Ministry

Association Rep.: Since June 2017, Rev. Fredd has served South Congregational Church as Senior Pastor.

Pastor: I thank South Congregational Church, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these 5½ years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been encouraged and accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have gained here.

Congregation: We receive your gratitude, offer forgiveness, and accept that your time with us is ending. We express our gratitude for your ministry in our midst. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will endure upon your departure.

Pastor: I accept your gratitude, offer forgiveness, and trust that our time together and that our good goodbye is pleasing to God.

Vows of Release

Association Rep.: Do, you, the members and friends of South Congregational Church, release Rev. Fredd from the duties of Senior Pastor?

Congregation: We do, with the help of God.

Association Rep.: Do you offer him your encouragement as his life and ministry unfold in new ways?

Congregation: We do, with the help of God.

Association Rep.: Do you, Rev. Fredd, release South Congregational Church from turning to you and depending on you?

Pastor: I do, with the help of God.

Association Rep.: Do you offer your encouragement for the continuing ministry here and your prayerful support of the relationship this congregation will establish with the next leader who will serve this church?

Pastor: I do, with the help of God.

Association Rep.: On behalf of the Hartford East Association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness and release. The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

Prayer

Moderator

All: Loving God, we give thanks for remembered times, when we have shared this life of faith as pastor and people of God. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Rev. Fredd in worship, in prayer, and in service beyond these walls. We pray that Rev. Fredd will always be aware of the Holy Spirit's guidance in his life and ministry. Help each of us to trust the future to your divine care. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories and also move in new ways. May you watch between us while we are apart until the time comes when we are completely one with you and with each other. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

† Congregational Hymn *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* Chalice Hymn #434

Sending Blessing

Rev. Fredd Ward

Postlude

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Reception in Charrier Hall



The South Church family extends a warm welcome to all newcomers and visitors this morning. We hope you will find this worship service meaningful, the fellowship friendly, and that you will consider making this your church home. If you are a first-time visitor, please fill out the Pew Card that can be found in the pew or at the Welcome Station outside the sanctuary. You may give this card to any usher or put it in the offertory plate. We also encourage you to talk to the Senior Pastor. We invite you to join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments in Charrier Hall.

Hearing devices are available for use during worship service. Please see an usher if you're in need of one.

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Please place gifts and offerings in the collection plates located in the Narthex either before or after worship.

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This morning's pedestal flowers are given by Charlotte Bradbury in honor of Art's 97th birthday, which was November 19th.

This Sunday's Service Volunteers:

-Ushers: Members of **Third** Sunday Usher Team

-Lay Reader: Debbie McNamara

-Deacon for the month of **November:** Dan Werkheiser

-Audio Visual: Chuck Pelletier, Bob Handel and Scott Mumley

-Flower Contacts: Jean Foisey, Lisa Handel and Gayle Juliani

-Coffee Hour Reception: Board of Deacons & Chancel Choir

COOKIE WALK

Saturday, December 3rd, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

What are YOU doing on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon? You are coming to the Cookie Walk of course!! Yes, the Choir-sponsored Cookie Walk is back this year and we are looking for your help to make this event successful. Members of the choir will be in the Crossroads during the month of November signing up cookie bakers. Dust off your rolling pins and get out your cookie cutters and whip up a batch (or two or three!) of your favorite cookies. Bakers are asked to contribute a minimum of 4 dozen cookies per batch so we have plenty to sell.

Cookies can be dropped off at the church on Friday, Dec. 2nd, from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM, or between 8:00 and 9:00 AM on Saturday morning. Cookies may be packaged in either decorated containers or aluminum foil pans. A list of ingredients is not necessary, but if your cookies are gluten-free or contain nuts, we ask that you label them as such so we may place them on the appropriate tables.

Cookies will be sold at \$8.00 per pound and they go fast so plan on coming early for the best selection. The Choir thanks you in advance for your support!

Continued Prayers Are Needed For...

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|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Barbara Abbott</i> | <i>Bill Fagan</i> | <i>Ivy Lehmann</i> | <i>Gene Pellett</i> |
| <i>Georgi Beers</i> | <i>Charlie Goding</i> | <i>Scott Malin</i> | <i>Barbara Slocum</i> |
| <i>Glo Benson</i> | <i>Bob Handel</i> | <i>Liz Costa Mayerson</i> | <i>Rev. Will Thayer</i> |
| <i>Veona Cashman</i> | <i>Mary Ann Higgins</i> | <i>Beth McGinnis</i> | <i>Charlotte Turner</i> |
| <i>Eugenia Dansinghani</i> | <i>Barbara Hooker</i> | <i>Jill McNamara</i> | <i>Russell Turner</i> |

Alejandro, brother-in-law of Vanessa Barros

Andrew, grandson of Margie Articolo and Ron, her brother-in-law

MaryJo & family, friend & fellow therapist of Betsy Rodrigue

Linda Bandecchi, aunt of Bryan Denman

Mary Anne Barrett, sister of Liz Costa Mayerson

Maylamd Clark and Bob Davivson, friends of Barbara McNamara

John Harris, father of Stu Harris

Maureen Kosha, friend of Margie Articolo

Addyson Murphy, great-granddaughter of George and Peggy Schoen

Carol Poehnert, friend of Maureen Miller

Christine Rhodes, friend and co-worker of Jean Foisey's daughter, Sharon

Rita Rodrigue, mother of Rick Rodrigue

Roseann Russell, friend of Debbie Wall

Liam Stickley, mother is a close friend of Sue Gammie

Bea Pace Smith, sister of Wyrot Ward

Lynda Zamora, extended family of Jean Foisey

This Week at South Church

SUNDAY, November 20th

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

8:45am – Choir/Sanctuary

10:00am – Worship Service/Stewardship

11:00am – Reception for Rev. Fredd/Charrier

TUESDAY, November 22nd

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement

7:30pm – AA/Rms 9&10

WEDNESDAY, November 23rd

9:15am – EHHS/Community Service

6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Rms 9&10

THURSDAY, November 24th

OFFICE CLOSED

FRIDAY, November 25th

OFFICE CLOSED

SUNDAY, November 27th

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

8:45am – Choir/Sanctuary

10:00am – Worship Service & Sunday School

*Please email/call the office at
office@southucc.org or 860.568.5150
to reserve a room*



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