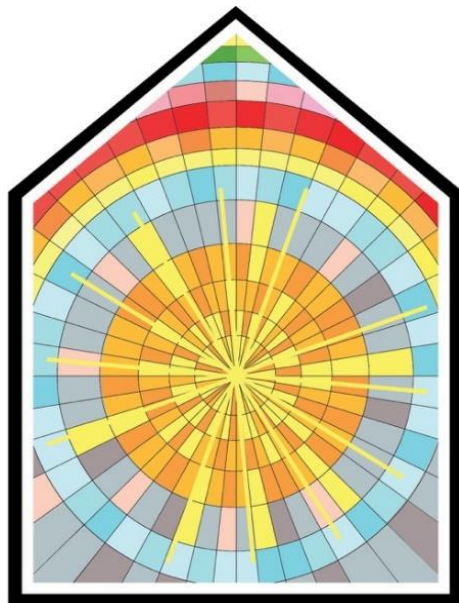


Welcome to
South Congregational Church, UCC
1301 Forbes St. East Hartford, CT 06118



SOUTH
Congregational Church

East Hartford, CT

May 11, 2025

Pastor
Minister of Music
Coordinator of CEFE

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Reverend Kevin Weikel
Jeff Cregeur
Lisa Griffen

A Welcome for All: *Good morning, and welcome to worship at South Congregational Church in East Hartford! We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, committed to embodying God's extravagant love for all people. We invite you to experience the warmth of community, the peace of prayer, and the joy of song as we journey together toward deeper connection with God and one another. May our time together this morning renew your spirit, inspire your heart, and nourish your soul.*

Meditation:

As you enter this space, take a moment to breathe and be still. Today we give thanks for the quiet saints among us, those who stitch love into daily life, who mend what's torn, and who serve not for recognition, but from compassion. Some are mothers, some are not. All reflect the gentle, steady power of God at work in the world.

† Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude (*Instrumental*)

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Greeting and Announcements

† Passing of the Peace (*Responsive*)

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

† Sung Response

I've Got Peace Like a River (verse 1)

(Insert)

CCLI #1586369

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

(sing two times)

† Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Rev. Kevin Weikel

Leader: Come, let us gather in the presence of the living God.

People: We come with hearts open to grace, and lives shaped by love.

Leader: We remember the saints who have guided us, those who served, who healed, who held.

People: We give thanks for their faith, their tenderness, and their strength.

Leader: As Tabitha was raised to life again, so may we be raised by the Spirit's quiet power.

All: Let us worship God, who brings life from loss, and hope from every act of love.

† Gathering Hymn *Of Women, and of Women's Hopes We Sing* Chalice Hymn #686

Prayer of Presence and Praise (*Unison*)

Kim Beaver

God of life and love, we gather in your presence with hearts full of gratitude. You are the One who brings comfort in sorrow, courage in uncertainty, and joy in the quiet work of everyday saints. We praise you for your faithfulness, for raising Tabitha, and for raising us, again and again. For stitching grace into the fabric of our lives, and for calling us to love as we have been loved. Come, Holy One, dwell among us. Awaken us to your Spirit in this time of worship. May our songs rise like prayers, and our prayers rise like hope. In the name of the risen Christ we pray, Amen.

Liturgical Response (*Responsive*)

Kim Beaver

Lay Reader: God of resurrection, you work through hands that serve and hearts that give.

People: You are present in those who comfort, who tend, who lift up and care.

Lay Reader: You bless the unseen labor of love, the small acts that shape the world.

People: We praise you for saints in our midst—past, present, and still rising.

Lay Reader: May we, too, become threads of your grace,

All: Woven into your story of healing, hope, and new life.

Offertory Sentences

Kim Beaver

God has poured out gifts upon us, some bold, others quiet and steady, stitched into the fabric of our days. Let us respond with gratitude, giving not out of obligation, but from the joy of being raised by love and called to share it.

Offertory Anthem

Love Grows Here

by Don Besig

Chancel Choir

† 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 (*Unison*)

God of every good gift, bless these offerings, our money, our prayers, our service. May they honor the saints who gave before us, and bring comfort and hope to those who need it now. In all we do, may your love be revealed. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:36–43

Pew Bible Page 894

† Sung Response

More Light

(Insert)

CCLI #1586369

More light, more truth, is breaking from your Word.

More light, more truth, Holy Spirit, help us hear what needs to be heard.

(Sing two times)

Help us hear what needs to be heard.

Sermon

“Raised by Love”

Rev. Kevin Weikel

† Hymn

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Chalice Hymn #83

Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Kevin Weikel

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.

Song of Response and Reflection

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Chalice Hymn #306

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace.**

† Sending Hymn

Jesu, Jesu

Chalice Hymn #600

Benediction

Rev. Kevin Weikel

Postlude (*Instrumental*)

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

I've Got Peace Like a River

1. I've got peace like a riv-er, I've got peace like a

4 riv-er, I've got peace like a riv-er in my soul.

8 I've got riv-er in my soul.

Baptist Hymnal 1991 418

WORDS: Negro Spiritual

MUSIC (PEACE LIKE A RIVER, Irregular): Negro Spiritual; arr. William J. Reynolds, 1920-

More Light

(Inspired by Rev. John Robinson's farewell sermon to the Pilgrim community, July 1620.)
Based on the song "More Light," from Christopher Grundy's CD
"Stepping In," available at www.christophergrundy.com

Christopher Grundy

♩ = 128
Capo fret 2

(D) (A) (Em7) (G) (D) (A) (Em7) (G)
E B F#m7 A E B F#m7 A

9 (D) (A) (Em) (G) (D)
E B F#m A E

More__ light, more__ truth_ is

14 (A) (Em) (G) (D) (A)
B F#m A E B

break-ing from your Word. More light,

19 (Em) (G) (D) (A) (Em)
F#m A E B F#m

more__ truth, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us hear what

24 (G) (D) (A) 1. (Em) (G)
A E B F#m A

needs to be heard.

29 2. (Em) (G) (A) (Em) (G)
F#m A E B F#m A

help us hear what needs to be heard.



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Welcome to Our Church

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 speak with Pastor Kevin. We invite you to join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments in Charrier Hall.

A Children's Shelf, located in the Narthex, is supplied with resources for children. All children are invited to visit the shelf on their way into the sanctuary, bring quiet toys and activities to their pews, and then return the items to the shelf at the conclusion of the service.

~

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

~

The steeple lighting for the month of May is provided by the Goding family in honor of Henry Millan who will celebrate his 95th birthday on May 26th.

~

The choral anthem for today's worship service was purchased with a generous donation by Barbara Guthrie in loving memory of her father, William L. Fagley.

This Sunday's Service Volunteers:

-Ushers: Scott and Mark Davis

-Lay Reader: Kim Beaver

-Deacons for the month of **May:** Linda Russell and Janet Lynch

-Audio Visual: Chuck Pelletier, Bob Handel and Elly Milone

-Flower Contacts: Lisa Handel and Gayle Juliani

-Coffee Hour Hosts: Pat Zendzian and Gayle Juliani

Strawberry Fair

Following this morning's worship service, Maureen and Erin will be in the crossroads with information on how you can help with the Strawberry Fair scheduled for June 21st .

In addition, a planning meeting will be held in the church library on **Sunday, May 18th** after worship. All are welcome to attend.

Bike Rodeo & Car Seat Check

Saturday | May 17 | 10:00am-2:00pm

Please consider joining the Boards of Christian Education & Faith Enrichment and Church Growth, and the East Hartford Police Department, as we host a community Bike Rodeo and car seat safety check. Bring your friends to the bike rodeo to engage in activities designed to teach children the skills and precautions needed for safe bike riding. Stay for the car seat safety check to ensure your children are buckled in appropriately. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 59% of child safety seats are installed incorrectly. Come visit with our neighbors, share a cup of coffee, and participate in family friendly games and activities. Let's do our part to ensure that all of God's children are enveloped in both community and love!

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

We Celebrate...

Krista Goh, whose role has been enhanced to Communications and Office Manager. She will help us select and implement tools that keep us connected and share the good things happening at South Church.

Of Special Concern...

Paul Morgan, brother of Barbara McNamara's friend, Gail Lopez, is undergoing surgery on May 15th.

Continued Prayers are Needed for...

<i>Barbara Abbott</i>	<i>Joann Dufresne</i>	<i>Liz Costa Mayerson</i>	<i>Russell Turner</i>
<i>Nimmi Baker</i>	<i>Bill Fagan</i>	<i>Beth McGinnis</i>	<i>Bill & Pat Vibert</i>
<i>Georgi Beers</i>	<i>Charlie Goding</i>	<i>Gene Pellett</i>	
<i>Barbara Benson</i>	<i>Barbara Guthrie</i>	<i>Chris Rataic</i>	
<i>John & Phyllis Carella</i>	<i>Mary Ann Higgins</i>	<i>Bev Saunders</i>	

Andrew, friend of the Turners

Mary Anne Barrett, sister of Liz Costa Mayerson

Sandy Hodge, sister of a friend of Debbie Rataic

Anthony Manuel, grandson of Debbie Wall

Addyson Murphy, great-granddaughter of George and Peggy Schoen

Sam Ranno, friend of the Handel family

Roseann Russell, friend of Debbie Wall

Bill Vendetta, Debbie Wall's brother-in-law

Bill West, brother of Kathy Werkheiser

Mother's Day Blankets



In Honor of:

Patricia Villano
Martha Goh
Georgette Pelletier

Given by:

Krista & Bryan Goh
Bryan & Krista Goh
Erin & Chuck Pelletier

In Memory of:

Martha Atticks
Esther Schoen
Ruth Sheldon
Emily Juliani
Prue Griffen
George Emmerling
Bert Mayerson

Given by:

Peggy & George Schoen
George & Peggy Schoen
Gayle Juliani
Gayle Juliani
Lisa Griffen
Liz O'Donnell
Liz Costa Mayerson

This Week at South Church

SUNDAY, May 11

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement
10:00am – Worship Service
11:00am – Coffee Hour/Charrier Hall

MONDAY, May 12

2:30pm – Administrative Committee/Library
6:00pm – Bible Study/Library

TUESDAY, May 13

11:00am – Staff Meeting
2:00pm – Tuesdays at Two
6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement
6:30pm – CEFE/Goggle Meet
7:00pm – Trustees/Library
7:30pm – AA/Rms 9&10

WEDNESDAY, May 14

6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Rms 2, 9&10, and
Charrier Hall

THURSDAY, May 15

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement
7:00pm – Choir/Library

FRIDAY, May 16

7:00pm – Cub Scouts/Charrier Hall

SATURDAY, May 17

10:00am – Bike Rodeo/Parking Lot
12:00pm – Private Event/Charrier Hall
6:00pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary
8:30pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary

SUNDAY, May 18

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement
9:00am – Choir/Sanctuary
10:00am – Worship Service
11:00am – Strawberry Fair Meeting/Library

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

H A P P Y
Mother's Day



Scan QR code to visit our website



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office@southucc.org