



## **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL**

*An Open and Affirming Church*

January 16, 2022

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Welcome! We welcome you to our worship this morning and are grateful for your presence. No matter who you are, or who you love, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Please introduce yourself to an usher or Rev. Suzanne Wagner to learn more about our ministries.***

## **SHARING OF OUR GIFTS**

Those attending worship in the sanctuary please leave your offerings in the giving baskets located in the rear of the sanctuary. If you would like to gift electronically visit our website where you can find a donation link. For those using pledge envelopes, 2022 materials are on the back table.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Children K-8th are welcomed to leave following the Children's Message.

<b>CABINET MEETING</b>	Monday, January 17, 2022	ON ZOOM
	Business Meeting	6:45 PM
	SNEUCC Presentation	7:00 PM

**SAVE THE DATE**      February 5, 2022    1-3:30PM      *A Celebration of Love*

**PRAYER REQUESTS** --Please send request to the Prayer Request Email  
[PRAYER@firstchurchbethel.org](mailto:PRAYER@firstchurchbethel.org)

***We thank our worship leaders for their participation in this morning's service:***

Rev. Suzanne Wagner  
Organist: Dana Mancuso  
Deacon of the Day: Eric Hermansen  
Video & Tech Support: Wade Anderson, Jim Welsh & Eric Hermansen

### *Church Contact Information:*

Telephone: (203) 743-1877. Address: 46 Main Street, Bethel, CT 06801.  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Suzanne Wagner (swagner5@yahoo.com)  
Director of Music: Dana Mancuso (dmancuso.live@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Kathy MacAulay (secretary@firstchurchbethel.org)  
Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Smith  
Senior Deacon: Marcia Merritt (pesinger37@aol.com)  
Head Trustee: Jim Welsh (jim.welsh.jr@gmail.com)

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**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
January 16, 2022

**SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*\*Please stand either in body or spirit.*

**PRELUDE**            *Come, Lord, to My Song's Wedding Feast*            Andrew Hofer

**Call to Worship**

L: We come this day, Precious God, as people in need of your steadfast love:

**P: with you is the fountain of life; in your Light we see life.**

L: We gather this day, O God, as people looking for signs:

**P: with you is the fountain of life; in your Light we see life.**

**All: Come, let us worship the Light together!**

**Invocation and 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 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.

**\*OPENING HYMN #46** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (sing twice through)*

**Prayer of Reconciliation**

It is on our journey of faith that you fill us with the riches of your mercy, Steadfast Love! You do so, not because of any thing we have done, but because of the compassion which flows from your heart. As we open our lives to receive your forgiveness, may we turn to the Light which brings us life, following Jesus Christ every step of the way.

*Silence is kept*

**Assurance of Pardon**

L: How much does God love us? Enough to send the divine heart, hope, and spirit to us, not to condemn us, but to save us.

**P: Not by our speaking or doing, but by God's good and precious grace are we saved. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #351

*Fill My Cup, Lord*

v.1&3

SCRIPTURE

*John 2: 1-11,  
I Corinthians 12:1-11*

SERMON

*The Gifts of Cana*

Rev. Suzanne Wagner

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### Pastor's Reflection of Our Joys and Concerns

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

### Invitation

Generous God, we are reminded through scripture of the spiritual gifts that you give. We know that these are not for us to hold onto but are gifts for us to share. As we offer our tithes and offerings, prompt us to commit more than dollars, but to see the gifts you have written on our hearts and to share generously of these as well!

**Musical Offering**

*Water To Wine*

Joel Houston

### Unison Prayer of Dedication

God of light and love, life and giving we offer now these gifts of love from the first fruits of our labor. Bless them and consecrate them so that your light and love may be known in this church and beyond the four walls in the community and world. Hear our prayer, Amen

\*CLOSING HYMN #176

*Sing of God Made Manifest*

v.2 & 3

### Sending Benediction

L: Baptized, we will go to share God's love with others.

**P: We will welcome those the world rejects as our sisters and brothers.**

L: Baptized, we will become the grace of our Lord Jesus.

**P: We will share the waters of life with everyone we meet.**

L: Baptized, we will become the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

**P: We will be a community of justice and we will be a household of hope.**

\*POSTLUDE #270

*Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me (All welcome to sing)*

v.1-5

## **Attributions:**

### **Prelude**

Come, Lord, to My Song's Wedding Feast

Text: Andrew Hofer, OP, b.1972, © 1996, International Liturgy Publications

Music: Elizabeth Joy, 88 88; Joe Higginbotham, b.1953, © 2006, International Liturgy Publications

### **Musical Offering**

Water To Wine

Words and Music: Joel Houston

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Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

### **Opening Hymn** (sing twice through)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow #46

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

### **Hymn of Praise**

Fill My Cup, Lord #351 vs. 1 & 3

Words and Music: Richard Blanchard, 1959

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### **Closing Hymn**

Sing of God Made Manifest #176 vs. 2 & 3

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989

Music: Jacob Hintze, 1678; har., Johann Sebastian Bach (18th century)

Words © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

### **Postlude**

#270 Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me (All welcome to sing)

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1979

Music: John B. Dykes, 1865

Words © 1979 Hope Publishing Co.

## Opening Hymn (sing twice through:)

### **#46 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

## Hymn of Praise:

### **#351 Fill My Cup, Lord v. 1 & 3**

[1]

Like the woman at the well I was seeking  
For things that could not satisfy;  
And then I heard my Savior speaking:  
"Draw from my well that never shall run dry"

[Refrain]:

Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord!  
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;  
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more—  
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

[3]

So, my friend, if all the things this world gave you  
Leave hungers that won't pass away,  
My blessed Lord will come and save you,  
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray:

[Refrain]

## Closing Hymn:

### **#176 Sing of God Made Manifest v. 2 & 3**

[2]

Sing of God made manifest  
when at Jordan John confessed,  
"I should be baptized by you,  
but your bidding I will do."

Then from heaven a double sign--  
dove-like Spirit, voice divine--  
hailed the true Anointed One:  
"This is my beloved Son."

[3]

Sing of God made manifest  
when Christ came as wedding guest  
and at Cana gave a sign,  
turning water into wine;  
further still was love revealed  
as he taught, forgave, and healed,  
bringing light and life to all  
who would listen to God's call.

## **Postlude:**

### **# 270 Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me**

1. Of all the Spirit's gifts to me,  
I pray that I may never cease  
to take and treasure most these three:  
love, joy, and peace.
2. The Spirit shows me love's the root  
of every gift sent from above,  
of every flower, of every fruit,  
that God is love.
3. The Spirit shows if I possess  
a love no evil can destroy;  
however great is my distress,  
then this is joy.
4. Though what's ahead is mystery,  
and life itself is ours on lease,  
each day the Spirit says to me,  
"Go forth in peace!"
5. We go in peace, but made aware that,  
in a needy world like this,  
our clearest purpose is to share  
love, joy, and peace.