



Jesus commands the winds and the sea

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL

An Open and Affirming Church

January 30th, 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.

CABINET DISCUSSION January 31st, 2022 7:00 PM on Zoom

SAVE THE DATE *A Celebration of Love* February 5, 2022 1-3:30PM
Free events will include children's music, storytelling, card-making crafts, and games. Refreshments and cookies will be provided.

PRAYER REQUESTS --Please send request to the Prayer Request Email
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)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL
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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 30, 2022

SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand either in body or spirit.*

PRELUDE

All Are Welcome

Call to Worship

L: God alone is our refuge and hope, our shelter and protection.

P: From our very first breath to our last, God's love and compassion never fails.

L: So come, lift your voices in praise to God.

Bear witness to God's acts of mercy and love.

Proclaim God's glory to all who will listen.

ALL: Let's worship God 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 #276**

We Gather Together

v. 1 & 2

Unison Prayer of Reconciliation

Loving and redeeming God we come knowing that we are not perfect. We try to live up to your ways and to walk in the paths that honor you. Forgive us, O God, and help us to love you more, and to follow in your ways more faithfully. Call us back to Your way of love, justice and peace. Amen.

Silence is Kept

Assurance of Pardon:

Gentle Spirit, we know that there is nothing that can separate us from your love. Restore us to each other and to you, and help us to follow your commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. In the name of Christ, our Redeemer and Friend, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

***HYMN OF PRAISE #526**

The Gift of Love

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4: 21-30

SERMON

Hospitable Terrain

Rev. Suzanne Wagner

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor's Reflection of Our Joys and Concerns

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Giving is not a casual act—it relates God's work to our work. As it is written, as each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace, that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." Let us give as people whose work is inextricably linked to God's great works of creation, redemption and empowerment.

Musical Offering

Quando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #490**

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

v. 1, 2 & 5

Benediction

***POSTLUDE #687**

In Christ There Is No East or West

(All welcome to sing)

Attributions:

Offertory adapted from **Life in Liturgy**. <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>

Prelude

All Are Welcome

Text: Marty Haugen, 1994

Music: (TWO OAKS 9.6.8.6.8.7.10 with refrain): Marty Haugen, 1994

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Opening Hymn

#276 We Gather Together (vs. 1 & 2)

Words: *Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck*, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

Music: Dutch melody (16th century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

Adapt. © 1981 Ruth Duck; used by permission

Hymn of Praise

#526 The Gift of Love

Words: Hal H. Hopson, 1972

Music: Traditional English melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1972

© 1972 Hope Publishing Co.

Musical Offering

Quando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)

Words: J.A. Olivar and Miguel Manzano, 1971; tr. George Lockwoods, 1980

Music: J.A. Olivar and Miguel Manzano, 1971; arr. Alvin Schutmaat

© 1971 J.A. Olivar, Miguel Manzano and San Pablo Internacional - SSP;

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United Methodist Publishing House

Closing Hymn

#490 Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant (vs. 1, 2 & 5)

Words: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

Music: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

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Postlude (All welcome to sing)

#697 In Christ There Is No East or West

Words: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.

Music: Alexander R. Reinagle, c. 1830

Prelude

All Are Welcome

Opening Hymn

#276 We Gather Together (vs. 1 & 2)

1 We gather together to ask the God's blessing;
to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own;
The powers that oppress us now cease to distress us.
O God, be present with us, and make your will unknwn.

2 Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you,
Ordaining, maintaining the power of life;
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story.
Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.

Hymn of Praise

#526 The Gift of Love

1 Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

2 Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.

Musical Offering

Cuando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)

Closing Hymn

#490 *Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant (vs. 1, 2 & 5)*

1 Sister, let me be your servant.
brother, let me walk with you;
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey.
fellow trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

5 Brother, let me be your servant.
Sister, let me walk with you;
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant, too.

Postlude (All welcome to sing)

#687 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord,
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north:
all loving hearts are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.