



# JONAH

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL**

*An Open and Affirming Church*

March 13th, 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.

Lucy Lafferty turns 90 on March 16. Happy Birthday, Lucy!!

## **TRUSTEES'S MEETING**

March 14th, 2022

7:15 PM on Zoom

**Save the Dates! Do You Know Jonah?** Thursday eves March 17,31 7:00PM. (please note no study on March 24) Using the Viva Series we will think more deeply on themes that appear in the Book: Trouble, Time Out, Trabajo, Temper Tantrum. We hope you'll join us. The weekly study will last for one hour and be offered via Zoom. All you need is a Bible! **Please register and you will be sent the Zoom link.** Click to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUtcOCqQToqHNZYsNsDC4gi4-k1DZDU47Gb>

**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: Marcia Merritt

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](mailto:jim.welsh.jr@gmail.com))

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL  
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March 13, 2022

SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**PRELUDE**

*Lift My Life Up*

Instrumental

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Our souls thirst for God in a dry and weary land. We seek God's power and glory in the sanctuary.

**People: Listen carefully to God and eat what is good; delight yourselves in the rich food that God provides.**

Leader: Here our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast. Together our mouths praise God with joyful lips.

**People: God offers us steadfast love and a covenant relationship. We are called to be faithful witnesses and leaders.**

**All: We have come to meditate on the living God. We seek inspiration and empowerment to do what God asks.**

**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 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.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #561**

*It Is Well with My Soul*

vs. 1 & 4

**Unison Prayer of Reconciliation**

**Forgive us O God for all that we have done and left undone. Call us into good stewardship of Your time, to live for You and for others as the body of Christ. In the name of the One who has called us to be one, we pray. Amen.**

*Silence is Kept*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Love, Hope, and Peace are all gifts from God that cannot be contained in time. So is the gift of Life—it cannot be contained by death. Christ has freed us from the constraints of worldly time. So we go to live into the Good News, and into God's reign, loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE #683**

*O for a World*

vs. 1, 3, 5

**A READING FROM THE PROPHET JONAH**

**SERMON**

**In the Belly**

**JONAH 2**

Rev. Suzanne Wagner

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

## **SHARING OUR GIFTS**

### **Invitation**

Our lives are but a gift from God and the fruit and abundance of our labor is now being called forth. Let us consider this blessed gift as we contemplate our musical offering.

**Musical Offering**     *Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)*     Crocker, Houston & Lightelm

### **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**All that we present to you now, O God, we have received from your hand. We give so the hungry may eat and the thirsty may receive pure water. We share to bring the good news of your Word to those who have not heard. Most of all, we give because passing on your gifts in generous response is necessary to life. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #452**

*Here I Am, Lord*

vs. 1 & 2

## **Benediction**

**\*POSTLUDE #620**     *The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow* (all welcome to sing)

## **Attributions:**

### Prelude

"Lift My Life Up" Unspoken

Songwriters: Chad Mattson / Jason Ingram / Jon Lowry / Seth Mosley  
Lift My Life Up lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

### Opening Hymn

#561 It Is Well with My Soul (vs. 1 & 4)

Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873

Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

### Hymn of Praise

#683 O for a World (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Words: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Music: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Words © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

### Musical Offering

"Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)" Crocker, Houston & Lightelm

Words and Music by Matt Crocker, Joel Houston & Salomon Lightelm

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### Closing Hymn

#452 Here I Am, Lord (vs. 1 & 2)

Words: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981

Music: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. James Snyder, 1994

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### Postlude (all welcome to sing)

#620 The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow

Words and Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1943

© 1943 Unichappell Music Inc.

## **Prelude**

“Lift My Life Up” Unspoken

Songwriters: Chad Mattson / Jason Ingram / Jon Lowry / Seth Mosley

Lift My Life Up lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

## **Opening Hymn**

#561 It Is Well with My Soul (vs. 1 & 4)

Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873

Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll;  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

[Refrain]:

It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul);  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

4 O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so, it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

## **Hymn of Praise**

#683 O for a World (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Words: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Music: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Words © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

1. O for a world where everyone respects  
each other's ways, where love is lived and  
all is done with justice and with praise.

3. We welcome one world family and  
struggle with each choice that opens us to  
unity and gives our vision voice.

5. O for a world preparing for God's glorious  
reign of peace, where time and tears will  
be no more, and all but love will cease.

## **Musical Offering**

“Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)” Crocker, Houston & Lightelm

Words and Music by Matt Crocker, Joel Houston & Salomon Lightelm

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1. I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

[Refrain]

Here I am, Lord  
Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord  
If You lead me  
I will hold Your people in my heart

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain  
I have borne my people's pain  
I have wept for love of them  
they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone  
give them hearts for love alone  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? [Refrain]

## **Postlude (all welcome to sing)**

#620 The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow

Words and Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1943

© 1943 Unichappell Music Inc.

1 Like a ship that's toss'd and driven, battered by an angry sea  
When the storms of life are raging, and their fury falls on me  
I wonder what I have done, that makes this race so hard to run  
Then I say to my soul, "Take courage, the Lord will make a way somehow."

[Refrain]:

The Lord will make a way somehow when beneath the cross I bow  
He will take away each sorrow; let Him have your burdens now  
When the load bears down so heavy the weight is shown upon my brow  
There's a sweet relief in knowing , oh, the Lord will make a way somehow.

2 Try to do my best in service, try to live the best I can  
When I choose to do the right thing evil's present on every hand  
I look up and wonder why that good fortune pass me by  
Then I say to my soul, "Be patient, the Lord will make a way somehow." [Refrain]

3 Often there's misunderstanding out of all the good I do  
Go to friends for consolation, and I find them complaining, too  
So many nights I toss in pain, wondering what the day will bring  
But I say to my heart, "Don't worry, the Lord will make a way somehow." [Refrain]