



## **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL**

*An Open and Affirming Church*

May 22nd, 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. Jake Joseph 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.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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

**DEACON'S MEETING**                      **Monday May 23, 2022**                      **7:00 PM on Zoom**  
**Quarterly Congregational Meeting is after Church May 22**                      **Live and Zoom**

**Coming up:**                      **JUNE 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00AM-3:00PM**                      **Giant Tag Sale**  
**Also, Our Second FCCB Children's Summer Festival planned for Aug. 6, 2022,**  
**11 AM - 2PM. Ice cream truck, hotdogs and children's crafts and more!**

**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. Jake Joseph  
Organist: Dana Mancuso  
Deacon of the Day: Eric Hermansen  
Video & Tech Support: Wade Anderson, Jim Welsh & Jackie Pflieger

### *Church Contact Information:*

Telephone: (203) 743-1877. Address: 46 Main Street, Bethel, CT 06801.  
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

*An Open and Affirming Church*

May 22, 2022

## SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*\*Please stand either in body or spirit*

### PRELUDE #496

*Unidos (Together)*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*\*Please stand either in body or spirit*

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with the Body of Christ.

**People: Humanity isn't meant to be divided, separated, or partisan.**

Leader: For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with the Body of Christ.

**People: All of the arbitrary ways we deny the gifts of others have no place in the church or how we organize the world.**

Leader: For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with the Body of Christ.

**People: Help us, God, to spark joy in this world and bring the scattered, shattered, disorganized Body of Christ back together again. May we learn how to tidy up again for the love of all. Amen.**

### INVOCATION AND 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 #687

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

vs. 1-3

### Call to Reconciliation

One: O God who gathers us into this service of worship, we confess that we often need a deeper sense of community with all of your people around the world and within our own congregation here in Bethel.

**Many: Help us to rethink how we organize and connect with those around us. We know that we often hold onto things that do not contribute to wholeness and bring wellness. Help us to only keep things and practices that spark joy in the world. Forgive us for how we have fallen short. Amen.**

A moment of Silence is kept

**Assurance of Pardon:**

Hear the good news, people of God! In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Let us go forward in grace and peace.

**Children's Sermon: The Rev. Jake Joseph**

**HYMN OF PRAISE #356**     *We Your People, God, Confessing*     vs. 1, 2 & 4

**Scripture:**                    **1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

**Sermon Title:**                **Spark Joy!**

**SHARING OUR GIFTS**

**Invitation**

As God has seen our need and provided for us all things for us, let us look at the world in need around us; in Jesus we have all that is needed to meet it with life, hope, and wholeness.

**Musical Offering**                *One Bread, One Body*

**Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**While we take in this offering and sign of our togetherness and worship together, help us to also let go. Help us to let go of things that are hindering our collective wholeness. Help us to let go of stress and anxiety. Help us to get go of habits of hoarding, holding, and clinging to division, anger, and belongings. Today, God, by this assembly and the gifts we offer, we reclaim our calling to be the Spark of Joy in this world. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #432**     *O Christ, the Way, the Truth the Life*     vs. 1 & 2

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE #490**                *Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant*     vs. 2, 3 & 5

## **Attributions:**

### **Prelude**

#496 Unidos (Together)

Words: Benjamin Villanueva, 1982; tr. George Lockwood, 1983

Music: Benjamin Villanueva, 1982; arr. Esther Frances, 1983, alt.

© 1983 Benjamin Villanova; tr. © 1983 George Lockwood; arr. © 1983 Esther Frances

### **Opening Hymn**

#687 In Christ There Is No East or West (vs. 1—3)

Words: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.

Music: Alexander R. Reinagle, c. 1830

### **Hymn of Praise**

#356 We Your People, God, Confessing (vs. 1 & 2, 4)

Words: From the Preamble to the Design of the Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ), adapt. 1993

Music: Traditional Dutch melody; arr. Julius Roentgen, 1906

Adapt © 1995 Chalice Press

### **Musical Offering**

One Bread, One Body

Composer: John B. Foley

© 1978, John B. Foley SJ and OCP Publications

### **Closing Hymn**

#432 O Christ, the Way, the Truth the Life (vs. 1 & 2)

Words: James L. Merrell, 1991

Music: Alexander R Reinagle, 1836

Words © 1995 Chalice Press

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

#490 Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant (vs. 2, 3 & 5)

Words: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

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

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Words: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.

Music: Alexander R. Reinagle, c. 1830

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.

## **Hymn of Praise**

#356 We Your People, God, Confessing (vs. 1 & 2, 4)

Words: From the Preamble to the Design of the Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ), adapt. 1993

Music: Traditional Dutch melody; arr. Julius Roentgen, 1906

Adapt © 1995 Chalice Press

1 We, your people, God, confessing Jesus Christ your Son as Lord,  
gather here in common worship praising your Incarnate Word.  
Through the power of Christ within us we are strengthened to proclaim  
gospel truth in witness, service offered in Christ's holy name.

2 We, your people, God, rejoicing in your vast creative power,  
bind ourselves, each with the other, covenant in love this hour.  
Through baptismal rite we enter, rising, newly born to be  
unified with your whole people here in perfect liberty.

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Through baptismal rite we enter, rising, newly born to be  
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Words: James L. Merrell, 1991

Music: Alexander R Reinagle, 1836

Words © 1995 Chalice Press

1 O Christ, the Way, the Truth the Life,  
be with us now, we pray;  
direct our steps as we go forth  
to do your will this day.

2 O faithful Guide, renew our trust  
in love that does not fail;  
and give us strength to work and pray,  
that peace may soon prevail.

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

#490 Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant (vs. 2, 3 & 5)

Words: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

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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.

3 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow

till we've seen this journey thro'.

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.