



# **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL**

*An Open and Affirming Church*

June 12, 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 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 Recognition.

**Trustee/Finance meeting on Monday June 13th- 7:00 PM on Zoom**

**Giant Tag Sale June 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00AM-3:00PM**

**Save the Date Children's Summer Festival Aug. 6, 2022, 11 AM-2PM**

**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:***

Worship Leader: Marcia Merritt

Organist: Dana Mancuso

Deacon of the Day: Claudia Anderson

Video & Tech Support: Wade Anderson, Eric Hermansen & 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)

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**June 12, 2022**

## **SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*\*Please stand either in body or spirit*

### **PRELUDE**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

Harry Emerson Fosdick

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One-Let us be called to worship. God has given us the ten best ways to live.

**All-It is hard to live as God commands.**

One-God's ways bring fullness of life.

**All-We know we should follow God's commands.**

One-We are all God's beloved. God's commandments help us treat each other as beloved.

**All-We are ready to hear God's word and work together to follow our God.**

### **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 #119**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

vs. 1 & 3

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

#### **Call to Reconciliation**

**All too often we look at the outside and forget the inside. We have made - and make - quick judgments. Forgive our shortsightedness. Open our hearts to our brothers and sisters whoever they may be. Give us new and clearer insight into ourselves and help us to open our hearts to our neighbors. And give us the presence to move and act as did our Lord Jesus when he was on earth. In the name of our living Lord we pray. Amen.**

Silence is kept

## **Assurance of Pardon**

One-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.

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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE #64**     *We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God*     vs. 1 & 3

**SCRIPTURE**     Exodus 20:2-17  
**SERMON**     Why We Should Follow the Ten Commandments     Marcia Merritt

## **SHARING OUR GIFTS**

### **Invitation**

Eternal God, we present our tithes and offerings to you now, as a token of our love for you. We know that our financial giving is not the only thing you require. We remember your mandate to take your gospel to the whole world. We remember that you desire us to love you with all our hearts, our minds, and our souls. We remember that you told us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Help us to measure up in our love and service. Amen.

**Musical Offering**     *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*     Reginald Heber

### **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #618**     *How Firm a Foundation*     vs. 1 & 2

### **\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE #557** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* (all welcome to sing)     vs. 1-3

## **Attributions:**

<https://teaandtheology.com/worship-words-call-to-worship-10-commandments/>

<https://connectusfund.org/10-beset-prayers-for-tithes-and-offerings>

### **Prelude**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

Music: John Hughes, 1907

### **Opening Hymn**

#119 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1 & 3)

Words: Latin hymn (12th century); st. 1-2 tr. John Mason Neale, 1851;  
st. 3-4 tr. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Music: French melody (15th century); arr. and harm. Thomas Helmore, 1854

### **Hymn of Praise**

#64 We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God (vs. 1 & 3)

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

Music: *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle*, 1784

### **Musical Offering**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1861; desc. O. I. Cricket Harrison, 1994

### **Closing Hymn**

#618 How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1 & 2)

Words: John Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: Traditional American melody

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

#557 Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Words and Music: Anonymous

## **Prelude**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

Music: John Hughes, 1907

## **Opening Hymn**

#119 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1 & 3)

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1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Sun of God appear.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

3 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. [Refrain]

## **Hymn of Praise**

#64 We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God (vs. 1 & 3)

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

Music: *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle*, 1784

1 We sing your mighty power, O God, that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.

We sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at your command, and all the stars obey.

3 There's not a plant or flower below, but makes your glories known;  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from your throne.

While all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,  
and everywhere that we can be, you, God, are present there.

## **Musical Offering**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1861; desc. O. I. Cricket Harrison, 1994

## **Closing Hymn**

#618 How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1 & 2)

Words: John Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: Traditional American melody

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!  
What more can be said than to you God has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

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

#557 Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Words and Music: Anonymous

### *Refrain*

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

3 When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.