



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BETHEL

An Open and Affirming Church

September 18th, 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 Worship Leader Kurt Habeck 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Blood Drive Coming up on **Friday September 30th 1PM-6PM**
Sign up online ASAP at redcrossblood.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

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:

Worship Leader: Kurt Habeck

Organist: Dana Mancuso

Deacon of the Day: Claudia Anderson

Video & Tech Support: Wade Anderson, Jim Welsh, Eric Hermansen, Mary O'Hare, 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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SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand either in body or spirit*

PRELUDE

Holy Is His Name

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come to this place to see what God has done.

All: We are here for burning bushes and holy ground.

One: Here you will find God on special days of celebration and ordinary days too.

All: We seek the God of our ancestors knowing we may be called to new places.

One: Listen for God's call and know you do not go alone.

INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Holy One, make your presence known in this room. Move about the pews, between each of us, pausing in the heart of each of us. Remind us that all of us here and beyond are your beloved, created in your image. We are your people, holding your essence within us. Help us to connect with you and with one another during this time of worship. Amen.

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 #452**

Here I Am, Lord

vs. 1-3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Let us pray. God, we are busy people. We need reminders. We need help remembering what is important. In this time of silent confession, we will try to slow down our thoughts and be present with you, Loving God. If something needs to be confessed, we will silently share it, God, and then continue in silence. We will be still and be with our God.

(A time of silent prayer)

God, silence is hard. Confession is hard. Faithful God, you stay with us through all the difficult parts of life. You have heard our confession and been with us in our silent prayers. For your faithfulness and love, we are grateful. Amen.

Our good news is this-The steadfast love of God never ceases. God's mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is God's faithfulness.

(Lamentations 3: 22-23)

A CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kurt Habeck

***HYMN OF PRAISE #24**

The God of Abraham Praise

vs. 1 & 3

SCRIPTURE:

Exodus 3:13-14

SERMON:

What is G-d's Name?

Kurt Habeck

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTOR'S REFLECTION OF JOYS & CONCERNS

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

We sing our praises to the Lord, for God is good and worthy! We give our whole selves - our talents and material possessions- to the Church with the expectation that they be used to further God's dream for our world. Please commit yourself and give as you're able.

Musical Offering

Great I Am/Bless the Lord, O My Soul/What a Beautiful Name

Unison Prayer of Dedication

As a church we promise to use these gifts for good. We promise to use them in love and mercy for others. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #4** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

vs. 1 & 4

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE #115 (All welcome to sing)

There's Something About That Name

Attributions

Prayers: <https://teaandtheology.com/call-to-worship-exodus-3-1-15/All-We-are-ready-to-worship-and-see-God-in-this-place>.

<https://liturgybits.com/2016/12/06/invocation-in-this-very-room/>

<https://teaandtheology.com/worship-words-prayer-of-confession-and-assurance-of-forgiveness/>

<https://liturgybits.com/2016/09/04/offering-invitation-dedication/>

<https://liturgybits.com/2016/09/04/offering-invitation-dedication/>

Prelude

Holy Is His Name

Text: Based on Luke 1:46-55; John Michael Talbot, b.1954

Music: John Michael Talbot, b.1954

Copyright 1980, Birdwing Music/BMG Songs; adm. by EMI Christian Music Publishing

Opening Hymn

#452 Here I Am, Lord (vs. 1-3)

Words: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981

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

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Hymn of Praise

#24 The God of Abraham Praise (vs. 1 & 3)

Words: Daniel ben Judah (14th century); tr. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885; alt.

Music: Hebrew melody, transcribed by Meyer Leoni c. 1770

Musical Offering (medley)

Great I Am/Bless the Lord, O My Soul (10,000 Reasons)/What a Beautiful Name

Great I Am

Jared Anderson

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Bless the Lord, O My Soul (10,000 Reasons)

Music & Lyrics: Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin

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What a Beautiful Name

Words and Music by Ben Fielding & Brooke Ligertwood

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Closing Hymn

#4 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! (vs. 1 & 4)

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt.

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

Postlude (all welcome to sing)

#115 There's Something About That Name

Words: Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither, 1970

Music: William J. Gaither, 1970 © 1970, 1995, William J. Gaither

Prelude

Holy Is His Name

Opening Hymn

#452 Here I Am, Lord (vs. 1-3)

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]

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send? [Refrain]

Hymn of Praise

#24 The God of Abraham Praise (vs. 1 & 3)

1 The God of Abraham praise.

All praised be the Name,
who was, and is, and is to be,
is still the same;
the one eternal God,
ere all that now appears,
the First, the Last, beyond all thought
through timeless years!

3 God has eternal life

implanted in the soul.

God's love shall be our strength and stay,
while ages roll.

Praise to the living God!

All praised be the Name,
who was, and is, and is to be,
is still the same!

Musical Offering (medley)

Great I Am/Bless the Lord, O My Soul (10,000 Reasons)/What a Beautiful Name

Closing Hymn

#4 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! (vs. 1 & 4)

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Postlude (all welcome to sing)

#115 There's Something About That Name

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name!

Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim:

kings and kingdoms will all pass away,
but there's something about that name.