

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**February 3, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Communion Sunday**

~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

*We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us in Chapin Hall for fellowship time after worship. **The Welcome Table** in Chapin Hall offers information about the church and members who can answer your questions. **Hearing devices** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available down the hall in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship registration pads, and please wear your nametags. All announcements should be written down and given to the ushers or pastor prior to worship. **If you have a prayer request you would like read aloud for today's prayers**, please fill out one of the prayer cards found in the friendship registration pads (your name is optional) and be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

PRELUDE

“The Good Shepherd”

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deb Copes

L: Let the mystery of God draw us in:

All: Beautiful, Just, Merciful!

L: Let the wisdom of God surprise us:

All: Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!

L: In the mystery, the wisdom, the glory of God

All: Let us worship!

*HYMN

“I Come with Joy”

NC 349

**please rise in body or in spirit*

Bold denotes unison response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Loving God,

We gather today to celebrate your presence
in the lives of faithful people.

Send your Spirit to meet us here
and guide us into your depths
that we may begin to glimpse your grace:
what eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived--
all you have prepared for those who love you.

We pray this in the name of Jesus,

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.

*SUNG RESPONSE

NC 773

Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,

O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

(Children are invited to depart for S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School)

“We Will Keep a Place For You”

by John Corrado

The image shows a musical score for the song "We Will Keep a Place For You" by John Corrado. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the song: "We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go." The second staff contains the second line: "We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring". The third staff contains the third line: "hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn."

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 12:31-14:5

Pew Bible NT p.175

SERMON

The Word is Love

Rev. Craig Cowing

HYMN

“As We Gather at Your Table”

N332

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will collect the prayer request cards.

Invitation to the Offering

For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

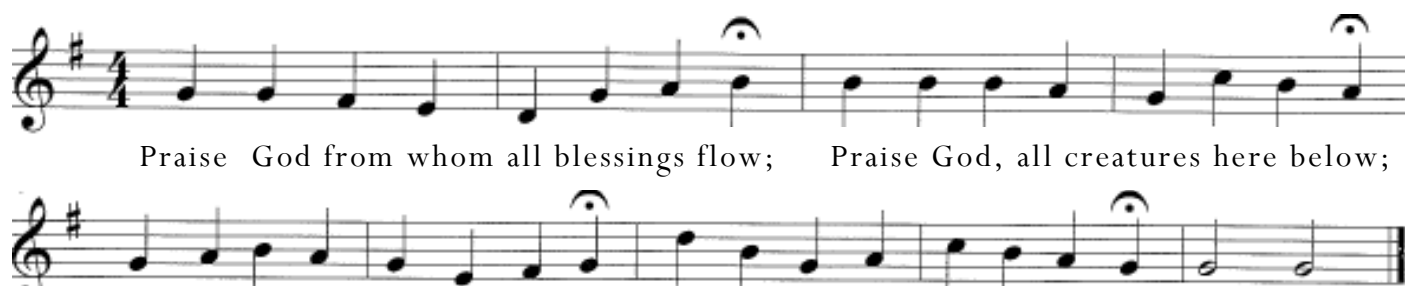
Offertory Anthem

“Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee”

arr. Arlen Clark

The Choir

*Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

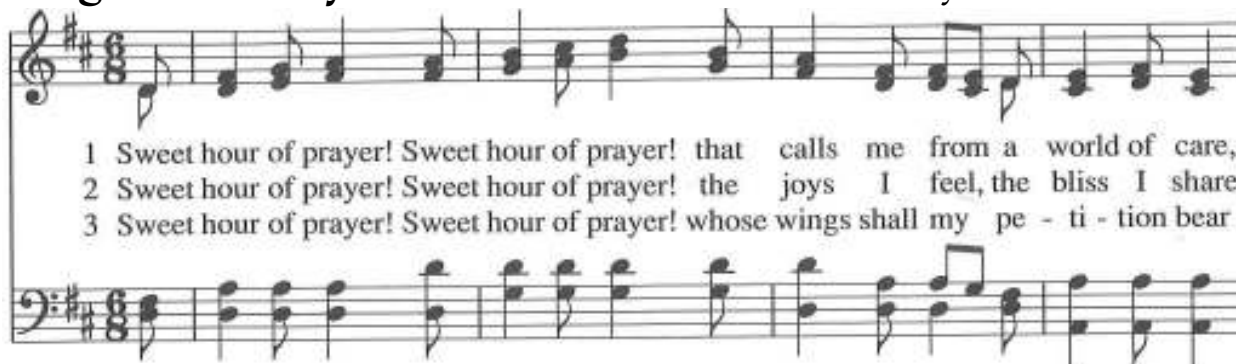
Joys & Concerns



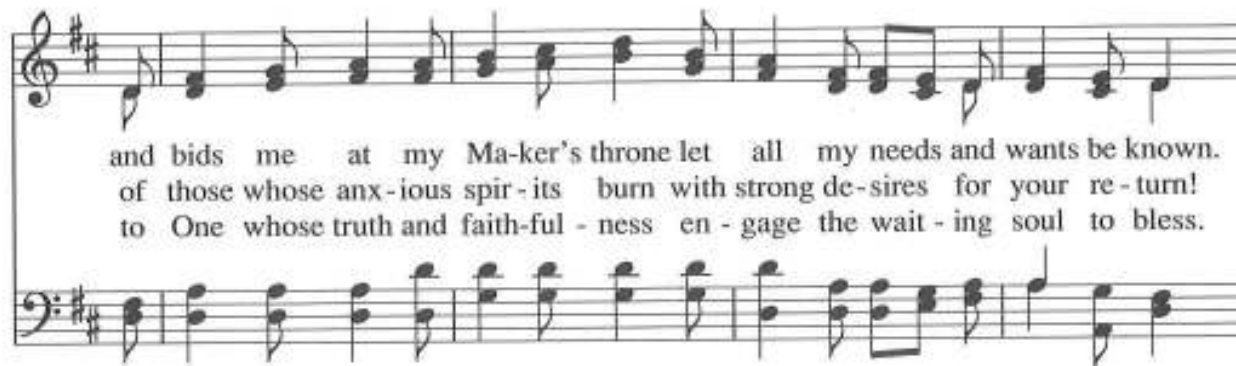
Sung Call to Prayer

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” verse 1

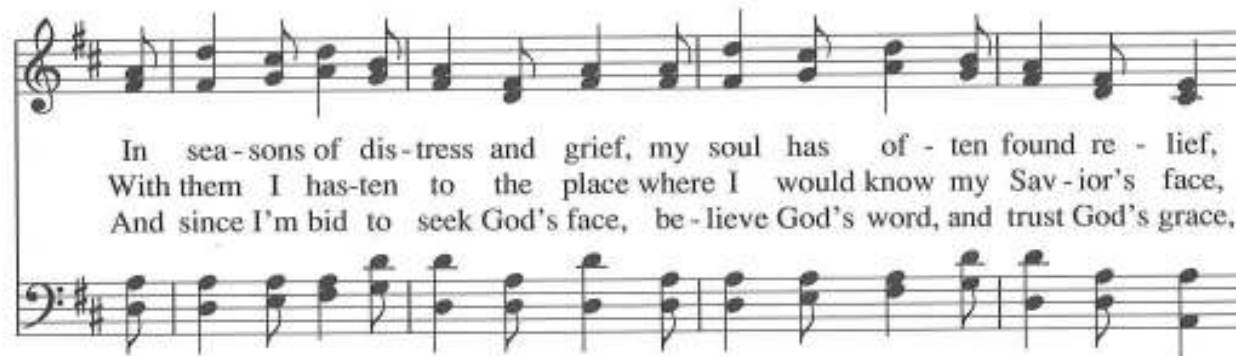
NCH505



1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re - turn!
to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
With them I has - ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Pastoral Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion; all are welcome to participate, regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.

Prayer of Confession

L: The Scriptures remind us that all we do must be lived out in compassion and justice.

When we forget the fast you desire—

To do justice, and stand up for the powerless:

All: Lord, have mercy.

L: When we forget the prayer you love—

To show compassion, and care for those in need:

All: Christ, have mercy.

L: When we forget the rituals you require—

To create relationships of righteousness and peace:

All: Lord have mercy.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace and Peace

L: Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus forgives us, heals us and sets us free to rebuild, restore, and raise up foundations for new generations.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution



Sharing the Bread and the Cup

This morning, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, as we celebrate the light of Christ we thank you for the illumination of our hearts through this sacred meal. Help us to take this light to all the world, both near and far, as we begin the new year in hope. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God’s peace.

You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you (a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

***HYMN**

“What a Covenant”

NC 371

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“Voluntary and Fugue”

G./F. Handel

LITURGIST

Deb Copes

USHERS

Steve Smith, Sue Chatfield and Wendy Ware

COMMUNION SERVERS

Michael Andonucci, Judy Graham

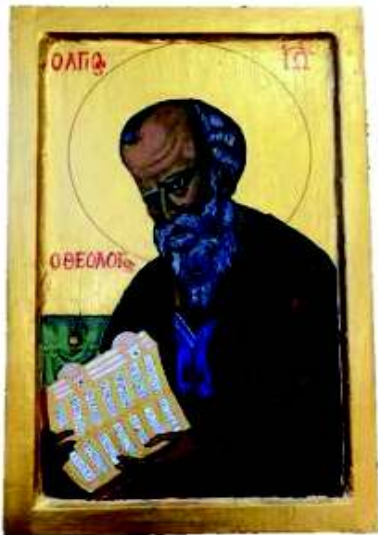
Sarah DeGiovanni, Don Pagnucco

HOSPITALITY

Ruth Jensen and Lynn McKenna



*The Tower is lit this week in memory of Phil Swain,
by RHCC Congregational Care Ministry Team.*



ICON & BIBLE READINGS

The Icon of the Month for February is St. John the Evangelist. The original of this icon was painted in Greece around 1250. Visit anytime in Weil Chapel, during office hours.



FEBRUARY

Sustained by God's
Word of Love

- 1 Leviticus 19:1-18
- 2 Luke 10:25-37
- 3 John 1:19-34
- 4 John 1:35-51
- 5 John 2:1-12
- 6 John 2:13-25
- 7 John 3:1-21
- 8 John 3:22-36
- 9 John 5:1-18

Outreach & Witness Ministry - Second Hour on Covenant to Care

Please join us for a Second Hour program after worship on Sunday, **February 10th** to learn more about our congregation's relationship with Covenant to Care. We welcome Joseph Engberg, a new social worker partnered with our church, to meet with us. We have a Covenant to work with a Joseph to directly assist in meeting the needs of youth. In the past, we have provided school supplies, Christmas gifts, clothing and gift cards for children in the program. This program will give us the opportunity to learn more about this program we support. A light lunch will be provided.



St. Josephine Bakhita Parish – Prayer Service against Human Trafficking

On Friday February 8th at 7pm, St. Josephine Bakhita Parish and the Archdiocese of Hartford Human Trafficking Task Force will be offering an evening of prayer and reflection against human trafficking at Saint James Church 767 Elm Street in Rocky Hill. There will be reception following the prayer service and an opportunity to learn about the current situation here in Connecticut as well. We extend a warm welcome to your church community to come pray with us. Peace, Fr. George Couturier and Deacon Michael J. Ward.



The Green Team has had a copy of the book Green Church: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rejoice! donated to the church lending library. There is already a waiting list of two for it, feel free to add yourself if you are interested! Contact Anita Hawkins or Craig Cowing.

SCRIP-SURE



What is it? Scrip-sure is a fundraising program for our church, which allows the regular shopping we do at a variety of retailers to generate income for the church. How? Participating retailers sell gift certificates or gift cards to our church at a discount. Church members buy the certificates for full face value and redeem them for full face value, and our church keeps the difference as revenue. Everybody wins! The retailers get our business, and our church gets a regular source of revenue that involves nothing other than what we would all be doing anyway – shopping/spending at grocery stores, drugstores, restaurants, gas stations, and many other businesses, including online retailers.

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning. Here is a partial list of cards typically available:

- Coffee: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Walmart
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on February 24 (with delivery on March 3). E-cards may be ordered anytime.

Did you know that you can donate to the Rocky Hill Food Pantry and "Covenant-to-Care for Children" through our scrip program? Your cash/check donations are used to buy gift cards to local groceries (food pantry) or other retail stores (CC). For these donations, we do not retain any profit, so a \$1.00 donation effectively buys about \$1.07 in groceries or clothing. You may donate at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

Stop by the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered. Think SCRIP!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

February 3

10:00am Worship
9:30am Childcare
10:15am Church School
11:00am Coffee Hour

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,27
Chapin Hall

February 4

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

February 5

7:00pm Ministry Teams

Tuesday

Fiorilli

February 6

Wednesday

February 7

9:30am Music Together
7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Rm 6
Chapin Hall

February 8

9am LSP/Music

Friday

Rm 6

February 9

Saturday



- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 3 | Teagan Reed-Swale |
| 5 | Kimberly Sweezy |
| 6 | Cole Triblets |
| 7 | Cheryl Hummel |
| 8 | Susan White |
| 8 | Robert Mullins |

Happy Birthday!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10
SECOND HOUR
COVENANT TO CARE

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24
DISASTER RELIEF
BUCKETS



WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event of winter weather on a Sunday morning, our first priority is to ensure the safety of church members. If worship is canceled, a notice will be posted on the following media outlets:

Channel 3 WFSB-TV

Our facebook page – facebook.com/rhccucc

Our website – RockyHillUCC.org



Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: office@rhccucc.org / 860 529-4167

Church Website: rhccucc.org

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/rhccucc

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Open and Affirming Statement

Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, and because love is a unifying and strengthening force within our Christian Faith,

We, the members of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.

We welcome all who seek to follow Jesus, including persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, and educational background, to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Jesus teaches us to welcome all God's children into God's covenantal community. As we grow together in faith and love, we will strive to celebrate the diversity in which God has created us.

Approved by congregational vote June 2009

Ministry Team

Ministers: All the members of the church

Pastor: The Rev. Craig L. Cowing ccowing@rhccucc.org

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie ghuie@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling