

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



February 24, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

~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 Peace of Christ”

Kevin Keil

Katie Hoffman- Fulda, flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Randy Pulling

L: Where do we find you, Holy One, and how do we follow?

All: We find Jesus at our table, we share our food

L: We find Jesus in our resources, we share our riches

All: We find Jesus in our power, we share our mercy

L: We find Jesus in our pain, we share our forgiveness

**All: We find Jesus in our generosity, we share all,
and expect nothing in return**

L: In community, we seek God's holiness, shown in love, in generosity, in joy.

All: In the world we share God's desire: justice, mercy, peace for all.

*HYMN

“Like a Tree beside the Waters”

NCH 313

please rise in body or in spirit; **Bold denotes unison response*

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our God, you are deep within our world,
calling us to join you in creating
abundant life for all.

Open our hearts to recognize you.

Free us to trust your call and follow;

Enable us to repent, and forgive,

and join in your work to make "all things new".

In Jesus' name we pray as he taught us to pray, saying,

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,

The first line of musical notation is for a two-part setting of the words "Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,". It features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the words "Re - mem - ber me," repeated twice. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment.

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

The second line of musical notation is for a two-part setting of the words "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me." It continues the same musical style as the first line, with a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the words "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me." repeated twice. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

DISASTER RELIEF BUCKET ASSEMBLY

Today we will assemble emergency clean up buckets to donate to Church World Service (CWS), who provides disaster relief to families and communities affected by flooding, fires, tornadoes and other disasters.

Invitation

Rev. Craig Cowing

Assembly

Members of the church are invited to come up and assemble the buckets.

“He’s Got The Whole World in His Hands”

Liz Reed-Swale, guitar

Dedication

Leader: Let us pray: God of great love who taught us all compassion, we continue to share the blessings that we have received from you with our neighbors.

All: Who are our neighbors?

L: Those forced from their homes due to natural disasters and need us to recognize them as God’s children in need.

All: What do they need?

L: They often need the basic things that we take for granted: items to maintain their health or items that will allow them to clean their homes.

All: How will this help?

L: The kits we bless today represent our compassion for our brothers and sisters. With our kits we send our love and our witness to the presence of God’s divine nature in our world.

All: We bear witness.

L: That the hands that made these kits, and the hearts that donated time, talent and treasure desire to be a blessing of God’s love in this world.

All: We send our Love.

L: Acknowledging that we first received this love from God and pray that in so sending it God’s grace will spread far and wide.

All: This is our prayer.

L: Bless the givers, the kits we made, the work of Church World Service in delivering the kits and the lives of all who receive our kits, with God’s great love.

All: Amen.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

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



We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go.

We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring

hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

ANTHEM

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Setting by Roland Martin

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:27-38

Pew Bible NT p64

SERMON

“The Measure You Give”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

NCH 4

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.

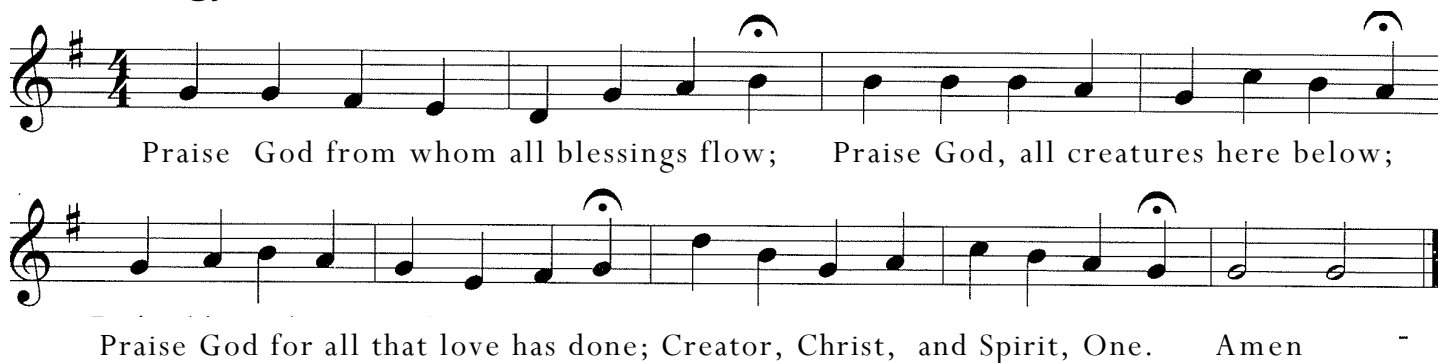
Offertory

“Reverie”

Claude Debussy

Katie Hoffman- Fulda, flute

*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

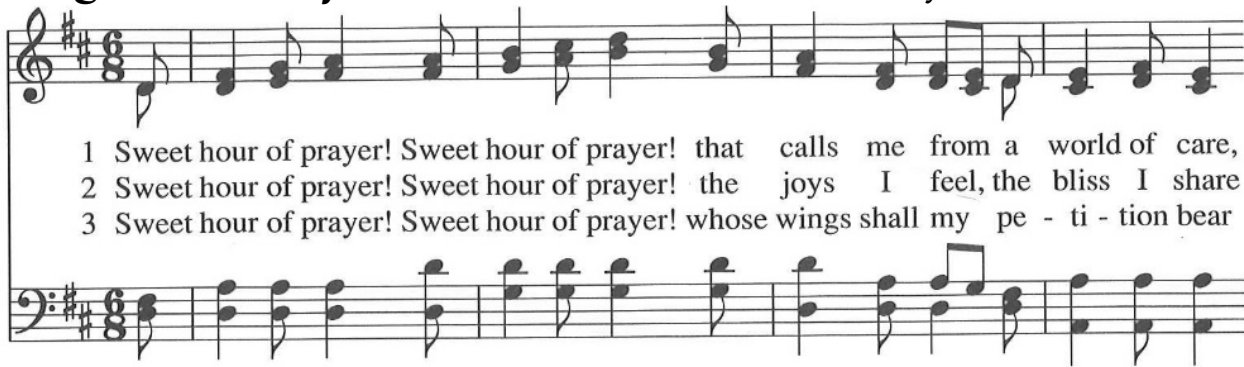
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

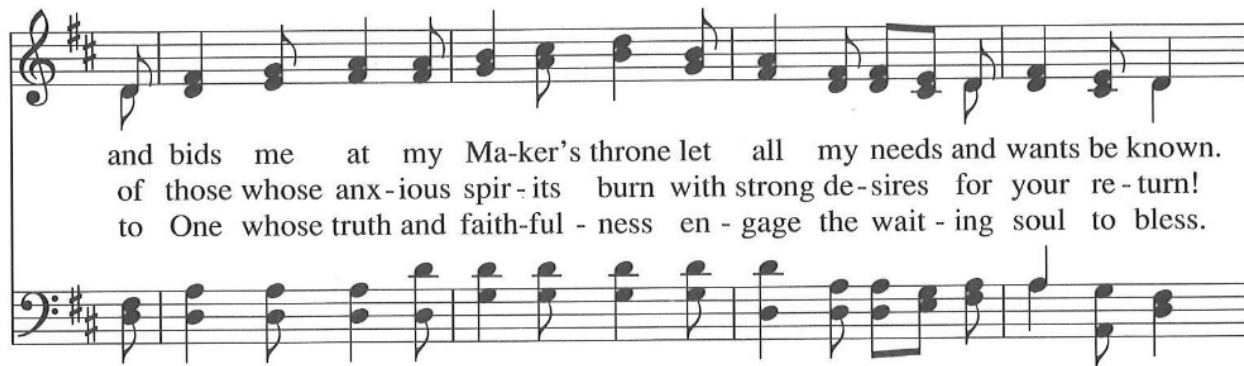
Sung Call to Prayer

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” verse 1

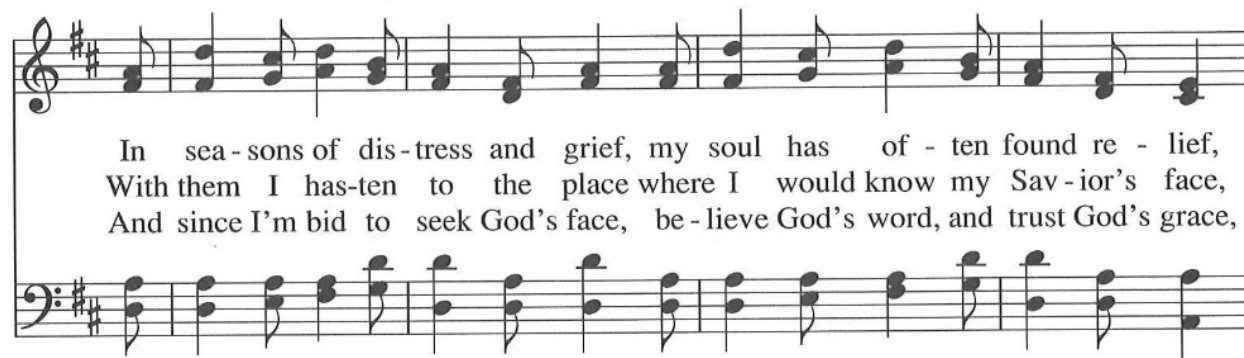
NCH505



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

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

LITURGIST

Randy Pulling

USHERS

HOSPITALITY

Reminder: There will be the Dixieland band rehearsal today
after worship in the Sanctuary.



Dixieland Music Returns on Transfiguration Sunday, March 3rd

The day before Ash Wednesday is commonly referred to as "Shrove Tuesday". The word "shrove," the past tense of "shrive," is an old English word which means to hear a confession, and in doing so to become absolved from sin. Shrove Tuesday is a reminder to many Christians that we are entering a season of penance, since Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.



Mardi Gras is celebrated on Shrove Tuesday with Dixieland-style music as a dominant feature. For churches that follow the Revised Common Lectionary, the Sunday before Lent is known as "Transfiguration Sunday," and is the Sunday when we celebrate the revelation of Christ's glory "before the passion" so that we may "be strengthened to bear our cross and be changed into his likeness."

Since 2009, our own in-house Dixieland Combo has evolved to provide the full complement of worship music for these services, including hymns, anthems, meditations, and celebratory postludes. We will continue that recent tradition on Transfiguration Sunday on March 3rd. Please join us as we celebrate the final Sunday of Epiphany before transitioning to the more reflective season of Lent.

SHROVE TUESDAY/ASH WEDNESDAY GATHERING - Tuesday, March 5, 5:30pm
Please join us for pancakes, activities and music; and then we will turn our hearts and minds to the reflective time of Lent, as celebrated with a service of prayer and ashes. Sponsored by
InReach and Faith Formation Ministries.

SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE SERIES - SUNDAYS AT 7PM



In March we will be sponsoring a Lenten Social Justice series of talks on social justice issues in Connecticut. Each talk will be on a Sunday evening at 7 PM in Chapin Hall.

Sunday, March 10: Human Trafficking in CT:

Annamarie Boulay, Executive Director of The Underground, an organization based in Bloomfield which addresses human trafficking in our region.

Sunday, March 17: Cori Mackey: Social Justice Issues in Hartford

Cori is the Executive Director of the Christian Activities Council, a 150+ year old organization based in Hartford which works with residents on housing and related issues.

Sunday, March 24: Food Insecurity: Melissa Hicks

Melissa Hicks is the Director of the Department of Human Services for the Town of Rocky Hill, CT. She will talk on the issue of food insecurity locally and globally.

Sunday, March 31: Women in Incarceration in CT:

Lia Coppolecchia, a volunteer with A Sacred Space, an organization in New London which works with women who have been in incarceration, to help them rebuild their lives and discover their potential.



Music Ministry

Bobby Jo Valentine Concert Friday, March 22nd!

Rocky Hill Congregational Church Music Ministry will present a concert with Bobby Jo Valentine on March 22nd. Come at 6:00pm for a light supper, followed by the concert at 7:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public (a free will offering will be taken).

Talented, engaging and authentic, Bobby's gentle and humorous style will touch your heart. Join us for a great evening of food, sharing, humor and deep connection. All are welcome!

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 today, **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 24

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

February 25

7:00pm Women's AA
7:30pm Bell Choir

February 26

February 27

7:30pm Choir

February 28

9:30am Music Together
4:30pm UCC Women
7:00pm Worship
7:30pm Men's AA

March 1

9:00am LSP/Music Together

March 2

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Monday

Fiorilli
Choir Loft

Tuesday

Wednesday

Choir Room

Thursday

Room 6
Parlor
Fiorilli
Chapin Hall

Friday

Rm 6

Saturday



24	Jan LaCava
24	Ben Rolfe
24	Will Rolfe
25	Hannah DeGiovanni
27	Dot Wenzel
27	Roxanne Molina
27	Keira Silkowski
27	Gabriella Silkowski
29	Joseph Sheehan



Dixieland Sunday, March 3
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper &
Worship, March 5



The March **CHURCH MOUSE** will be mailed on Monday, February 25. Join a terrific speedy group of mailers in the Fiorilli Room beginning around 9:30am. Come any time in the morning, for a half hour, an hour, or however long you can. Refreshments will be served. ALL ARE WELCOME!

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: www.RockyHillUCC.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: Steve Smith admin@rhccucc.org