

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

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



**June 17, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Baccalaureate Sunday**

# ~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

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*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 downstairs in Room 4.*

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## 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.*

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## PRELUDE

“Antiphon III”

Marcel Dupres

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris Sheehan

*based upon Psalm 92:1-4*

L: Come and give thanks to our God.

Sing praises to God's holy name.

**All: With the melody of the lute and the harp  
and the song in our hearts,  
we declare God's steadfast love in the morning  
and faithfulness at night.**

L: God's works make us glad.

**All: Your works are great, O God.  
We sing our praises of joy to you.**

(Bold type denotes collective response)

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

O God, maker of all that is beautiful,  
Jesus gave us the seeds of your justice and peace.  
In this time together, touch us, teach us, inspire us  
to sow those seeds through our ministries  
so that all may share in creation’s abundance  
to make true the promise  
that no one will know scarcity  
and no one will suffer deprivation in this community and  
beyond. We ask this in Jesus’ name, who 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.

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**\*SUNG RESPONSE** "Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You" v.1 NCH510

1 Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, hearts a -  
2 Grant us faith - ful - ness in pray - ing, strength to  
3 Grant us dil - i - gence in do - ing, pa - tience  
4 Grant us cour - age to pro - claim you; Sav - ior

wak - ened to re - ceive you, minds a - lert to  
keep our souls from stray - ing, sense to cease from  
when your truth pur - su - ing, ea - ger to re -  
of our lives we name you! May our ac - tions

thoughts that grieve you, God of mer - cy, hear us.  
dis - o - bey - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.  
ceive re - new - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.  
nev - er shame you; God of mer - cy, hear us.

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**

**ANTHEM**

“Homeward Bound”

Marta Keen

The Choir, Victoria Bower and Jillian Maynard soloists

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 4:26-34

NT (Pew Bible) p38

**SERMON**

“The Mystery of Growth”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

**\*HYMN**

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

N 433

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Craig will come down the center aisle to receive 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**

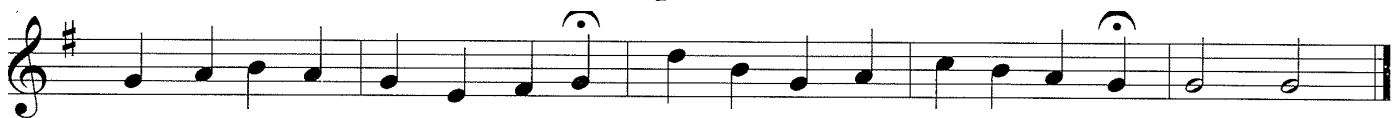
“The Earth Adorned”

Waldemar Ahlen

The Choir, Melody Hall, soloist

**\*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

Recognition of Great Grandfathers

Recognition of Graduates

Sung Call to Prayer

“Be Still and Know that I am God”

(NCH743)

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that

The first system of musical notation is in 3/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that".

I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "I am God. Be still and know that I am God.".

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

\*HYMN

“I Love Your Realm, O God”

NCH 312

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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**LITURGIST**

Chris Sheehan

**USHERS**

Liz Reed-Swale, Dave Sageman

**HOSPITALITY**

InReach

In honor of Father's Day, InReach is offering Brownie Sundaes during Coffee Hour.

All are welcome!



*Today's altar flowers are donated in loving memory of Alvin Hummel  
by Sue VanNess & Family*

*The tower is lit this week in honor of Arthur Murk and Mayne Pittsinger by Marge Murk*

*The tower will be lit next week In honor of 'The Longest Day June 20' for those who struggle  
with Alzheimer's Disease. By Gail & Natalie Tine*



TODAY WE PROUDLY RECOGNIZE OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHERS OF THE CHURCH:

**NEAL COX, DAVID DEAN, BOB HAMILTON**

**JOE KUNZELMAN, RALPH LEXA, JOHN SWORD,**

**JAMES USSERY JR, FRANK VANN**

IN HONOR OF OUR GREAT GRANDFATHERS, THE MEMBERSHIP IS  
DONATING TEN \$10.00 GIFT CARDS TO THE VET CENTER ON ELM STREET  
IN ROCKY HILL. THEY WILL BE GIVEN TO VETERANS AS NEEDED.



The RHCC church family extends congratulations and prayerful best wishes to the following 2018 graduates:

**Victoria Grace Bower** will be graduating from Rocky Hill High School in June. She'll be attending the University of Arizona to pursue a dual major in Political Science paired with Middle Eastern and North Africans studies, and a minor in Sociology.

**Brian Speers** is graduating Rocky Hill High School this year and will be attending Connecticut College in the Fall.

**Tyler Morgan** will be graduating from Rocky Hill High School on June 20th. He will be attending UCONN in the fall.

**Joseph Sheehan** is graduating from Bard College with a B.A. in anthropology.

**Louis Dizenzo** is graduating from Vinal Technical High School on June 22, and will begin his career in Carpentry.

### *Blessing of Graduates*

We thank you for the gifts of you, our graduates;  
your excitement, your awesome wonder and curiosity,  
your open speech and encouraging words.

Your contributions have blessed and challenged us,  
and we have become a richer  
and more diverse community because of them.

As you step forward into the world that awaits,  
we ask God to comfort your fears with the full knowledge of God's divine presence.

Strengthen your resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
as modern-day disciples in a world that needs their spirit.

Guide your feet as you move through life,  
protecting you from the pitfalls of darkness  
while you help to lead future generations  
into the warmth and promise of your light.

We ask this blessing upon each of them,  
In God's name.

AMEN AND ALLELUIA!





## CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called for TODAY, Sunday, June 17, 2018 immediately following worship in the Sanctuary for the following items of business:

1. To receive and act upon the 2017 reports of Boards and Committees.
2. To vote on any revisions to the 2018-19 budget as presented at Budget and Elections meeting.
3. To vote on any changes to the report of the Nominating Committee.
4. To conduct any additional business to come before the congregation.
5. To remember and reflect on those members and friends of the church who have entered the Church Eternal from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Tokarski, Clerk



Every year, during the month of June, the LGBT community celebrates in a number of different ways. Across the globe, various events are held during this special month as a way of recognizing the influence LGBT people have had around the world. Why was June chosen? Because it is when the Stonewall Riots took place, way back in 1969.

### What were the Stonewall Riots?

The riots were prompted by a raid that took place during the early morning, at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, Manhattan. The LGBT community held a series of spontaneous, often violent demonstrations to protest against the raid and calling for the establishment of places that gays and lesbians could go and be open about their sexual orientation. In such places there should be no fears of being arrested. The riots served as a catalyst for the rights of LGBT people, and within 6 months, 2 gay activist groups had formed in New York. Over the years since the event, many gay rights organisations have been formed. Not just in the US but around the world.

### What is LGBT or Gay Pride?

It is a movement that celebrates sexual diversity. For lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people it is a way of protesting about discrimination and violence. It promotes their dignity, equal rights, self-affirmation and is a way of increasing society's awareness of the issues they face.

### Who Started the June Celebration?

Known as the "Mother of Pride", it was Brenda Howard who coordinated the first LGBT Pride march. As well as sparking the idea for a week of events around Pride Day. These events then developed into the annual LGBT celebrations held every June.

# 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, Buffalo Wild Wings, On the Border, 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

Today (June 17) is the ordering deadline for cards that are not kept in inventory. Orders may be turned in at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning. Cards ordered today will be available for pickup on Sunday, June 24. After today, the next order will be placed on July 29 (with delivery on August 5). A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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

### June 17

10:00am **Worship**

9:30am **Childcare**

11:00am **Father's Day Sundaes!**

### June 18

6:00pm Tamil School

7:00pm Bonsai Group

7:00pm Women's AA

7:30pm **Bell Choir**

### June 19

7:00pm Hearing Voices

### June 20

7:30pm **Choir**

### June 21

7:00pm **Tibetan Bowls**

7:00pm **Events Committee**

7:30pm Men's AA

### June 22

**Office Closed**

### Sunday

Sanctuary

Room 4

Chapin Hall

### Monday

Rm 25&27

Chapin Hall

Fiorilli Rm

Sanctuary

### Tuesday

Room 6

### Wednesday

Sanctuary

### Thursday

Weil Chapel

Fiorilli Room

Chapin Hall

### Friday



20	Elaine Motta
21	Glenn Hunter
21	Jack Pawlich
22	Gail Hall



We'll hold our Summer worship in air-conditioned Chapin Hall during July and August 10:00 a.m.
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Summer Church school dates will be:  
June 24, July 8, July 22, August 5, August 19, and September 2.

Visit our new website! [www.RockyHillUCC.org](http://www.RockyHillUCC.org)

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

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167  
Church Website: [www.RockyHillUCC.org](http://www.RockyHillUCC.org)  
Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://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](mailto:ccowing@rhccucc.org)

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie [ghuie@rhccucc.org](mailto:ghuie@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Steve Smith [admin@rhccucc.org](mailto:admin@rhccucc.org)

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling [lrpulling@icloud.com](mailto:lrpulling@icloud.com)