

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



August 20, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

~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 center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Ware

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

All: It is like a summer rain which restores the parched earth.

Leader: It is like a cool breeze at the shore of a lake,
at the top of a mountain or through a crowded city street.

All: God meets us here.

Leader: We have gathered to worship the maker of our days,
the restorer of our souls and the breath of our lives.

*HYMN

“God of Abraham and Sarah”

NC (black) 20

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

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

Our God, you created each of us unique beings with differing strengths and weaknesses. Help us not only to use our strengths to assist others but also to allow others to use their strengths to meet our weaknesses.

You are the restorer of our souls, you have seen the parched places we have made in our lives, along with the devastation thrust upon us by the action or inaction of others.

Meet us in the places of our deepest pain so that our masks of self-sufficiency might fall away and we might be drawn into right relationship with you and one another.

You are the breath of our lives, without you we are but a mound of clay. Fill us with your presence, invigorate our worship, set us on fire so that others might be drawn into your light and nurtured by the warmth of your loving care.

**We pray 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.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

NCH 517

I need you ev-ery hour, O God of grace;

I need you every hour,
O God of grace;

The peace your voice af-fords, I now em-brace.

The peace your voice affords,
I now embrace.

Refrain

I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;

I need you, how I need you!
Every hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

O bless me now, my Savior, I
come to you.

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

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 133

OT Pew Bible p575

SERMON

“Scraps of God’s Favor”
(Matthew 15:21-28)

Rev. Pat Felletter

*HYMN

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”

NC (black) 551

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Pat will come down the center aisle to collect the prayer request cards.

Invitation to the Offering

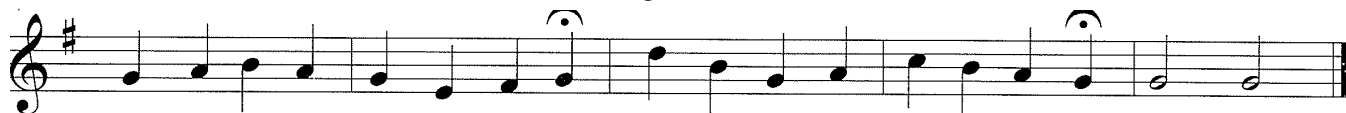
For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Offertory

*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

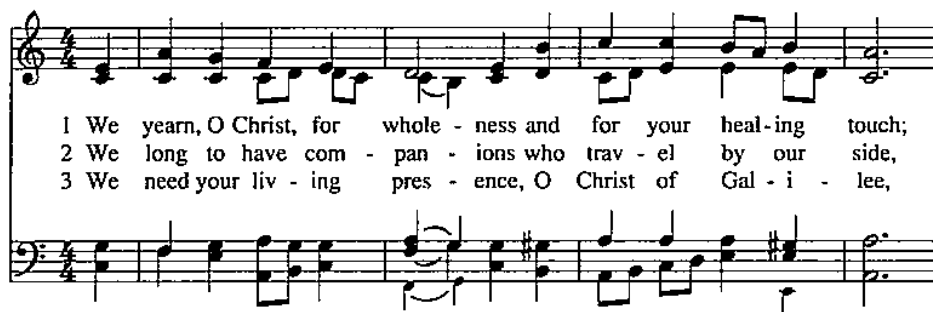
*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

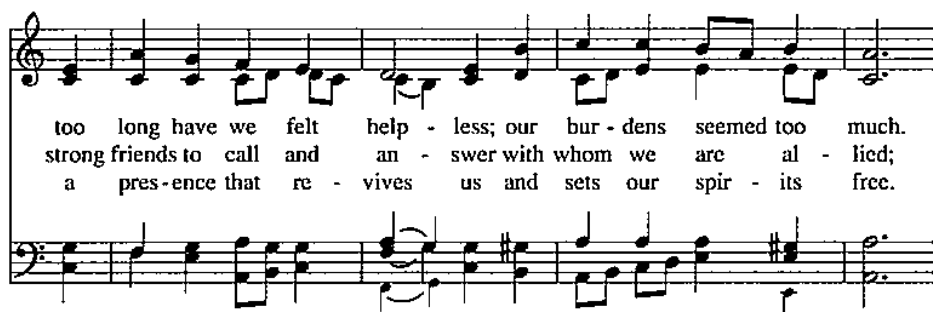
Sung Call to Prayer "We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness" (verse 1)

NCH 179



1 We yearn, O Christ, for whole - ness and for your heal - ing touch;
2 We long to have com - pan - ions who trav - el by our side,
3 We need your liv - ing pres - ence, O Christ of Gal - i - lee,

We yearn, O Christ, for
whole-ness and
for your healing touch;



too long have we felt help - less; our bur - dens seemed too much.
strong friends to call and an - swer with whom we are al - lied;
a pres - ence that re - vives us and sets our spir - its free.

Too long have we felt help-less;
our burdens seemed too much.



For - get - ting all pre - tens - es we make our plead - ings heard,
As we lift up each oth - er when strug - gles lay us low,
No long - er are we fear - ful, your love per - vades each place.

Forgetting all pretenses
we make our pleadings heard,



in hope and ex - pec - ta - tion a - wait your gra - cious Word.
com - mu - ni - ty de - vel - ops; our faith and car - ing grow.
Em - pow - er us with cour - age to claim your heal - ing grace.

In hope and expectation
await your gracious Word.

Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

"Now Thank We all Our God"

NC (black) 419

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

GUEST MINISTER
GUEST ORGANIST
LITURGIST
USHERS
HOSPITALITY

Rev. Pat Felletter
Janet Schneider
Steve Ware
Deb Copes & Steve Smith, Wendy Ware
Christina Engel

*The tower is lit in loving memory of
Paul Tine, Sr.
by Gail and Natalie Tine.*



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*10am Worship Service with Music Every Sunday
Childcare provided during the service in Room 4
Summer Church School held every other Sunday
Coffee and Fellowship held after Worship in Chapin Hall
All are welcome here!*

Today, August 20	Summer Church School
Sunday, August 27	No Church School
Sunday, September 3	Communion Sunday, Summer Church School
Sunday, September 10	Rally Day/Re-Covenanting Sunday, Worship with Full Choir in the Sanctuary, Church School Registration, New Member Orientation

Rally Day/Re-Covenanting Sunday September 10

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of the church year! During the sermon time, the high school youth will be reporting back and reflecting on their Mission Trip to Louisiana. After service, parents may sign up their Pre-K to 8th grade children for the coming year's church school program!

And join us in Chapin Hall for a special lunch, sponsored by the Board for Faith Formation





August 15, 2017

As a response to the violent clashes between white supremacists and counter demonstrators in Charlottesville, Va., that left a woman dead and 19 injured, the national leadership of the United Church of Christ issued this Pastoral Letter:

Dear Members, Friends, Clergy, and Leaders of and within the United Church of Christ, Last weekend, a group of white supremacists came to Charlottesville, Virginia, and incited violence to protest the removal of a Confederate monument. Although protest is the bedrock of our nation's democracy, coming in riot gear proves that they intended to do more than simply protest.

We, the Council of Conference Ministers and Officers of the United Church of Christ, strongly condemn the acts of violent hatred expressed by these white supremacists, Neo-Nazis, and Ku Klux Klan members. Their white robes and burning crosses were replaced with polo shirts, khakis, and tiki torches, while their lynching was replaced with a speeding car barreling through a group of peaceful protesters with the intention of harming and killing others, which it did. Their vitriolic hatred is the same.

We confess that the events of Charlottesville are systemic and communal expressions of white privilege and racism that continues to pervade our nation's spiritual ethos. And if we only condemn the acts of August 12, 2017, without condemning the roots of racism, which perpetuate discrimination in our American schools, justice system, business, and healthcare systems, then we have sinned as well. We must work toward the Kin-dom of Heaven here on earth now for the sake of a just world for all.

We do this by committing to follow the ways of Jesus, who stood with the oppressed, spoke out against political and religious powers, and courageously embodied a just world for all as he sought to create it. Today, we must follow the ways of Jesus in addressing the hatred of white supremacists and racists among us.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Our local UCC churches must be true solidarity partners with those who march in the streets. Our UCC churches are encouraged to move from the sanctuary and walk alongside other clergy and community leaders who seek to resist, agitate, inform, and comfort. We must resist hatred and violence. We must also agitate ourselves, and our neighbors to acknowledge any racism within or among us. We must inform ourselves, and our neighbors what our sacred stories reveal to us of a just world for all. We must lament and grieve with those who are injured or murdered during violent confrontations with those who mean us harm. And we must comfort those who have been discriminated against with the transformative love of God.

As we go forward, let us model the legacy of activism through our sacred call given to us by our UCC ancestors: May we be prophetic truth-tellers like our Congregational Christian forebears, who marched in public squares demanding equality for all. May we serve others, and remain faithful witnesses like our Evangelical and Reformed forebears, who tended to the needs of the forgotten. And may we be courageous like our non-UCC forebears, who left their spiritual home and joined the UCC in order to fully live out who God created them to be.

For more information, visit: www.ucc.org

BACKPACK DRIVE!

This summer, we will once again support our Covenant to Care liaison, Allison, by providing backpacks and school supplies for children in DCF care. Please do not provide used items unless they are new or “like-new” condition.



Collecting backpacks and supplies for:

- 17 yr old boy, a 13 yr old girl, two 10 yr. old boys, a 9 yr old girl, two 9 yr old boys, a 6 yr old girl and a four year old.
- Backpacks, paper, notebooks, pens, #2pencils and folders.
- Erasers, pencil boxes, glue sticks, blunt scissors, pencil sharpeners, non-permanent markers, rulers, small tissue packets and crayons.

We will be collecting items through August 20th. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

August 20

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

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Room 25
Chapin Hall



August 21

Office Closed

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

August 22

Office Closed

7:00pm Cedar Hollow
7:00pm Hearing Voices

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Rm 23 or Chapin

20 Laura Pawlich
23 Emily McKenna
23 Galen Deming
24 Thompson Hunt
25 Lee Shippy

August 23

Office Open 10am - Noon

6:00pm Pilates

Wednesday

Chapin Hall

August 24

Office Closed

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall

The Church Mouse Mailers will gather in the Fiorilli room on TUESDAY August 29 to prep the September newsletter. All are welcome to join this lively group!

August 25

Office Closed

Friday

Staff Vacations:

Theresa will be out of the office this week, Aug 21-25. For non-urgent needs, please send an email or leave a voice message. A church member will cover the office phones and collect the mail periodically during the week. For urgent building issues, contact Jim Stevens at 860-632-5810

Rev. Craig will be on vacation from August 14-27.

Rev. Dick Allen from South Congregational in South Glastonbury will cover pastoral concerns during this time. Rev. Pat Felletter will lead worship on Aug 20 and 27.

Rev. Dick Allen – 860-558-3461

Rev. Pat Felletter – 203-823-8678

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
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, Westside Marketplace, Whole Foods
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Restaurants: Bertucci's, Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny's, Olive Garden, 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, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline for cards that are not kept in inventory is August 27. Cards ordered by that date will be available for pickup on Sunday, September 3.

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!

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 lrpulling@icloud.com