

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

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*

**LOVE**  
grows Here.



**September 11, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Re-Covenanting 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 down the hall 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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Kari McCaw

Leader: Come! Come, all you who are seeking God.

Come! Enter in to this place of protection and comfort

And discover that God is seeking us!

**People: We rejoice to have God find us here,  
as we come seeking God!**

Leader: Come! Come in and experience God's joy when we come together.

**ALL: Here in this sanctuary we worship, and meet God!**

**\*HYMN** "God Is Here! As We Your People Meet" New Century (Black) 70

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

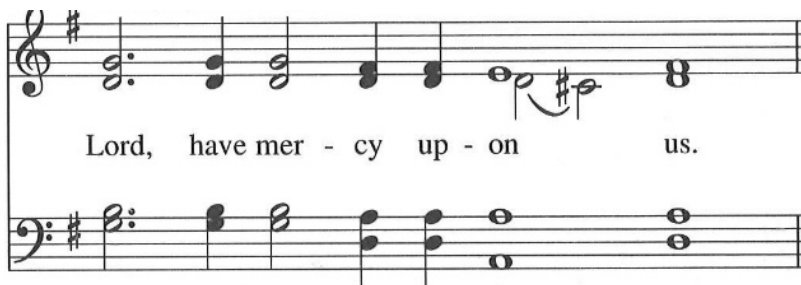
***Bold type denotes collective response***

## \*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Thank you, our God,  
for this opportunity to meet you in this place of worship.  
We come to this new day after a long week,  
carrying all kinds of feelings, emotions and expectations.  
But here, in your presence let your Holy Spirit move us to a place of  
rejoicing in which new hopes abound.  
We will celebrate the gift of your caring Spirit.  
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.

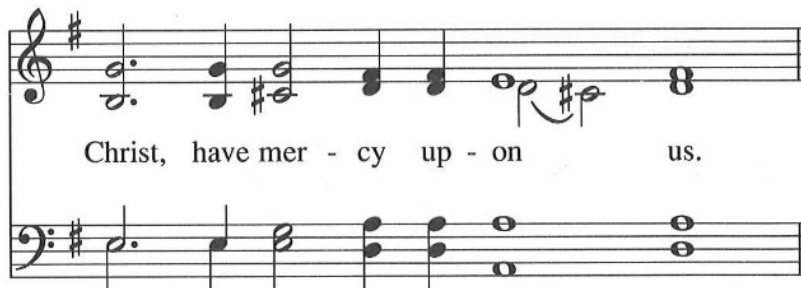
## \*SUNG RESPONSE

NC 750



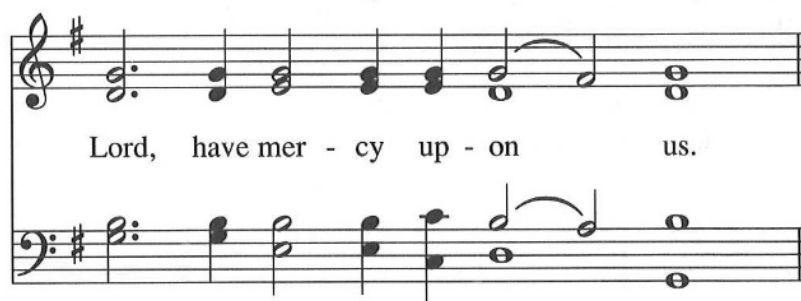
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The first musical system consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a melody starting on G4, moving stepwise to D5, then a half note G4, and ending with a quarter rest. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords: G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, and G2-B2-D3.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

The second musical system is identical in structure to the first, with the same treble and bass staves and lyrics.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The third musical system is identical in structure to the first two, with the same treble and bass staves and lyrics.

## MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

### LITANY OF RE-COVENANTING

Leader: God, who made covenant with Noah and his family and set the rainbow in the sky in token of your faithfulness:

**People: help us to cherish and preserve the world that you have created and promised to protect.**

Leader: God, who made covenant with Abraham and Sarah in an alien land, to make of their descendants a great people:

**People: Help us, in our time, to live in covenant with the refugee, the homeless, and the dispossessed.**

Leader: God, who gave us the Ten Commandments to show us how to love you and one another:

**People: Give us grace to honor the covenants we make with you and one another. In home and community.**

Leader: God, who mended the broken covenants of the ages by making a new covenant with us in Jesus Christ:

**People: Teach us anew what it means to live as your covenant people, responsible to you and each other, obedient to your law, always ready to journey on at the prompting of your Spirit.**

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus who kept covenant with you, even to the cross.

**People: Amen.**

*(From Worship for All Ages: Services for Special Sundays, Whole People of God)*

## 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



## ANTHEM

"Gather Us In"

Marty Hauge

The Choir with Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-10

Pew Bible NT p67

## SERMON

"God's Love Knows No Limits"

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

## \*HYMN

"This Is My Song"

New Century (black) 591

## 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 Calls Us"

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 “More Love to You, O Christ” (verse 1) NC 456




1 More love to you, O Christ, more love to you! Hear now the  
2 Once earth-ly joy I craved, sought peace and rest; Now you a -  
3 Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per your praise; This be the



*Refrain*

prayer I make faith to re - new.  
lone I seek, give what is best: In all I say and do,  
part - ing cry my heart shall raise:



more love, O Christ, to you, more love to you, more love to you!

Pastoral Prayer

\*HYMN

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

New Century (black) 425

BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

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LITURGIST

Kari McCaw

USHERS

Jim and Lois Stevens, Dave and Bobbie Hawkins

HOSPITALITY

Board of Faith Formation



*The Tower is lit this week in loving memory of  
Alex William Murk  
By Marge Murk*

**TODAY**

*10:00am Re-covenanting Sunday, Sanctuary*

*9:30am Child Care during Worship, room 4*

*10:00am Church School Begins*

*11:00am Lunch Provided by Faith Formation*

*6:00pm Middle School Youth Meeting in Chapel*

Join us after worship in Chapin Hall  
for a special lunch  
sponsored by  
the Board for Faith Formation.



## LOOKING AHEAD

**Sun. Sept 18**

10:00am Worship/Guest Preacher Cori Mackey  
Child Care & Church School

3:00pm High School Youth event

**Sun. Sept 25**

10:00am Worship  
Big Fluffy Dog presentation  
Child Care & Church School

### **S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School News**

#### **High School Youth Group**

With gratitude, High School Youth Group members will be reporting back from their July trip to Orlando and the UCC National Youth Event. They will be doing this during worship on Re-covenanting Sunday, September 11. It was a fantastic trip, and RHCC can be very proud of the way our teenagers conducted themselves.

On September 18, we will once again visit the Berlin Mosque for an interfaith youth event, and on October 2, we will meet to plan for a 2017 mission trip.

#### **Middle School Youth Group**

Thanks to the generosity of RHCC folks, the Middle School Youth Group has collected many items requested by the Big Fluffy Dog Rescue project. We will make the hand-off right after worship on September 25, and will have a chance to meet some of the dogs!

On September 11, we will meet in the Chapel from 6-7pm for a brief organizing meeting in the Chapel.



### **Nursey Room Open for families with infants and toddlers**

On September 11, 18 & 25; Child Care during worship is available in the nursery, Room 4 (ground floor), from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Supervised by Liz Pulling and another adult. We are also seeking adult volunteers to help Liz on Sundays If you're interested, please speak to her before or after worship, or contact Bob Inderbitzen (Personnel Committee), Kathy Morgan (Board for Faith Formation), or the church office.





ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION  
of GREATER HARTFORD  
**BERLIN MOSQUE**

RHCC adults and high school youth are invited to attend an interfaith event at the Berlin Mosque. While the youth gather for their own activities, adults will gather in the worship space with Dr. Reza Mansoor, who will answer any questions we may have about Islam. Dr. Mansoor is President of the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford, Vice-Chair of the Hartford Seminary Board of Trustees, a cardiologist at Hartford Hospital, and author of the newly published book, *Stigmatized: From 9/11 to Trump and Beyond – An American Muslim Journey*. Those of us who have attended previous events have found this time with Dr. Mansoor to be well worth it: eye-opening, educational, prayerful, and compelling. This is also a wonderful opportunity to support our Muslim neighbors who continue to be stigmatized.

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2016

Time: 3pm to 6pm (dinner provided)

Where: Berlin Mosque – 1781 Berlin Turnpike – Berlin, CT

What: Youth – Interfaith Paint-Off

Adults – Q&A with Dr. Mansoor

Please RSVP by emailing Georgette at [ghuie@rhccucc.org](mailto:ghuie@rhccucc.org). Car pools are a possibility.

**Big Fluffy Dog Rescue ([bigfluffydogs.com](http://bigfluffydogs.com)) is a charitable organization dedicated to helping giant mixed breed dogs in need.**

Big Fluffy Dog Rescue works to save Great Pyrenees, Saint Bernards, Newfoundlands and their mixes from euthanasia. Their dogs come in to rescue for many different reasons. Many were abandoned at high kill shelters in the South. Some were turned in by owners who could not properly care for them and still others are failed livestock guardian dogs. Regardless of their origins, the goal for every dog they have is the same: a safe, happy home where each dog is a well-loved member of the family.

The items we collected over the summer included:

- Dog crates (used in working condition are fine)
- Towels, comforters and bed linens
- Dog food and treats
- Toys



## **RHCC Golf Tournament – Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**



This year's fall RHCC golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Wethersfield Country Club at Noon.

We are planning for up to (8) foursomes and tee times will start about noon. Details of cost and tournament format will be available soon.

A sign-up sheet is available in Chapin Hall in September, or you can contact Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. Don't miss out on this fun event!



Cori Mackey will be our guest Preacher on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our Executive Director, Cori Mackey, is pursuing her ordination process. I respect her for her dedication to becoming an ordained UCC Minister, while still working tirelessly for the CAC, and her family. -Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, delegate

Cori's passion is engaging low-income communities in organizing efforts that bring about quality of life changes. She is also deeply passionate about the intersection of social justice and congregational life embodied in a belief that church must be more than just a gathering space on Sundays. She holds an M.Div. from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH and is a member of Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford.

*Happy Anniversary to Rich and Mary Pawlich-Pagliccio  
who recently celebrated 25 years of marriage!*



## ICON OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER

*Visit anytime for prayer and contemplation in the Weil Chapel.*

*The Icon of the Month for September is from the Yaroslavl region of Russia and dates from around 1300 AD. The text on the Bible in Jesus' hand reads "I am the light of the world" in Greek. Icons from this region of Russia are known for the jewel-like appearance, with bright colors.*



### ***RHCC Music Ministry***

We are gearing up for the fall! The choir, bell choir, children's choir and drum choir will be starting rehearsals soon. If you are interested in joining any of the groups, or if you play an instrument and would like to play in church, please contact Mary at [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org).



*Choir:* Wednesday, 7:30pm, choir room, starting Sept. 14

*Bell Choir:* Monday, 7:30pm, loft, starting Sept. 19

*Children's Choir:* Sunday after church, 11:20 am, start date TBD

*Drum Choir:* time and day TBD

### ***Sound Healing Meditation with Tibetan Singing Bowls***

***Friday, September 16, 7pm***

In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. Research has been done in the last decade or so about the effects of sound on the mind. It has been found that soothing sounds can actually alter the brainwaves that are produced. The sound of singing bowls definitely has that effect. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend!





Save the Dates!  
Country Fair  
Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9am to 3pm!  
&

Roast Beef Dinner and Quilt Raffle

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm

Quilt Raffle Tickets will be available for sale in early September.



### WHITE ELEPHANT BOOTH DONATION DROP OFF

If you have items to be donated to the White Elephant Booth for our Country Fair, you may drop them off at the Church Office during office hours, Monday through Thursday: 9am – 2pm or Friday: 9am – Noon. See Bob Carberry with questions or if you need help moving your items.



### RHCC CHURCH MOUSE

Submission deadline for the OCTOBER issue of The Church Mouse is Thursday, September 15 and the mailing date will be Monday, September 26. We want to hear from you! Send your articles and photos to: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org).

Breakfast Club at Bob's Café, Rocky Hill  
Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
of each month at 9:00am.

Join us on Wednesday, September 14.

All are welcome.





Country Fair - October 22

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Rocky Hill Congregational Church

805 Old Main Street

"Once Again" Quilt Raffle

Quilt Raffle Drawing held at Roast Beef Dinner

*Entertainment by singer/songwriter Liz Reed*

White Elephant

Jewelry Shop

Farmers Market

Tea Room (opens at 11:00 am)

Snack Shack

Holiday House

Candy Shop

Sew Country

Kid's Corner

Bake Shop

Antiques & Collectables

Silent Auction (closes at 2:00 pm)

## **Roast Beef Dinner & Quilt Raffle Drawing**

Saturday November 5, 2016 at 5:30 pm

Tickets \$12.00 for Adults - \$5.00 for Children age 5yr-12yr. Under 4yr free.

**Reservations are required**

Tickets can be purchased at the Fair

or call the

Church Office at (860) 529-4167



# 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 not kept in inventory will be on September 25. Comprehensive listings of all available retailers 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 "Big Fluffy Dog Rescue" through our scrip program? Your cash/check donations are used to buy gift cards to local groceries (food pantry) or pet stores (BFD). For these donations, we do not retain any profit, so a \$1.00 donation effectively buys about \$1.07 in groceries and other items. You may donate at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

See **Gail Hall** at 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

### September 11

10:00am Worship  
9:30am Childcare  
10:00am Church School  
11:00am Lunch  
4:00pm Tamil School  
6:00pm Middle School Youth

### September 12

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

### September 13

7:00pm Council Mtg  
7:00pm Hearing Voices

### September 14

9:00am Breakfast Club  
6:00pm Kaplan Test Prep  
6:00pm Pilates  
7:30pm Choir

### September 15

#### **Newsletter Deadline**

7:30pm Men's AA

### September 16

7:00pm Harmonic Healing  
Tibetan Bowls

### September 17

10:00am Kaplan Test Prep

### Sunday

Sanctuary  
Room 4  
Rms 24,25,26  
Chapin Hall  
Rms 22,23,25,26,27  
Chapel

### Monday

Chapin Hall  
Sanctuary

### Tuesday

Fiorilli  
Room 22

### Wednesday

Bob's Cafe  
Room 25  
Chapin Hall  
Choir Loft

### Thursday

Chapin Hall

### Friday

Weil Chapel

### Saturday

Rm 25



|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 11 | Katherine Flynn |
| 11 | Amy Wiknik      |
| 12 | James Rolfe     |
| 15 | Gail Walker     |
| 15 | Ilona Laporte   |



The Church Office is open  
Monday – Thursday, 9am – 2pm, and Friday 9am -Noon.

**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: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.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: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling