

STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ (UCC)



Open and Affirming † Intergenerational † A Just Peace Church

“We share in God’s love by growing in faith, courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people.” ~ Our Mission at SCC



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026
SUMMERTIME WORSHIP
PROPER 15, ORDINARY TIME

Please stand as you are able “”.*

*Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.*

Accessibility: See an usher for **large-print** bulletins and **wheelchair** or **accessible seating**.

Devices necessary to access worship fully are welcome.

The restroom in this building is at the front of the church behind the doors to the right of the chancel. A **PRAYGROUND** is also located in the northeast corner of the building and available for children and families.

Our services are recorded on Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube.

GATHERING

Whatever your faith tradition, doubts or questions about God; whatever your color skin, gender identity or expression, wherever you find yourself on life’s journey, you are welcome here. You matter to God, and you matter to us. Welcome!

Prelude – “Variations on Amazing Grace” arr. by George Shearing

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Welcome

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Liturgist

One: In the darkness that was, and the dawning that is,

Many: In the daylight that is to come, we praise God today!

One: We join the angels of heaven and all of creation

Many: In the name of our still speaking God, let us worship!

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Friends, we invite you to rise in body or in spirit and offer one another a sign of God’s peace. May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you!

***Hymn** – “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*Glory to God Hymnal [purple] p. 435
This bulletin a*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy, sometimes the world gets so very loud. Is it too much to want some peace and quiet? We confess we often want to send away the people who cry out to us. Is it fair to send away people who are begging for just crumbs from the table? Even Jesus seemed to tire of the need all around him. We get weary, God. Help us. (*time of silent confession*)

Words of Assurance

One: Beloved, hear this good news. God's spirit revives and renews. In this way, God's children are restored to one another.

Many: Thanks be to God for the holy, restorative ways that draw us all back to the table. Amen.

Children's Moment

Our Family Room is not staffed during summer months. It is open and available to interested families as desired/needed. Children of all ages are, naturally, always welcome to remain in worship.

WORD

God Speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

First Scripture Reading -

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

pew Bibles p. 598

Refrain — “Calm to the Waves”

CALM SEAS

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The lyrics are: "Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, 'Peace, be still.' Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line and repeat sign at the end of the second system.

Second Scripture Reading -

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Matthew 15: 21-28

pew Bibles p. 797

Sermon – “Fighting for Crumbs”

*Hymn – “Help Us Accept Each Other”

New Century Hymnal [black] p. 388

This bulletin p. 7

Tune can be found on page 386 of the New Century Hymnal

RESPONSE

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering

A Time of Offering

As the offering is collected, prayers of either joy or concern may be written on the purple prayer request cards found in the pew rack and placed in the offering plates as they are passed. Offerings may be made electronically through our online 'Give Now' option. Scan the QR code for easy access.



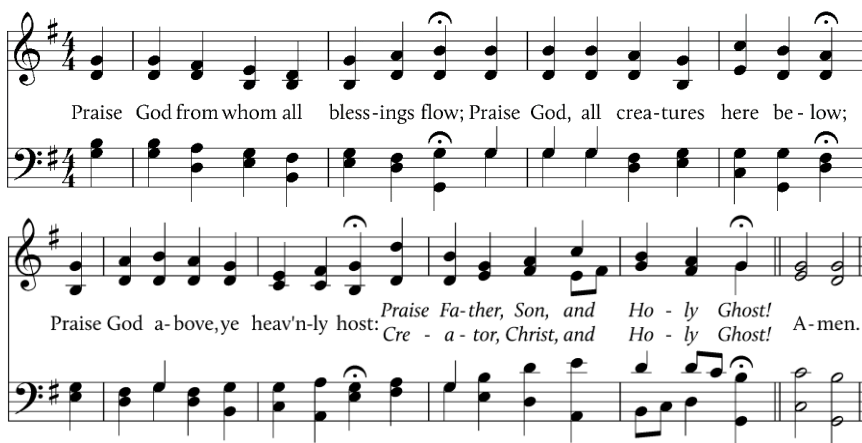
Call to Offering

OFFERTORY – “Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring” by Bach arr. C. Parkening

Ray Joesten, guitar

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: The Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost!

* **Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

Holy One, may these offerings serve as agents of healing in places of brokenness. For need is everywhere in our beautiful and hurting world. Amen.

Prayers of the People, ending with **The Lord's Prayer**

Many: Creator/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 glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

God Blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

News from our Life Together

***Hymn** – “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

New Century *Hymnal* [black] p.547
bulletin insert side b

***Benediction**

Postlude – “Highland Cathedral (excerpt)” by by Korb and Ulrich

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Be Our Guest for Potluck Fellowship!

Come on over to the Parish House Lounge and share a beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! The Parish House is located in the buildings to the west of the Meeting House. Follow the others on over, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you! Remember to wear your Name Tag!

Worship

Every Sunday, 10:00 am, in the Meeting House and on Zoom & YouTube. Expressive, participatory liturgy; thoughtful preaching; and a soul-stirring blend of new and traditional music are some of the elements you can expect to encounter each Sunday.

Thank You Sunday Morning Servers for Assisting in today's service ...

Liturgist: Christopher Dustin; **Greeter:** Ray Joesten; **Ushers:** Rosemary Marcellino, Jane Joesten; **Welcome Table:** Jamie Lang-Rodean; **Fellowship Host:** Duffy & Laurie Brookes; **Tech Team:** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine;

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: **Liturgist:** Wes Lang-Rodean; **Greeter:** Pam Roberts; **Head Usher:** Paul Schur; **Usher:** Sue Schur; **Welcome Table:** Ariana Codr **Fellowship Host:** Betty Hansen;

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday August 16, 2026

10:00-11:00am	Worship
11:00-12pm	Fellowship
11:00-11:30 am	Library Open
7:30-8:30 pm	Speaker Meeting

Comings and Goings

Diane will be away on Thursday, August 20th and taking a quarterly Sunday off on Aug. 23. Paul Schur will be the deacon on call, and Rev. Mike Lake will be our guest preacher and one of our deacons will serve as Worship Leader during the August 23 Sunday service..

News and Notes

The Glory to God hymnals arrived last Friday. A big thank you to Katie, who corralled her boys to help, and to Mike Lake, Christopher Dustin, Jane and Ray Joesten and our ever-helpful Antonio. They made fast work of it on a very hot day! **We're ready to start putting the dedication plates in the books within the week.** 75 of the hymnals will be available in the Chapel or Auditorium. Another 350 (!)

will be distributed throughout the Meeting House.

Thank you to ALL who made this project such a success. Your astonishing generosity made this possible. The additional books for the Chapel were the result of a last-minute publisher's discount. The shipping and 15 extra books for the Meetinghouse are funded by the off-budget Music Program account.

In the midst of all our other busyness I will find a time this Fall to give you a brief introduction to the many resources contained therein. If you have any questions, please email or call me.

My heart is full! - Trisha

Please check your Glory to God Dedications! There is a display in the lounge. You may either use a sticky note to indicate changes or pull the sheet out of the sleeve, mark it up, and put it back. It will be out this Sunday to next Sunday.

If you are unable to come in and check, you can always email the office to double check it or make a change. They will be proofed once more before final printing.

Heads Up to all our Wonderful Bakers!

On August 29th we will Welcome UConn Students New & Returning, on the church lawn from 2-5 pm! **Please mark your calendars to help with the welcome and bake** your delicious favorite cookies or bars! **Deliver them to church on Friday, August 28th or Saturday August 29th by 1:00.**

- A batch of cookies or bars:
- 2-3 cookies/ or bars in each baggie (Label if nuts in cookies)
- Drop off in the lounge or kitchen downstairs.

With appreciation for each of you, Laurie Brookes, Marsha Creese and Eileen Metzgar

The SCC Lunch Bunch will be getting together on **Friday, September 4** at 1:00 pm at Sticks and Stones, 1029 Storrs Road, Storrs. Please RSVP by Thursday, September 3 if you can be there in order to save a seat. Nancy Tomastik, 860-420-9494 or etomastik@earthlink.net

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Help Us Accept Each Other

388

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

John 15:12; 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-6, 11-16

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.

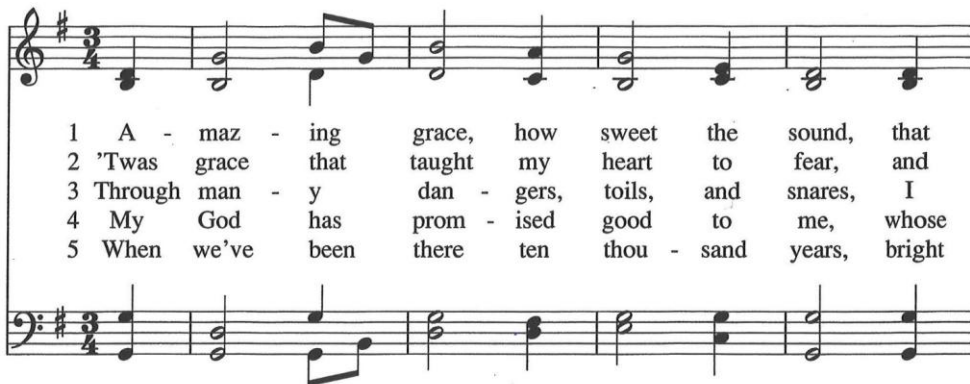
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

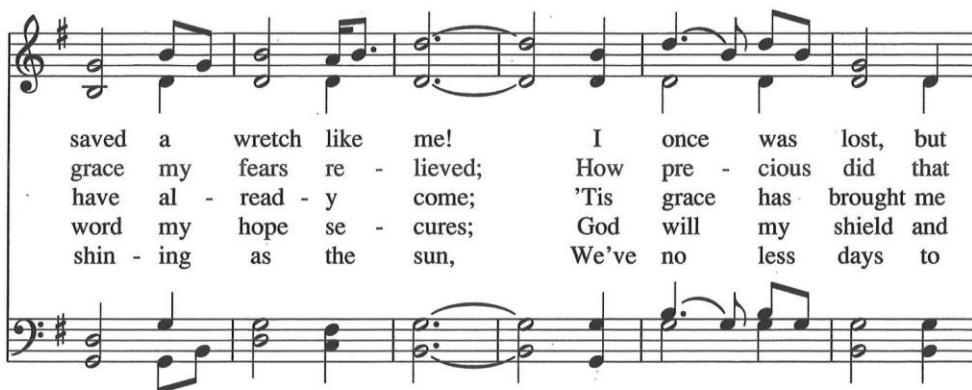
547

St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

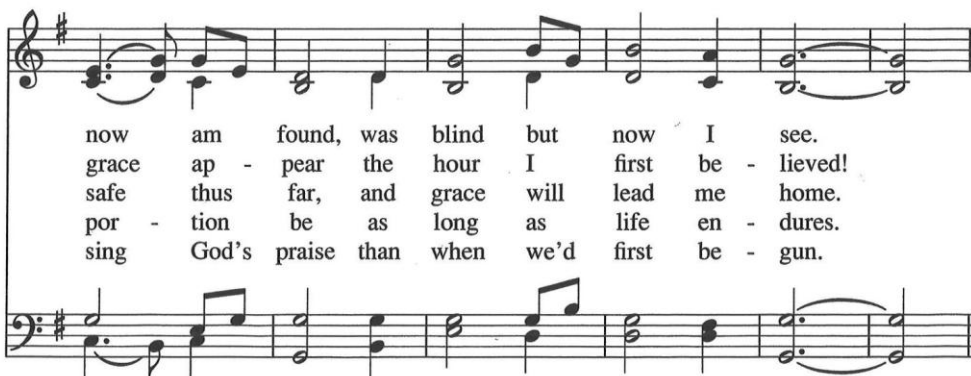
St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Notes and Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements:

- Scripture readings: The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
- Adapted from prayer by Bill & Kristi Gaultiere at: Soul Shepherding. <http://www.soulsshepherding.org/>
- Refrain – “Calm to the Waves”. Refrain from Glory to God Hymnal #184, Text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2002 Music: Thomas Pavlechecko, 2002. Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2002 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.
- Presenting Our Gifts: Doxology: Text by Thomas Ken, 1674, alt. Music attrib. Louis Bourgeois; from Trente quatre psaumes de David, Geneva, 1551.

All Hymns reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under
OneLicense.net #A-719182.
All rights reserved.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT:

WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE GATHER IS THE TERRITORY OF THE MOHEGAN, MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT, EASTERN PEQUOT, SCHAGHTICOKE, GOLDEN HILL PAUGUSSETT, NIPMUC, AND LENAPE PEOPLES, WHO HAVE STEWARDED THIS LAND THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE IN PROTECTING THIS LAND, AND ASPIRE TO UPHOLD OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ACCORDING TO THEIR EXAMPLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION: <https://nacp.uconn.edu/land-acknowledgement/>

We Welcome All!

We extend a welcome as broad as the outstretched arms of God.

Questions about our life together are always welcome. Ask any one of us!

If you are visiting, or looking for a church home, or simply wish to connect after worship, please introduce yourself to our pastor or any member.



We would love to meet you!

More information is also on our website, www.storrscongchurch.org.

STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2 North Eagleville Rd., Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268 | 860.429.9382 | www.storrscongchurch.org

<i>Ministers</i>	All of the Congregation
<i>Senior Minister</i>	Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn – diane@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 23
<i>Director of Music Ministries</i>	Dr. Patricia Snyder – trisha@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 26
<i>Communications & Digital Ministry Specialist</i>	Ellen Bradley – ellen@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 22
<i>Visitation Minister</i>	Pastor Mike Lake – mike@storrscongchurch.org 785-760-4983
<i>Office Administrator</i>	Katie Bienvenue – sccoffice@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 21
<i>Sexton</i>	Antonio Aguilera – antonio@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 21
