

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 Storrs Congregational Church



SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 – “Pastoral Dance on SIMPLE GIFTS” by composer” by Clarke Dr. Patricia Snyder

Welcome Rev. Mike Lake

Call to Worship (*responsive*) Carolyn Holmy

One: All are welcome in this place, made holy by God's presence.

Many: **May our hearts and minds be opened, guiding us into loving relationships with all your children.**

One: We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

Many: **Spark us with your Word of life and belonging, and may we share this good news with other as we seek to live out Christ's love. Amen.**

***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** – “Born of God, Eternal Savior” *New Century Hymnal (black) p. 542*
this bulletin p. 8

Call to Confession Rev. Mike Lake

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of love, you call us to unity, but we confess we isolate ourselves from others. You call us to live as one body, but we turn our backs on one another. We ignore or ridicule those with differing viewpoints. We offend you by failing to love others as we do ourselves. You call us to be One as you are one. Forgive us for the discord and separateness we harbor. Make us One. (*time of silent confession*)

Words of Assurance

One: Beloved, the good news is this: our forgiving God and Creator will not give up on us. God draws near to renew our minds and rekindle Christ's love in our hearts.

Many: **By the power of the Spirit, may we find God's Oneness within. Amen.**

Children's Moment

Rev. Mike Lake

Our Family Room is not staffed during the months of May-August. However, families are always welcome to seek out the Family Room space if a break from worship is desired. Children are always welcome in worship.

WORD

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

Prayer of Illumination

Carolyn Holmy

Scripture Readings

First Reading -

Psalm 68:1-10; 32-35

pew Bibles p. 460

Refrain — "Alleluia"

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Second Reading -

John 17: 1-11

Rev. Elyon Wells

pew Bibles p. 879

Sermon — "We are Called to Live a Life Pleasing to the Father"

Rev. Elyon Wells

*Hymn — "In Christ There Is No East or West"

New Century Hymnal (black) p. 394

this bulletin p. 9

RESPONSE

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

Responding with our Gifts

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

Rev. Mike Lake

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – “Come Away to the Skies” by Alice Parker

Adult Choir

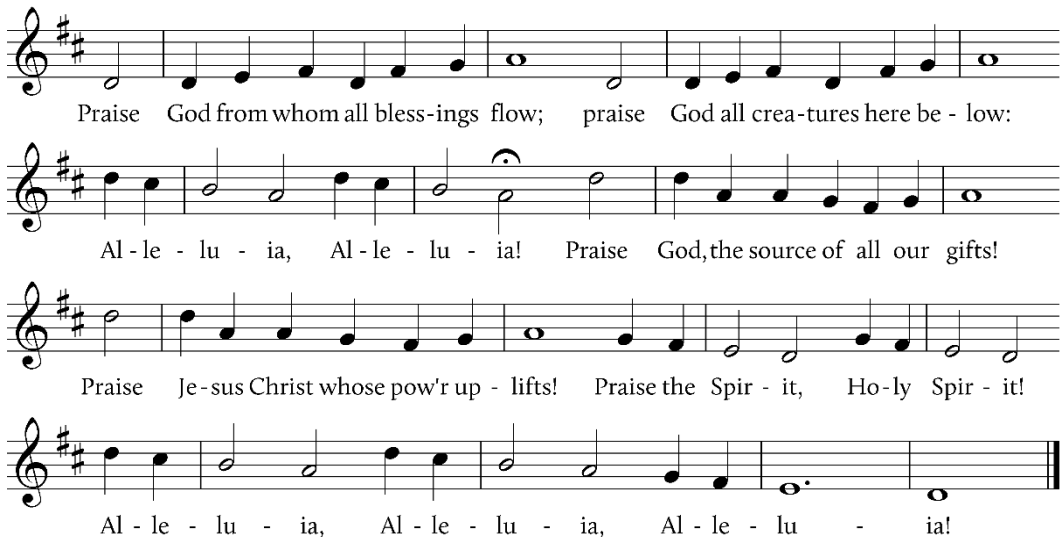
*Come away to the skies, my beloved arise
And rejoice in the day you were born,
On this festival day come exulting away,
And with singing to Zion return.*

*We have laid up our love and our treasures above,
Though our bodies continue below;
The redeemed of the Lord shall remember His word,
And with singing to paradise go.*

*Hallelujah we sing to our Father and King,
And His rapturous praises repeat;
To the Lamb that was slain, Hallelujah again;
Sing all heaven and fall at His feet.*

*PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: *The Festival Doxology*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God all crea-tures here be - low:
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Je - sus Christ whose pow'r up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it!
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

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

Loving God and Source of all our Gifts,

May these offerings help to shine your glory into all the broken, shadowed places.

Beyond all sunshine, beyond all twinkling starry nights, may our brightest Love draw us all toward your light and toward one another. In Jesus name, amen.

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

Rev. Elyon Wells

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** – “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

*New Century Hymnal (black) p. 393
this bulletin p. 10*

***Benediction**

Rev. Elyon Wells

Postlude – Suite Gothique - Menuet“ by Boëllmann

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 ...

Guest Preacher: Rev. Elyon Wells; **Worship Leader:** Mike Lake

Liturgist: Carolyn Holmy; **Greeter:** Rosemary Marcellino; **Ushers:** Paul Schur, Paul Smith; **Welcome Table:** xxx; **Fellowship Host:** Ray & Jane Joesten; **Tech Team:** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine.

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: **Liturgist:** Marsha Creese; **Greeter:** Needed; **Head Usher:** Ray Joesten; **Usher:** Jane Joesten; **Welcome Table:** Heather Elliott-Famularo; **Fellowship Host:** Needed.

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.
- Worship Liturgy: adapted from prayer by Rev. Amy Petré Hill: from worship resources at: <https://www.mhnucc.org/mental-health-sunday/>
- Words of Assurance: adapted from prayer by Christine Sine. Published in 2009 by Mustard Seed Associates.
- Refrain – “Alleluia”: Music by Fintan O’Carroll, 1981; harm Christopher Walker, 1985; ©1985 Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker; admin. OCP. All rights reserved; reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-719182. Reprinted from Glory to God: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs, ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press, #587.

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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/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday May 17, 2026

9:00-10:00am	Adult Choir
10:00-11:00am	Worship
11:00-12pm	Potluck Fellowship
11:00-11:30 am	Library Open
11:30-2:30 pm	B&G Workday
2:30-5 pm	<i>Consonare</i>
5:00-6:30 pm	<i>Journey of Emotions</i> <i>Student Performance</i>
7:30-8:30 pm	<i>Speaker Meeting</i>

Comings and Goings

Pastor Diane will be away at Rudy's graduation on **May 17th**. In her absence, we welcome the return of guest preacher Rev. Elyon Wells from Yale Divinity School.

The office will be closed Monday **May 25th** for Memorial Day.

News and Notes

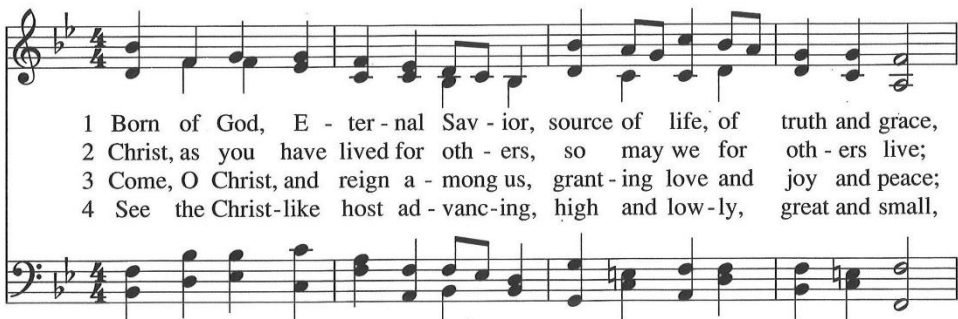
On Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, we will be receiving the **Strengthen the Church Offering**. How can we follow the Spirit to bless emerging ministries in the United Church of Christ? Through the Strengthen

the Church Offering you support the formation of new congregations and the renewal of existing ones, fund new programs for youth and young adults and sponsor leadership development for the whole church. Thank you for your gifts!

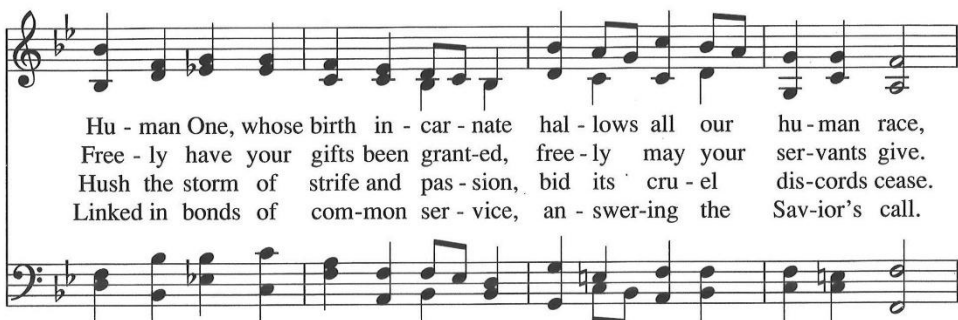
The L. Cameron Johnson Memorial Organ Competition for High School students is coming up **Saturday, May 30 at 11:00 am**. We have three incredibly advanced and talented finalists. The competition usually ends by 12:45 with results announced by 1:30 pm. We host a light luncheon with the AGO while awaiting the adjudicator's results. All are welcome to attend this free event and support these rising young musicians!

SCC Annual Ice Cream Social After Worship on June 7!

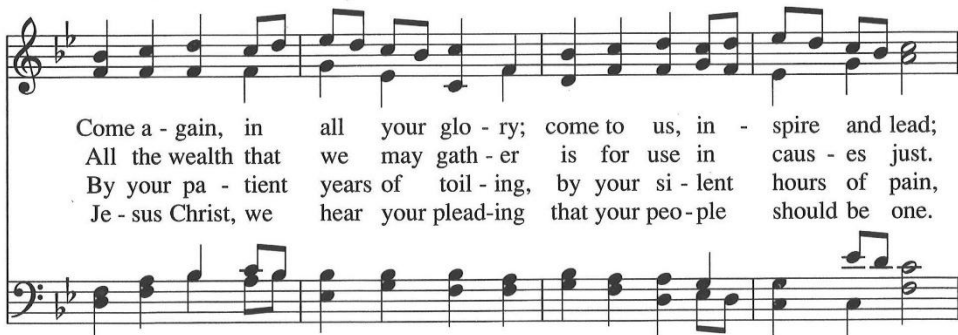
We're scooping up the fun! Stick around after the service on June 7th for our yearly Ice Cream Social. Bring a friend! Hosted by Fellowship Coordinator Rosemary Marcellino and Andy Güt.

*1 Pet. 4:8-11; John 17:11; Matt. 6:10**Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1893; alt.*


1 Born of God, E - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life, of truth and grace,
 2 Christ, as you have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live;
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, grant - ing love and joy and peace;
 4 See the Christ-like host ad - vanc - ing, high and low - ly, great and small,



Hu - man One, whose birth in - car - nate hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed, free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its ' cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Linked in bonds of com - mon ser - vice, an - swer - ing the Sav - ior's call.



Come a - gain, in all your glo - ry; come to us, in - spire and lead;
 All the wealth that we may gath - er is for use in caus - es just.
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 Je - sus Christ, we hear your plead - ing that your peo - ple should be one.



Fill us with your lov - ing-kind-ness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 We are stew - ards of the boun - ty loaned to us in sol - emn trust.
 Quench our fe - vered thirst for plea - sure, shame our self - ish greed for gain.
 Grant, O grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth, your will be done.

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In Christ There Is No East or West

*1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22**John Oxenham, 1908; alt.
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery-where their high com - mu - nion find;
 3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.
 One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. The first system includes a vocal line and a bass line. The second system also includes a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are placed between the vocal lines of each system.

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

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John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God - we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.



L. Cameron Johnson Memorial
Organ Competition

for High School Students

Saturday, May 30, 2026, at 11:00 am

Storrs Congregational Church

on the campus of the University of Connecticut

1st prize: \$1,500 — *offered by Storrs Congregational Church*

2nd prize: \$750 — *offered by the Marjorie Jolidon Grant of the Greater Hartford Chapter, American Guild of Organists*

3rd prize: \$300 — *offered by Friends of the NECT Chapter, American Guild of Organists*

Entries must be submitted by April 10, 2026

containing one composition from each of the following periods:

Baroque, Romantic, and 20th or 21st century

For rules and an application form, please contact:

Angelasalcedo@glastonburyfirst.org

The Meeting House and the Parish House will be used by the participants.

The Meeting House will be unavailable for use from

Wednesday May 27th to Saturday May 30th at 6:30 pm.

The Parish House Auditorium and Lounge will be unavailable from

Thursday May 28th to Saturday May 30th at 6:30 pm

Thank you!

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.storrscongregation.org.



STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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