



STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ (UCC)

**LOVE IS
LOUDER**
Love Your Neighbor **OUT LOUD**

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the UCC: Believing that each of us is unique and blessed with special talents from God, each a creation of God's love, alike and yet different, we open our doors and our ministry to all. We accept into full participation in the life of this Church: people of any age, economic status, gender, marital status, race, sexual orientation, and physical, emotional and mental capability. As a community, we will work to put aside all prejudices and to affirm and promote the worth and dignity of each person. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life and faith, you are welcome here! We envision our community as a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026

PROPER 5

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 – “Morning Has Broken” arr. by Clarke

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Welcome

Rev Diane Peterson Seaborn

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Jamie Lang-Rodean

One: “Hear O my people”, calls God. “I am God, your God.” Are we listening?

Many: **God longs not for burnt offerings from God’s people. Instead, God calls for a sacrifice of thanksgiving.**

One: Giving thanks in all circumstances. Can we practice this starting today-- starting now?

Many: **Thank you, God! Let us worship. 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** – “The God of Abraham Praise”

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 24
this bulletin p. 6*

Call to Confession

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of diversity across skin color and gender expression, across faith and doubt, we thank you for drawing us close, just as we are. We confess that we struggle to offer the same to others. We armor up instead of being vulnerable. We push away all who remind us of our own vulnerability. We would rather make burnt offerings than offer our authentic selves. Will you help us take this risk, God? (*time of silent confession*)

Words of Assurance

One: In this PRIDE month when we celebrate that we are knitted together as One, regardless of faith or skin color or gender identity, regardless of politics or age or class, will we allow ourselves to exhale, Church? Can we breathe with the wisdom that our God will never let us go? Beloved, breathe in and out, knowing that God will continue to teach us to follow God's ways.

Many: Thanks be to God. 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

Jamie Lang-Rodean

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 50:7-15

pew Bibles p. 452

Refrain — "Spirit of the Living God"

IVERSON

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the refrain. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

pew Bibles p. 790

Sermon — "Mercy"

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

*Hymn — "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 553
this bulletin p. 8*

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.



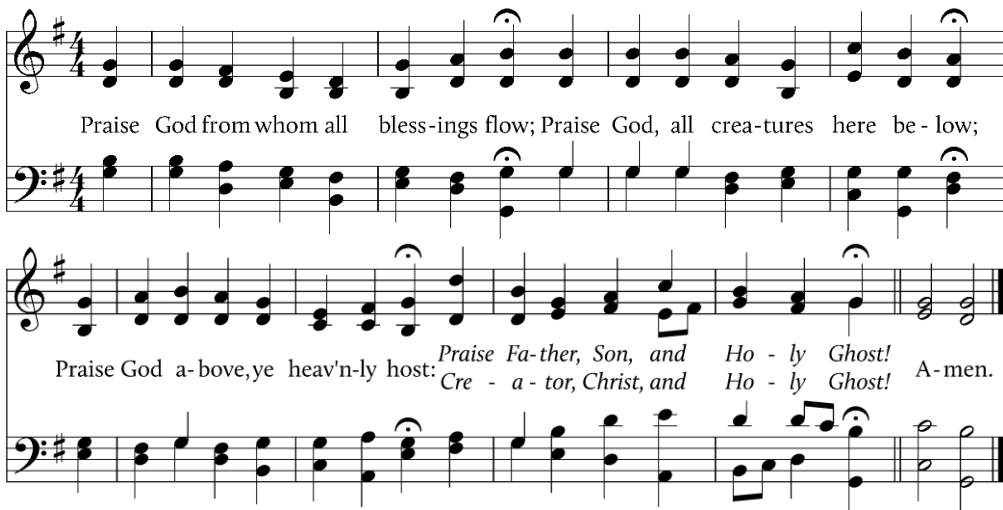
Call to Offering

OFFERTORY – “God’s Goin’ to Set This World on Fire” arr. By Hogan *Sunday Morning Singers*

*God’s goin’ to set this world on fire...
I’m goin’ to sit at the welcome table...
I’m goin’ to eat and never get hungry...
I’m goin’ to drink and never get thirsty...
God’s goin’ to set this world on fire, one of these days.*

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: The Doxology**

OLD HUNDRETH



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!
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Loving God, as we lift these offerings in your name, we pray they may offer a path toward healing in its many forms. May healing be experienced in the form of mercy. May we offer ourselves and all our siblings that same mercy that you model and offer freely to all. In Jesus’ name, amen.

FEAST OF HOLY COMMUNION

The congregation will be invited to come forward to receive bread and cup. If you prefer a blessing, simply cross your arms and Pastor Diane will offer you a blessing. For those unable to come forward, kindly signal our servers and we will be glad to serve you at your pew.

The Invitation

*Hymn – “Come to the Table of Grace”

this bulletin p. 9

Communion Prayer

Sharing the Feast

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Loving God, we give you thanks for this bread of life and this cup of blessing. You have made us one in the Body of Christ, you have nourished us at your table, and so too do you send us out, strengthened to proclaim your good news. May it be so! Resurrected God, lead us on. In Jesus Christ, 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 – “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 42
this bulletin p. 7*

*Benediction

Postlude – “Concerto in G - *Vivace*” by Ernst/Bach

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Be Our Guest for our annual Ice Cream Social!

Come on over to the **Parish House Auditorium** and share a beverage, ice cream, 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!

Yigdal Elohim Chai

(The God of Abraham Praise)

Gen. 12:1; 17:15-16; Exod. 3:14; Isa. 44:6; Rev. 4:8

Moses Maimonides, 12th century

Versification attrib. to Daniel ben Judah, c. 1400

Transl. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1884; alt.

1 Yig - dal e - lo - him chai v' - yish - ta - bach,
 1 The God of A - braham praise, all prais - es to God's name,
 2 God's spir - it free - ly flows, high surg - ing where it will;
 3 God has e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;
 4 The God of Sar - ah praise, all prais - es to God's name,

nim - tza v' - ein eit el m' - tzi - u - to
 who was and is and is to be, for - e'er the same!
 God spoke of old in proph - et's word; that word speaks still.
 God's love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.
 who was and is and is to be, for - e'er the same!

E - chad v' - ein ya - chid k' - yi - chu - do,
 The one e - ter - nal God, be - fore what now ap - pears;
 Es - tab - lished is God's law, and change - less it shall stand,
 All praise the liv - ing God! Ex - tol that hal - lowed name,
 The one e - ter - nal God, be - fore what now ap - pears;

ne - lam v'-gam ein sof I' - ach - du - to.
 the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years!
 deep writ - en on the hu - man heart, in ev - ery land.
 who was, and is, and ev - er shall be still the same!
 the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years!

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
 4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given

The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
 By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

Jer. 8:18–22; 46:11; Acts 10:34–43

African-American spiritual; alt.

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to make the wound-ed whole,

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, and think my work's in vain,
 2 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend,
 3 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,

to Refrain

But then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 who, if you ask for knowl-edge, will nev - er fail to lend.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus, who died to save us all.

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) F (A) C (Bm) Dm (D7/A) F7/C (G) B^b

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) C (D) F (A) C (D) F (Em) Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) F/A (G) B^b (D/A) F/C (A7) C7 (D) F (G) B^b (D) F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

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/>

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: Jamie Lang-Rodean; **Greeters:** Doreen Springsteen-Gibbes, Scott Lamson; **Ushers:** Dana Gregus, Bruce Bergen; **Welcome Table:** Lisa Gregus; **Fellowship Host:** Ice Cream Social; **Tech Team:** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine. **Communion:** Marsha Creese; Sue Irvine

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: **Liturgist:** Carolyn Holmy; **Greeter:** Marsha Creese; **Head Usher:** Paul Schur; **Usher:** Rosemary Marcellino; **Welcome Table:** Sue Schur **Fellowship Host:** NEEDED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday June 7, 2026

9:00-10:00 am	Open Choir Loft
10:00-11:00 am	Worship
11:00-12pm	Ice Cream Social
11:00-11:30 am	Library Open
7:30-8:30 pm	<i>Speaker Meeting</i>

Comings and Goings

Diane will be away June 8 – 10 for a Clergy Retreat. Cass Crewdson will be the deacon on call for emergency coverage (860) 508-4249.

Katie will be attending the Church Secretary's conference on the 15th and 16th, the office will have limited coverage from 9:30 until noontime.

Trisha will be out from June 15th to June 30th.

SCC offices will be closed on 6/19 for Juneteenth.

News and Notes

The Tag Sale Group: who revived the Welcome Weekend Tag Sale last August has met and has voted to "pause" the tag sale this

year. We want to brainstorm and develop a different type of event for the afternoon of **Saturday, August 29th**, which is the height of students returning to campus. We have a new name, the **UConn Welcome Group**. Our focus is to provide a welcoming presence for students on this day. We invite anyone who might be interested in helping us discuss and decide what we might do to attend a meeting, shortly after worship, on **June 14th**. Grab a beverage and a snack and join us in Room 201 for discussion and hopefully some decisions!

Questions? Contact Jamie Lang-Rodean or Lisa Gregus.

Summer Music!! Singers and instrumentalists are warmly welcomed to contribute their talents year-round, but especially during the summer months. Time to dust off that trombone, guitar, or even your hurdy-gurdy if you are moved by the Holy Spirit to share your gift of music with the congregation! Please speak to Trisha with any questions.

SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE!

Time for relaxing,
sleeping in,
summer camps,
day trips, and
vacations.



We would love to
stay connected!

Bring Flat Jesus with
you on your
adventures—to the
park, your camping
trip, and even the pool!
Where will your
summer journey take
you and your Flat
Jesus?

STOP BY OUR TABLE AT THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON JUNE 7TH!

COLOR YOUR FLAT JESUS. POST PICTURES OF YOUR ADVENTURES TO OUR FACEBOOK, EMAIL THEM TO ELLEN, OR PRINT AND POST THEM ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AND MARK THE MAP!

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.
- Response – “Spirit of the Living God”. Refrain from New Century Hymnal #283. Text and Music by Daniel Iverson, 1926.
- Presenting Our Gifts: Doxology: Text by Thomas Ken, 1674, alt. Music attrib. Louis Bourgeois; from Trente quatre psaumes de David, Geneva, 1551.

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OPEN AND AFFIRMING SUNDAY JUNE 14TH



Guest Preacher
Elaine Greer

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