

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, JULY 5, 2026

PROPER 9

Please stand as you are able ^{4*}.

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. Devices necessary to access worship fully are welcome.

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 – Two Early American Hymn Tunes

Dr. Patricia Snyder

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” *RESIGNATION* (1828) arr. by Dale Wood

“Simple Gifts” *SIMPLE GIFTS* (1848) arr. by Dale Wood

Bringing in the Light

Welcome

Rev Diane Peterson Seaborn

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Erin Scholes

One: Calling all citizens of heaven: exiled dreamers and disciples of love.

***Many:* God is close to the outcast and faithful to all.**

One: Calling all travelers between worlds, who translate compassion into peace,

***Many:* God makes neighbors of strangers and kin of the forgotten.**

One: Come to worship and be renewed for this long journey.

***Many:* Strangers in a strange land, we have come to worship the creator of all.**

*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 – “God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command”

this bulletin p. 8

Call to Confession

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Prayer of Confession (*responsive*)

One: Gracious One, where do we begin? You call us to do justice,

***Many:* and we explain that justice is complicated.**

One: You ask us to love mercy,

***Many:* and we counter that a show of strength is necessary.**

One: You ask us to walk humbly with you,

***Many:* and we struggle to recognize you in our neighbors, in the dispossessed, in the poor and hungry places of our own hearts.**

All: We confess we have failed to summon the courage and compassion required by your call. We have treated hospitality as an option, kinship as a choice, instead of as the center of our life together. We have claimed your name, yet rejected your way. Forgive us, we pray. (*time of silent confession*)

Words of Assurance

One: Friends, hear this good news. God's gift is love that liberates, hope that inspires, grace that transforms. Each of us alone and all of us together are forgiven and set free.

Many: Alleluia! 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

ANTHEM – “Chester” by William Billings (1746-1800)

Quartet

Let tyrants shake their iron rod, and Slav'ry clank her galling chains.
We fear them not, we trust in God, New England's God forever reigns.
The foe comes on with haughty stride, Our troops advance with martial noise.
Their vet'rans flee before our Youth, and Gen'ral's yield to beardless Boys.
What grateful Off'ring shall we bring? What shall we render to this Lord?
Loud Hallelujah let us sing, and praise his Name on ev'ry Chord.

From The Singing Master's Assistant, 1778

Prayer of Illumination

Erin Scholes

First Scripture Reading -

Psalm 145:8-14

pew Bibles p. 506

⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. ¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you. ¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, ¹²to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. ¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds. ¹⁴The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

Refrain — “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!

Second Scripture Reading –

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

pew Bibles p. 792

¹⁶“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” ²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Sermon – “All Who are Weary”

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

*Hymn – “O God of Earth and Altar”

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

OFFERTORY – “Lonsdale” by Anonymous

Quartet

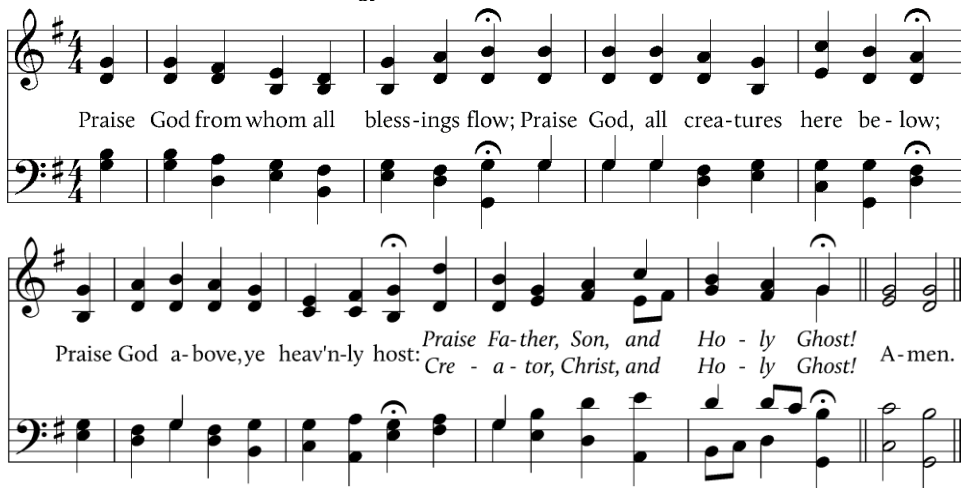
The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets,
Before we reach the heavenly fields or walk the golden streets.
Then let our songs abound, and eve'ry tear be dry.
We're marching to Immanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second (1820)

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: The Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures 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*)

Giver of all gifts, may these offerings bring shape to your gift of love in a hurting world. Even as we give, loving God, may we too be continually refined and reshaped in your image. Thanks be to God. 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 – “I Come with Joy”

this bulletin p. 10

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Feast

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Holy One, we thank you for the gift of your Spirit, welcoming all through the body of Christ and the cup of forgiveness. Let the message of this open table reach all who are burdened, weary, and searching. Here is the feast, here is rest, here is Divine love for us all. We pray all this with grateful hearts, 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 – “This Is My Song”

this bulletin p. 11

*Benediction

Postlude – “The Washington Post” by Sousa

Dr. Patricia Snyder & Christopher Dustin

Be Our Guest for Potluck Fellowship!

Stay in the Auditorium after worship and share a beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! We look forward to seeing you!

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: Erin Scholes; **Greeter:** Donna Latincsics; **Ushers:** Jamie Lang-Rodean, Wes Lang-Rodean; **Welcome Table:** Ariana Codr; **Communion:** Ray & Jane Joesten; **Tech Team:** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine. **Music Quartet:** Cathy Jeffers, Trisha Snyder, Christopher Dustin, Rich Cowles

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: **Liturgist:** Paul Schur; **Greeter:** Sue Schur; **Head Usher:** Dana Gregus; **Usher:** Heather Elliott-Famularo; **Welcome Table:** Lisa Gregus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday July 5, 2026

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

News and Notes

Audio Project: scheduled to begin July 13, 2026. Donations may be made through SCC online giving. Select "MH Audio Initiative" when making your gift. Thank you!



Prayground Expansion: Duffy and Bob B. will be doing the Prayground expansion concurrently with the Audio project.

Our Food Pantry will be open from 11:30 - 12:30 on Sundays beginning on July 12. Monday noon to 2, and Thursday 2:30 - 5 will remain the same. **Volunteers needed Sundays and Thursdays.**

The food pantry is collecting both **new** and **gently used** items to help two

expecting clients prepare (one Summer girl and one Fall boy. **Drop-Off Locations** located in the Narthex, or outside the main office door. Thank you.

CWS has updated their list of items needed for Health Kits. Please stop by the lounge or the Narthex to pick up the new list, and instructions. Please see Laurie Brookes if you have any questions.

We are getting a new website!!! SCC needs high-resolution photos to feature on the website.

How to Share Your Photos:

- Upload Directly: Add your files to our Shared Upload Folder by requesting direct access from Katie.
- Email Us: Send your pictures as attachments directly to Katie sccoffice@storrcongchurch.org or Ellen ellen@storrcongchurch.org.

God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command

592

Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876; alt.

1 God of the a - ges, who with sure com-mand
 2 Your pur - pose, just, en - vi - sions mor-tals free;
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead-ly pes - ti - lence,
 4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on life's toil-some way;

brought forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 God, set our path toward hu - man lib - er - ty.
 with stead - fast care be ev - er our de - fense;
 lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the skies,
 Still be our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and stay—
 Your love and faith with - in our hearts in - crease;
 With truth and love guide us through er - ror's maze,

our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.
 your Word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.
 with boun-teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and we shall give you glo - ry, laud, and praise.

O God of Earth and Altar

436

Gilbert K. Chesterton, 1874-1936

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6.D.
Traditional Welsh Melody

1 O God of earth and al - tar, Bow down and hear our cry;
2 From all that ter - ror teach - es, From lies of tongue and pen,

Our earth - ly rul - ers fal - ter, Our peo - ple drift and die;
From all the eas - y speech - es That com - fort cru - el men,

The walls of gold en - tomb us, The swords of scorn di - vide;
From sale and prof - a - na - tion Of hon - or and the sword,

Take not thy thun - der from us, But take a - way our pride.
From sleep and from dam - na - tion, De - liv - er us, good Lord!

I Come with Joy

Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994

Unison

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 And thus we meet, and bet - ter know the Pres - ence, ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, in friend - ship we will

free, The life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, And join our hearts and sing with joy that
 stay, And go with joy to love the world and

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 Christ is ris - en here, that Christ is ris - en here.
 live the way we pray, and live the way we pray.

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, a song of
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean, and sun - light

peace for lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the
beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine; But oth - er lands have

coun - try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my
sun - light, too, and clo - ver, and skies are ev - ery -

dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are
where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the

beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

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.
- Call to Worship: Acknowledgment: All worship liturgy this morning is adapted from illustratedministry.com
- Refrain – “Come and Fill Our Hearts. Refrain from Glory to God Hymnal #466, Text and Music: Jacques Berthier, 1982. Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé @admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)
- 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.

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.storrscongregation.org.

STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

<i>Ministers</i>	All of the Congregation
<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 Minister</i>	Pastor Mike Lake – mike@storrscongregation.org 785-760-4983
<i>Office Administrator</i>	Katie Bienvenue – scoffice@storrscongregation.org Ext. 21
<i>Sexton</i>	Antonio Aguilera – antonio@storrscongregation.org Ext. 21