



Southport Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

office@southportucc.org

Rev. Paul Whitmore, Senior Minister

Rev. Laura Whitmore, Associate Minister

SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 23, 2022, at ten o'clock

Youth Sunday

PRELUDE

“Star Carol” *arr. Mark Hayes*

“Hallelujah” *Leonard Cohen, arr. Martinez*

Elaine DeGrood, piano

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“The Voice Of God Is Calling”

The voice of God is calling, its summons unto all;

As once he spake in Zion, so now he speaks again:

Whom shall I send to succor, my people in their need?

Whom shall I send to loosen, the bonds of shame and greed?

I hear my people crying, in cot and mine and slum;

No field or mart is silent, no city street is dumb.

I see my people falling, in darkness and despair.

Whom shall I send to shatter, the fetters which they bear?

We heed, O Lord, thy summons, and answer: Here we are!

Send us upon thine errand; let us thy servants be.

Our strength is dust and ashes, our years a passing hour,

But thou canst use our weakness, to magnify thy power.

Leader: Jesus says, “I stand at the door and knock!” Will we open the door and answer the call?

People: We will listen intently to hear Christ’s knock to come into our lives, and then we will fling open the door to welcome Him in.

Leader: Will we open the door to Christ’s love and message of justice for all? Will we take a stand against violence and the killing of children and youth? Will we move our nation toward the challenge of Christ’s peace for all?

People: Our love is stronger than hate, our actions are stronger than violence, our promise to keep our children alive is stronger than our politics. We will work to stand strong to protect all of our children and bring peace to our daily lives.

Leader: Come with open hearts and open minds and seek to serve with love in your hearts. Come with open eyes and open ears to see and hear all that God is showing and calling us to do!

People: We come ready to worship God together.

*THE INVOCATION & LORD’S PRAYER (*Trespases*)

John Kleinbeck

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

POEM

“I Am A Christian” *Maya Angelou*

Kendall Caron-Quinn

OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Torin Schott

ANTHEM

“Over the Rainbow/What a Wonderful World” *Senior High Youth Group
directed by Phillip Bettencourt*

Music by: Harold Arlen

Lyrics by: E.Y. Harburg

Words and Music by: George Davis Weiss and Bob Thiele

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dreams that you dream of, once in a lullaby
Oh, somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly.
And the dreams that you dream of, dreams really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star, wake up where the clouds are far behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops, high above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me,
Oh, somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
And the dreams that you dare to, oh, why, oh, why can't I?
Well, I see trees of green and red roses, too.
I watch them bloom for me and you and I think to myself
What a wonderful world.
Well, I see skies of blue and I see clouds of white
And the brightness of day, and the dark sacred night, and I think to myself
What a wonderful world.
The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky,
Are also on the faces of people passing by,
I see friends shaking hands saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying "I... I love you."
I hear babies cry and I watch them grow.
They'll learn much more than we'll know, and I think to myself
What a wonderful world.
Someday I'll wish upon a star, wake up where the clouds are far behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops, high above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me,
Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dreams that you dare to, oh, why, oh, why can't I?

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Laura Whitmore

*HYMN

"Pass It On"

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PASTORAL PRAYER

Jack Waiksnis

CALL TO OFFERING

Asha Joliet

To give towards your **2022 Stewardship Pledge Contribution** or make a plate donation,
please text as follows:

Text: 860-854-1995

\$ *amt* Pledge

\$ *amt* Plate

To give **online**, please visit our website at southportucc.org

To **mail** us your offering or pledge, please send a check to:
Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890

Thank you!

I am unwritten
 Can't read my mind
 I'm undefined
 I'm just beginning, the pen's in my hand
 Ending unplanned

Refrain

Staring at the blank page before you
 Open up the dirty window
 Let the sun illuminate the words that you could not find
 Reaching for something in the distance
 So close you can almost taste it, release your inhibitions
 Feel the rain on your skin, no one else can feel it for you
 Only you can let it in, no one else, no one else
 Can speak the words on your lips, drench yourself in words unspoken
 Live your life with arms wide open, today is where your book begins
 The rest is still unwritten

I break tradition, sometimes my tries are outside the lines
 We've been conditioned to not make mistakes, but I can't live that way

*Refrain****DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
 Amen.***

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATIONScarlett Rex*

Receive these gifts, O God, as expressions of our gratitude and loving devotion. May they be used to multiply your love among us and all people. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

*1 Timothy 4:12-16**Emma Ryan*

Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

SERMON

“Lessons Of Faith”

Aidan King, Kieran Heske

*HYMN

“Here I Am Lord”

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, ‘till their hearts be satisfied.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Edelweiss”

Choirs and Congregation

***Come, O Lord, be with us; fill us with joy and thanksgiving.
May our hearts fill with peace, come with your love and surround us.
Friendship and peace, may they bloom and grow; bloom and grow forever.
Bless us now, bless our friends; bless all people forever.***

POSTLUDE

“Festal March” from *Rinaldo*, Handel

Elaine DeGrood, organ

Pass It On

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1. It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,
 2. What a won-drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,
 3. I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi-ness that I've found—

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;
 the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;
 on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:
 that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:
 I'll shout it from the moun - tain top, I want my world to know:

you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.
 you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
 the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

WORDS and MUSIC: Kurt Kaiser, 1969

PASS IT ON
Irr.

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OUR ADULT EDUCATION SERIES CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT ON ZOOM Join Julie Center for an introductory look at how people all over the world have tried to answer the questions: **“How did I get here?”**, **“What is my purpose in the world?”** and **“What is the meaning of life?”** Past discussions covered Hinduism and Buddhism. This Wednesday (January 26) we will discuss how Islam answers these questions for their believers. The class will be from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Zoom links will be sent before each class.

THE 2022 STEWARDSHIP GIVING CAMPAIGN IS IN PROCESS. Currently, we have **\$608,000 in pledges toward our 2022 needs of \$750,000.** If you have made your 2022 pledge - thank you! If not, please make it today! You can do so in 3 ways:

- **ONLINE.** Scan the **QR code** (right) with your phone’s camera and a notification will pop up. Tap on the notification and it will bring you to SCC’s Stewardship Giving Form on our website. You can also navigate to the form from our website www.southportucc.org where it is found under the “Giving” tab.
- **Paper Form.** Mail or drop off the paper form included in your 2022 Stewardship Giving Packet.
- **Email.** Send an email to Paul DiPrato at pdiprato@southportucc.org with your pledge information.



THE 179th ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – All church members are encouraged to attend the 179th Annual Meeting to be held in Fellowship Hall on February 27 at 11 a.m. We will review the past year via the yearly reports prepared by the Officers of the Boards and Committees, to elect new Officers, transact business, adopt the annual budget and make plans for the new year. **Submissions for the Annual Report by Committee Chairs and Officers need to be given to the Church Office as soon as possible, but no later than February 6, 2022.** Reports should be sent via email to Pam at ppoling@southportucc.org. The 2021 Annual Report will be available for your review a few days before the meeting. Please call the office if you would like a copy.

TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Elinor and Jim Biggs in honor of the terrific youth in our church community. If you would like to donate an arrangement for upcoming Sundays, please contact Pam at ppoling@southportucc.org.

THE CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED THROUGH JANUARY and will reopen on February 1. Donations will still be accepted on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR is lovingly hosted today by the Board of Christian Education in celebration of Youth Sunday. All are welcome to join immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall.

USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY are Deacons Jeff Provost and Andrew Malkin, **USHERS ARE NEEDED** every Sunday - please contact Pam at ppoling@southportucc.org if you would like to volunteer!

THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM Director, Parker Whitmore.

CHURCH SCHOOL will meet today in the Chapel with Sydney King for a new lesson on "The Fruits Of The Spirit" - this week we will focus on love. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 with Alina Bogatikova and Kaela Cohen.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK Immediately following Coffee Hour, Christmas decorations in the offices, Fellowship Hall, the Library and Chapel will be taken down for storage. If you can assist, please see Pam to assist - thank you in advance!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP will not meet tonight but will meet next week at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room, with Julie Center. **MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** will meet this Tuesday, January 25, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. in the Youth Room.

CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK:

- ***SENIOR CHOIR** rehearses in Sanctuary, Sundays, 9:00 a.m., and in Music Room, 11:15 a.m.
- ***THE HANDBELL CHOIR** rehearses on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room.
- ***THE CHERUB CHOIR** rehearses on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.
- ***THE JUNIOR & TEEN CHOIRS** rehearse on Sundays at 9 a.m. in Room 6.