

# *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*

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## **SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

March 20, 2022, at ten o'clock

### **PRELUDE**

*“Arietta” Marcello*

*Elaine DeGrood, organ*

*“O Savior Blest” from St. Matthew’s Passion, J.S. Bach*

### **\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN “I Sing A Song Of The Saints Of God”**

*(see page 4)*

### **\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Jeffrey Earls, Deacon*

**Leader:** We gather together to draw God near – to our souls, and to the souls, hearts and minds of people everywhere.

**People:** **We gather together to value the many ways we can contribute to healing and caring for the world around us.**

**Leader:** *We gather this day to respond to God’s calling;*

**People:** **To open our ears to hear, and our hearts to welcome God’s intention.**

**Leader:** Immersed in this community of faith, may we worship in God’s presence, made manifest through our love, and through the love of our neighbors, families and friends everywhere.

**People:** **In thankfulness and joy, let us commit all that God has given to us for the celebration of life, and for the care of all God’s people.**

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

\*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.*

OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY *Rev. Laura Whitmore*  
*(Please sign and pass the Friendship Register Pads, found at the ends of the pews.  
If you are a visitor, please give us your address.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**Words of Welcome**

*(see page 7)*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN

***"Called As Partners In Christ's Service"*** *(vv. 1-3)*

*(see page 5)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Rev. Paul Whitmore*

ANTHEM

**"Give Me Jesus"** *arr. Eithun*

*Handbell Choir*

CALL TO OFFERING

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 by **Venmo**, use @southport\_congregational

To give **online**, please visit our website at [southportucc.org](https://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!*

Sing out with joy, sing the good news today. The love of the Lord is given to all.  
Sing out with joy, sing the good news today. In His love we follow His call.

Praise Him, give praise joyfully. Praise Him, give praise joyfully.  
Shout to the Lord, shout the good news today. All His deeds we loudly proclaim.

Go forth in peace, rejoice and be glad, and show the good news in all that you do.  
Go forth in peace, rejoice and be glad. Show His joy in each day through.

Go forth and proclaim the beauty of the earth, all His works declare with a song.  
Shout with joy, sing to God all day long with a song!

Sing out with joy, sing the good news today. The love of the Lord is given to all.  
Sing out with joy, sing the good news today. In His love we follow His call.

Praise Him, give praise joyfully! Praise Him, give praise joyfully! Go forth, praise Him!  
All His deeds we loudly proclaim.

Go forth in peace, rejoice and be glad, and show the good news in all you do.  
Go forth in peace, rejoice and be glad. Show His joy in each day through.

Go forth, praise Him! Go forth and sing a song! Go forth, praise Him!  
Sing out with joy! Shout to the Lord! Sing and shout the good news today!

## \*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 DEDICATION

***God of peace and justice, accept these gifts that we give in love, for as we grow  
in faith, we also grow in our ability to share what we have received. May you  
transform and guide us so that we may use all that we are and that we have for  
your purpose in the common good of our kingdom here on earth. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE

*Mark 4:35-41*

## SERMON

**“Storm Stories”***Rev. Ned Parker*

## HYMN

***“It Is Well With My Soul”****(see page 6)*

## \*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Go My Children”

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me,  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you;  
Go my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

POSTLUDE

“Allegro” from Sonata IV, Mendelsohn Elaine DeGrood, piano

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I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Lesbia Scott, 1898- , alt.

GRAND ISLE Irregular  
John H. Hopkins, 1861-1945



1 I sing a song of the saints of God Pa-tient and brave and true,  
2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, And his love made them strong;  
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, There are hun-dreds of thou-sands still;



Who toiled and fought and lived and died For the Lord they loved and  
And they fol-lowed the right, for Je - sus' sake, The whole of their good lives  
The world is bright with the joy-ous saints Who love to do Je - sus'



knew. And one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, And  
long. And one was a sol - dier, and one was a priest, And  
will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, In



one was a shep-herd-ess on the green: They were all of them  
one was slain by a fierce wild beast: And there's not an - y  
church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; For the saints of



saints of God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.  
rea - son, no, not the least, Why I shouldn't be one too.  
God are just folk like me, And I mean to be one too.

# 453 Called as Partners in Christ's Service



1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is - tries of grace,
2. Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in- spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4. So God grant us for to -mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-ers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.  
blend-ing hu-man skills to - geth - er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.  
bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv - ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

## It Is Well with My Soul

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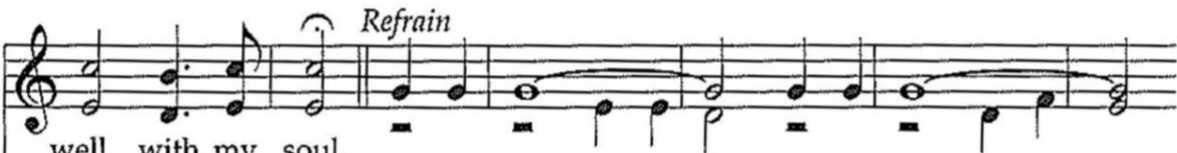
1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way,  
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,  
 3. May God haste the day when my faith shall be sight,



when sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my  
 let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re -  
 the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re -



lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is  
 gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own  
 sound, and the Lord shall de - scend, e - ven so, it is



well with my soul.  
 blood for my soul. It is well with my soul,  
 well with my soul. It is well with my soul, with my soul,



it is well, it is well with my soul.

**WORDS OF WELCOME**  
**THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Congregation: We believe God calls us to recognize the Spirit of the living Christ as the most real and important thing in the universe. Will you join us in our striving to grow in this faith?

*New Members: We will try to trust and celebrate God's love with you.*

Congregation: We believe we are called to a daily commitment of letting God's spirit remold our lives from within. Will you join us in our struggle to become more Christ-like in all areas of our lives?

*New Members: We will try with you to be open to the transforming spirit of God.*

Congregation: We believe we are called to be one family, bound together by love and, therefore, by practicing forgiveness and mercy, to seek in every way to make that love believable for each other. Will you join us in seeking to fulfill this mutual ministry?

*New Members: We will try to build a community of love with you.*

Congregation: Whether together or apart, we believe God calls us to embrace all people as brothers and sisters of the body of Christ and to embody God's love for them. Will you join us in our striving to carry out this mission?

*New Members: We will try with you to be Christ's body in the Southport Congregational Church.*

**SOUTHPORT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF MISSION AND PURPOSE**

The Southport Congregational Church is a warm and welcoming community of faith, united in ministry and mission for the purpose of enriching life.

We understand our purpose through the life of Jesus Christ, who set forth as our highest priority to love: to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. With this spirit of abundant life and joy, we strive to value and serve each person as an individual created in God's image.

## Please Welcome Our New Members

### **Roger and Rosemary Crossland**

220 Colonial Drive Fairfield, CT 06824 (203) 259-3569

Roger and Rosemary have lived in Fairfield since 1977 and proudly raised two children to adulthood, Bret and Amy. They now enjoy grandparenthood with equal zeal. Roger is a retired naval officer, a retired attorney, and a still active historical novelist. Rosemary is a retired primary school teacher. Rosemary is originally from Ontario, Canada, and Roger is originally from East Norwalk, CT. They enjoy cruising (recreational and commercial), traveling, and outdoor activities especially, if they are near water (they rake clams at Sasco Beach). They are happy to have discovered the SCC church family and are looking forward to participating in its many spiritually uplifting activities.

### **Tony Fera**

180 Southport Woods Drive Southport, CT 06890 (860) 759-3961

Tony was born and raised in Chicago, IL. After High School, Tony joined the U.S. Naval Submarine Force, and spent the next ten years proudly serving his country. After leaving the service, he completed a degree in Mechanical Engineering, and has worked in several Manufacturing Operations roles in the Aerospace industry and Commercial Manufacturing industry. Tony has three children, Ashleigh 29, Samantha 25, and Jack, 19. He also has a beautiful granddaughter, Amelia, 11 months. Tony will be married to his fiancée, Elizabeth Parady at Southport Congregational later this year.

### **Carol Ketcham**

Middlebrook Farms, Apt 227

2750 Reservoir Avenue Trumbull, CT 06611 860-690-7281

Carol and her late husband, Don, met in high school on Long Island, and were married during their college years. Don went to seminary and Carol went to work --- first in advertising and then in publishing, in New York and Boston. Carol loved her working years and loved her family life even more. They had four children, and all enjoyed the many years that Don served as a pastor here in New England. After spending many years in Avon, Carol is enjoying her new experience at Middlebrook Farms in Trumbull.



**Colby and Brandon Pacilio**

9 Old Stone Road Darien, CT 06820  
Colby (917) 703-1472 Brandon (203) 246-5592

Colby and Brandon were recently married at SCC in October and have loved being a part of the community. They enjoy spending time in Vermont and try to be outside as much as possible. They recently moved to Darien and are excited to continue their spiritual journey at SCC.

**David and Janet Reed**

195 Flintlock Road Southport, CT (203) 966-3986  
Janet (203) 273-3591 David (203) 273-2224

Janet and David moved to Southport recently after 27 years in New Canaan. David is a long time Stamford Hospital physician and surgeon. Janet is the nursing supervisor for the New Canaan Public Schools. David grew up in Southport and he is happy to return to his roots, and both David and Janet are happy to be near their grandchildren. They look forward to being a part of the Southport Congregational Church community.

**Craig Skinner**

569 Courtland Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06605 203-913-6262

Craig grew up in Westport, graduated Staples High School in 1981, attended Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California as a photography major, and then spent over a decade there working as a photographer. While away, his parents John and Jeri Skinner joined SCC, where they were members for over 20 years, until their recent passing. Craig moved back to Connecticut in 1998, continuing his work as a photojournalist, soon met and married his wonderful wife Elizabeth (and her son Howard), where they lived in Black Rock together for 23 years. In late May of last year, however, his wife lost her battle with a crippling disease. After losing her, and after battling his own personal issues, Craig reconnected with God, and began attending SCC on a regular basis since mid-July of last year.

**Wendy Stewart Stone**

256 Mill Road New Canaan, CT 06849 203-966-9072

Wendy was born in Plymouth, England and lived in the United States from 1941-44. She emigrated back to the US in 1961. She married her American husband, Radford, in 1962, and lived in New York City from then until 1974, when she moved to New Canaan. Wendy was introduced to SCC by her former next-door neighbor in Silvermine, Ann Shaw. Her son, Ian, and his family live in Colorado and her daughter, Charlotte, lives with her family in Fairfield.

***JOIN US IN WELCOMING THE REV. DR. NED PARKER, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ANDOVER NEWTON SEMINARY AT YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL, TO THE PULPIT TODAY.*** Ned has been committed to nurturing the intersection of faith and higher education for many years. He was a residence director and multi-faith chaplain at Hampshire College and the University of Massachusetts. He also worked in student life at Andover Newton and was serving as the Associate Director of Recruiting, Student Services, and Retention at the time of his departure for Seattle in 2010. In this role, he performed outreach with churches and prospective students, while simultaneously developing space for community interaction around various issues.

***COMMUNITY INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE FOR UKRAINE*** Rev. Paul Whitmore will join other Fairfield Clergy on **Monday, March 28, at 5 p.m.** on the front lawn of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 661 Old Post Road. All are invited to attend.

***MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER AND SERVICE OF TENEBRAE, APRIL 14, AT 7 P.M.*** We are happy to announce that we will be together once again for this special dinner and service in Fellowship Hall! After careful consideration, for everyone's comfort, the Board of Deacons decided to limit the seating to 94, reduced from our usual number of 146. Reservations will be accepted for church members first. If space allows, we will accommodate guests. If you would like to make a reservation, please use the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org). *Recommended for children 10 or older.*

***LET'S GET BACK TOGETHER!*** The Fellowship Committee invites you to attend two very fun events. We would love to see you at each one:

**April 29: Pickleball Social Event**

Adults can sign-up to play on the Whitmore's Pickleball Court or choose to hang out with friends, drinking a cool beverage, while watching the fun! Food will be available through Food Trucks and beverages will be provided. RSVP to Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) by April 17. The rain date is May 6.

**May 21: The Progressive Dinner Returns!**

This very popular event will return, and we hope you will be there! We will begin with cocktails at the home of one of our members, then break into smaller groups for dinner at assorted homes, and then gather back together for dessert at the Parsonage. RSVP to Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) by May 2.

**TODAY'S SPECIAL YELLOW ENVELOPE COLLECTION** will be our second for the people of Ukraine. Together these funds will be used to purchase medical supplies and nonperishable food, which will be delivered to Ukraine by St. Michael the Archangel Polish Church in Bridgeport.

**CAROUSEL DONATIONS ARE NEEDED** Our beloved Carousel Thrift Shop is short on inventory because the goods have been flying out the door! As a result, decorative items, small furniture and artwork are needed. The Shop has new donation hours: Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:30 a.m. until noon. If these times are not suitable, please contact Store Manager Susan Kunkel at [carousel@southportucc.org](mailto:carousel@southportucc.org) for an appointment.

**ST. GEORGE'S COMMUNITY SUPPER VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** On the third Monday of every month, SCC volunteers provide a bagged dinner meal for a community supper hosted by St. George's Episcopal Church in Bridgeport. Our volunteers prepare the meals in advance and deliver to St. George's in the afternoon. SCC provides condiments, cutlery, napkins, juices, snacks, desserts and bags. We need volunteers to provide the sandwiches and fresh fruit. Your meal prep expenses will be reimbursed. If you would like to volunteer for this needed program, please contact our SCC coordinator Hedy Mosier [himosey@yahoo.com](mailto:himosey@yahoo.com) for more information.

**HELP US DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR EASTER!** Help continue our tradition of filling our Sanctuary with lilies and flowers for Easter! You may purchase a plant in **Honor of** or **In Memory of** your loved ones (this information will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin). Each plant is \$15 and you can pick up your plant(s) after Easter Service should you want to enjoy their beauty at home. We have several easy ways to pay.

1. **Text:** 860-854-1995, \$ amt Lily, an example for buying two lilies: \$30 Lily  
Follow-up with Pam by email [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) or phone (203) 255-1594 to provide 'in memory of' or 'in honor of' details.
2. **Venmo** @southport\_congregational with the amount and "in memory of" or "in honor of" details
3. **Online** by clicking the 'Give' button on [southportucc.org](http://southportucc.org) and select "Give to Lily" as the fund, using the down arrow in the input box. Provide 'in memory of' or "in honor of" details in the comment box located below your credit card information
4. **By Check** simply stop by or mail a check with the form found in your March Newsletter. Forms are available outside the office. Mail to:  
Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890

**CHURCH SCHOOL** will meet today in the Chapel. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 this morning with Ellie Nickell and Alina Bogatikova.

**CHURCH SCHOOL MINI GARDENS SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 4:30 P.M** Our High School Youth Group invites children of SCC to plant and take home a mini flower or herb garden to celebrate Earth Month! Mark it on your calendar - more details to follow!

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** meets this Tuesday, March 22, at 5:30 p.m., in the Youth Room, with dinner gratefully provided by Jonathan Stekloff and family.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** is hosted today in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship by The Board of Deacons in honor of our New Members. **Volunteers are needed to provide refreshments for future Sundays.** If you would like to volunteer, the Fellowship Committee would be more than happy to lend a hand. Please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) to sign up or to answer any questions - thank you!

**USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY** are Deacon Ann Lillis and Ushers Robin Marshlow and Hedy Mosier under the direction of Deacon Jeffrey Earls. **USHERS ARE NEEDED** every Sunday - please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) if you would like to volunteer!

**WE THANK OUR SENIOR CHOIR SOLOISTS, THE SENIOR CHOIR and THE HANDBELL CHOIR** for today's beautiful music.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** were given by the Congregation in honor of our New Members. If you would like to donate an arrangement for upcoming Sundays, please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org).

**THE MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP** meets every Thursday at 7 a.m. in the Youth Room, led by Rev. Paul Whitmore. All men are welcome to come and grow in faith and fellowship. Email Paul at [pwhitmore@southportucc.org](mailto:pwhitmore@southportucc.org) to be put on the list to receive the email blast about the weekly topic.

**THE WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP** meets every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Room, led by Rev. Laura Whitmore. Join Laura to discuss current events, spirituality, and new psychological ideas and much more. The curriculum runs parallel to the Men's Group, allowing for conversation during the week. Contact Laura at [lwhitmore@southportucc.org](mailto:lwhitmore@southportucc.org) to be put on the list.

**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 a.m. in the Chapel.
- \***THE JUNIOR & TEEN CHOIRS** rehearse on Sundays at 9 a.m. in Room 6.