



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

Julie Center, Student Minister

SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY

September 12, 2021, at ten o'clock

PRELUDE

“A Day of Peace” *C. Herbert & H. Parry*

“Trumpet Call and Interlude” *Purcell*

Steve Perrett, Trumpet

Gretchen Perrett, Trumpet

Anthony De Quattro, Tympany

Elaine DeGrood, Organ

***HYMN**

“Now in the Days of Youth” *(vv. 1-3)*

**Now in the days of youth, When life flows fresh and free,
Thou Lord of all our hearts and lives, We give ourselves to Thee;
Our fervent gift receive, And fit us to fulfill,
Through all our days, in all our ways, Our Heavenly Father's will.**

**Teach us where'er we live, To act as in Thy sight,
And do what Thou wouldst have us do, With radiant delight!
Not choosing what is great, Nor spurning what is small,
But take as from Thy hands our tasks, And glorify them all.**

**Teach us to love the true, The beautiful and pure,
And let us not for one short hour, An evil thought endure;
But give us grace to stand, Decided brave, and strong,
The lovers of all holy things, The foes of all things wrong.**

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Laura Whitmore

Leader: A new day has dawned! A new church year begins! And a new life is given – filled with God’s hope, life, and fresh possibilities!

People: God gives us this day and our life, so we may thrive as a community of faith and love; helping, healing, forgiving, building and celebrating the goodness of life and God’s gifts in this world.

Leader: Let us celebrate this day in worship as we gather in the spirit of reverence, community and joy!

People: For God’s spirit surrounds us, empowers us, encourages us and refreshes us to work and live together according to God’s purpose.

Leader: We call on God this morning to renew and strengthen our spirits, so we may live in such a way to celebrate God’s spirit,

People: And so we may say “Yes” to God – today and forevermore!

***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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Rev. Laura Whitmore

*HYMN

“Let Peace Begin With Me”

**Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.**

**With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:**

**To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

Julie Center, Student Minister

CALL TO OFFERING

To give towards your **2021 Stewardship Pledge Contribution** or make a plate donation, please text as follows:

Text: 860-854-1995

\$ ___ Pledge

\$ ___ 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!

OFFERTORY

“Let Heavenly Music Fill This Place” *Gordon Young*
Senior Choir & Anthony De Quattro, Tympany

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, You fill us with Your love when we feel most alone; You encourage us when we falter; You guide us when we are lost; and You bless us when life seems meager. May You bless us now as we offer ourselves and our gifts, so that others may also know the fullness of your grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE *(see last page)*

SERMON **“REUNITED – AND IT FEELS SO GOOD!”** *Rev. Paul Whitmore*

* HYMN **“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”** *(vv. 1-3)*

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All Thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest.
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Edelweiss”

Senior Choir & 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 friend; bless all people forever.

POSTLUDE

“Rondeau” *Jean Josphe Mouret*

*Steve Perrett, Trumpet
Gretchen Perret, Trumpet
Anthony De Quattro, Tympany*

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***PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR WELCOME BACK BBO*** immediately following today’s worship service. Let’s rejoice in gathering and celebrate the beginning of another great year at SCC!

***THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD MANDATES THAT MASKS*** be worn in all public indoor spaces. Thank you for honoring this and helping to keep our community safe.

***ROOMS WITH A VIEW IS BACK FOR 2021!*** We are delighted to announce that we will be holding our annual fundraiser this year. *Save the date!* **The Opening Party is November 4, and show dates are from November 5 through 7.** Please contact Chris Philip at [cwmphilip@gmail.com](mailto:cwmphilip@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering. He is looking for an Administrative Assistant, Auction Manager, and Volunteer Manager in addition to people to help with graphic design, digital design, advertising, PR and administrative duties.

***HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP BEGINS TONIGHT*** for all High School Students. Meet Laura and Julie in The Barn from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

***MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP*** begins this coming Tuesday, September 14 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Led by student minister, Julie Center, we are excited for another great year with MSYG!

***CONFIRMATION CLASS PIZZA PARTY SOCIAL EVENT - Wednesday, September 15 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. for all 9th Graders*** who will be participating in the 2021-2022 confirmation programs!

***CHILDREN’S CHOIRS (Cherub, Junior and Teens) begin NEXT WEEK!*** Cherub and Junior Choirs will rehearse on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel. The Teen Choir will rehearse at 11:30 a.m.

***THE “MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP,”*** will begin their new season this Thursday, September 16, and will meet every Thursday from then on at 7:00 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,”*** will begin this Thursday, September 16, and will meet every Thursday from then on 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.

***CONFIRMATION PARENT’S MEETING*** will take place on September 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Library.

***ALI KRALOVEC-KIRCHHERR’S ORDINATION*** will take place here at SCC on September 18 at 10:00 a.m. A reception will follow immediately after worship. We look forward to having you join us in celebrating Ali’s next step in her ministry journey!

***THE CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP*** is looking to receive donations of the following items: Clothing & accessories (especially brand name women’s items), handbags and totes (especially brand name handbags and totes), shoes in wearable condition, jewelry, quality home decor items, small working appliances, clean Linens and stationery items (unused stationery and cards with envelopes, desk items and new pencils and pens).

***USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY*** are Deacons Tamberlyn Chapman, Sadhana Joliet, Joe Pezzimenti and Andrew Malkin. We thank Rev. Laura Whitmore and our student minister, Julie Center, for assisting with today’s service!

***WE THANK OUR TALENTED MUSICIANS,*** Steve Perret, Gretchen Perret, Anthony De Quattro, the Senior Choir, and Elaine DeGrood for providing us with beautiful music during today’s service.

***THIS WEEK’S LIVESTREAM LEAD*** – Thank you to Parker Whitmore for his help with the live streaming of today’s service!

***THIS WEEK’S ALTAR FLOWERS*** are given by the Carol Lasseter and Neil Rice in honor of our student minister, who so lovingly took the helm of our SCC ship of souls and was available to us 24-7 during Paul and Laura's vacation, heartfelt thanks, Julie. In celebration for Paul and Laura's return as our spiritual and fearless leaders, our hearts are filled with overwhelming gratitude for their collective energy, passion and love for us. What a privilege to be a part of SCC’s extended family!

***MISSIONS CELEBRATION SUNDAY*** will occur on Sunday, September 26. Join us for a special Fellowship Hour following worship where you may meet and speak with representatives from some of our amazing mission partner agencies.

# Southport Congregational Church

P.O. Box 366, 524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

Tel. (203) 255-1594, Fax (203) 255-4706

web site: [www.southportucc.org](http://www.southportucc.org), email: [office@southportucc.org](mailto:office@southportucc.org)

**Senior Minister - Paul D. Whitmore**

**Associate Minister - Rev. Laura H. Whitmore**

## CHURCH STAFF:

Student Minister – Julie Center

Director of Administration – Paul DiPrato · Communications Manager – Jackson Siegel

Church Secretary - Pam Poling · Bookkeeper - Maria Bogatikova

Investment Manager - Nancy Long · Facilities & Grounds Manager – Tim O’Neill

Director of Music - Elaine DeGroot

Youth Choir Director - Phillip Bettencourt · Assistant Youth Choir Director - Marnie Kruse

Soloists - Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, Leslie Uhl

### CHURCH COUNCIL

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Ryan McClay ◊       | Moderator  |
| Cari Pfeiffer       | Clerk      |
| Joyce Hergenhan     | ALM        |
| Patti Spaght        | ALM        |
| Paul Doocy          | ALM        |
| Sydney King         | ALM        |
| Susan Kunkel        | Carousel   |
| Marjory Palmer      | Deacons    |
| Denise Caron-Quinn  | Deacons    |
| Leah Davis          | Deacons    |
| Beth Santa          | Education  |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi    | Education  |
| Sherry Greer        | Missions   |
| Lisa Doocy          | Missions   |
| Tim Stuart          | Trustee    |
| Kristin Hathaway    | Preschool  |
| Greg Berg           | B&G        |
| Irene Santa         | Music      |
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | Fellowship |
| Bridget Schulten    | Ex Officio |

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Paul Doocy ◊       |
| Cindy Jackson      |
| Adrienne MacGuffie |
| Les Miller         |
| Jennifer O’Neill ◊ |
| Dave Stuart        |
| John Traynor       |

### BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Greg Berg ◊     | - 2022 |
| Devin Santa     | - 2022 |
| Mike Tanguay    | - 2022 |
| Stuart Tilghman | - 2022 |
| Ellen Levinson  | - 2023 |
| Erno Bacso      | - 2024 |
| Ron Manning     | - 2024 |
| Jim Vadas       | - 2024 |

### BED FUND COMMITTEE

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Oladele Ogunsuyi | Deacons  |
| Bridget Schulten | Chairman |
| Sherry Greer     | Missions |

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Kristin Hathaway         | - 2022 |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi         | - 2022 |
| Jo Anne Parady           | - 2022 |
| Beth Santa ◊             | - 2022 |
| Leslie Uhl               | - 2022 |
| Christina Whittaker Haas | - 2023 |
| Katie Keiser             | - 2023 |
| Erik Mayville            | - 2023 |
| Ellery Malkin            | - 2024 |
| Laura McClay             | - 2024 |
| Cari Pfeiffer            | - 2024 |
| Kassandra Savicki        | - 2024 |

### PRESCHOOL BOARD

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Laura Amicucci     | Director      |
| Paul DiPrato       | Treasurer     |
| Elinor Biggs       | - 2022        |
| Rebecca Mallay     | - 2022        |
| Sharon Keiser      | - 2023        |
| Jess Miller ◊      | - 2023        |
| Leslie Uhl         | - 2023        |
| Barbara Evans      | - 2024        |
| Amy Sperrazza      | - 2024        |
| Kristin Hathaway   | BOCE Rep.     |
| Allie Sherman      | Parent Rep.   |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees Rep. |

### MISSION OUTREACH BOARD

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Elinor Biggs       | - 2022 |
| Lisa Doocy         | - 2022 |
| Mary Lou McGuire + | - 2022 |
| Linda Murphy       | - 2022 |
| Andrea Pezzimenti  | - 2022 |
| Sherry Greer ◊     | - 2023 |
| Tyler Hathaway     | - 2023 |
| Kirk Jackson       | - 2023 |
| Bob MacGuffie      | - 2023 |
| Liz Waiksnis       | - 2023 |
| Craig Gillespie    | - 2024 |
| Karen Jones        | - 2024 |
| Hedy Mosier        | - 2024 |
| Traci Provost      | - 2024 |
| Peggy Stuart       | - 2024 |
| Leahkay White      | - 2024 |

### BOARD OF DEACONS

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Denise Caron-Quinn | - 2022 |
| Leah Davis         | - 2022 |
| Katie Traynor      | - 2022 |
| Andrew Malkin      | - 2023 |
| Marjory Palmer ◊   | - 2023 |
| Jeff Provost       | - 2023 |
| Jeffrey Earls      | - 2024 |
| Ann Lillis         | - 2024 |
| Oladele Ogunsuyi   | - 2024 |
| Tamberlyn Chapman  | - 2025 |
| Sadhana Joliet +   | - 2025 |
| Joe Pezzimenti     | - 2025 |

### MUSIC COMMITTEE

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022         |
| Dwight Holmberg | - 2022         |
| Laura Wilbur    | - 2022         |
| Irene Santa     | - 2023         |
| Peary Spaght ◊  | - 2023         |
| Jack Ijams      | - 2024         |
| Ruth Merchant   | - 2024         |
| Ed Sanford      | - 2024         |
| Jeff Provost    | Deacon Liaison |

### FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | - 2022 |
| Ann Lillis          | - 2022 |
| Hedy Mosier         | - 2022 |
| Jean Schluter       | - 2022 |
| Robin Marshlow      | - 2023 |
| Traci Provost       | - 2023 |
| Erika Wright        | - 2023 |
| Amy Cawman          | - 2024 |
| Betsy Gillespie     | - 2024 |
| Katie Traynor       | - 2024 |
| Marney White        | - 2024 |

### CARING TEAM

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Tamberlyn Chapman | Deacons |
|-------------------|---------|

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Jeff Nickell             | - 2022 |
| Tim Stuart ◊             | - 2022 |
| Stephani Whittaker       | - 2022 |
| Jim Biggs                | - 2023 |
| Gary Johnson             | - 2023 |
| Joe Ryan                 | - 2023 |
| Dave Stuart              | - 2023 |
| Katia Mead               | - 2024 |
| Bridget Schulten         | - 2024 |
| Trevor Uhl, Treasurer    | - 2022 |
| Tim O’Neill, B&G Liaison | - 2022 |

### CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022 |
| Gloria Miller   | - 2022 |
| Susan Kunkel ◊  | - 2023 |
| Janet Sherwood  | - 2023 |
| Karen Macdonald | - 2024 |
| Les Miller      | - 2024 |
| Nancy Pandolfi  | - 2024 |

### HISTORIAN

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Sally Ijams | - 2022 |
|-------------|--------|

### LAY DELEGATES

|            |        |
|------------|--------|
| Les Miller | - 2022 |
|------------|--------|

### FLOWER COMMITTEE

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Leah Davis | Deacon Liaison |
| Pam Poling | Staff Liaison  |

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Paul Doocy         | Council   |
| Joyce Hergenhan    | Council   |
| Sydney King        | Council   |
| Patti Spaght ◊     | Council   |
| Jeffrey Earls      | Deacons   |
| Ellery Malkin      | Education |
| Elinor Biggs       | Missions  |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees  |

◊ Denotes Chairperson

+ Denotes Scribe

◦ Denotes Vice Chair

ALM Denotes “At Large Member”

# Messages From Our Scriptures, on Choices, Support, Comfort, Strength, Love, Kindness and Healing

*September 12, 2021*



In me you will have peace.  
In this world you will have trouble.  
But take heart! I have overcome the world. *John 16:33*

Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...  
As for me and my family,  
we will follow the Lord. *Joshua 24:15*

**I will lift you up.** *Psalm 30:1*

**I am with you**  
I will **strengthen you.**  
I will **help you** –  
I will **uphold you.** *Isaiah 41:10*

I will give you **rest for your soul.** *Matthew 11:28*

I will be **with you.**  
I will **never leave you**  
**or forsake you.**  
**Be not afraid;**  
**be not discouraged.** *Deuteronomy 31:8*

**You are the light of the world!** *Matthew 5:14*

**Love one another.** *John 15:12*

**Encourage one another and**  
**build each other up.** *Thessalonians 5:11*



