



# *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*

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## **SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

August 8, 2021, at ten o'clock

PRELUDE

**“Meditation on What a Friend”** *Joseph Miller*

**“Meditation”** *Rocherelle*

*Elaine DeGrood, Piano*

\*HYMN

**“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”** *(vv. 1, 3-4)*

**Holy, holy holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;**

**Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty;**

**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,**

**Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;**

**Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,**

**Perfect in power, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;**

**Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty;**

**God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Sadhana Joliet, Deacon*

**Leader: God of life, you are as near to us as our breath.**

*People: Fill our lungs with your spirit!*

**Leader: God of light, you are as near to us as your creation.**

*People: Fill our vision with your beauty!*

**Leader: God of love, you are as near to us as our neighbors.**

*People: Fill our hearts with your presence!*

**Leader: God of salvation, Word that became flesh and dwelt among us,  
Word that still speaks today...**

*People: Fill our ears with the sounds of Your word and Your worship this day!*

\*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.***

RESPONSIVE READING – 1 John 4:7-14

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**People: *Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.***

Leader: God's love was revealed to us in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

**People: *In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.***

Leader: Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

**People:** *No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.*

**Leader:** By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us of God's Spirit.

**People:** *And we have seen and do testify that God has sent God's Son as the Savior of the world.*

## OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Andrew Malkin, Deacon*

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](http://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

**"The Love of God"** *Lundberg*

*Kruse Family, Soloists*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Bountiful God, we thank You that because of Your abundant blessings in our lives, we have the opportunity to share our abundance with others. May You accept these gifts in the spirit of love and multiply them, that they may serve You well. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE

*(see insert)*

SERMON

**“UNCONVENTIONAL SOULMATES”**

*Julie Center*

\* HYMN

**“When Love is Found”** *(vv. 1-3, 5)*

**When love is found and hope comes home,  
sing and be glad that two are one.**

**When love explodes and fills the sky,  
praise God, and share our Maker’s joy.**

**When love has flowered in trust and care,  
build both each day, that love may dare  
to reach beyond home’s warmth and light  
to serve and strive for truth and right.**

**When love is tried as loved-ones change,  
hold still to hope, though all seems strange  
til ease returns and hope grows wise  
through listening ears and opened eyes.**

**Praise God for love, praise God for life,  
in age or youth, in calm or strife.  
Lift up your hearts! Let love be fed  
through death and life in broken bread.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**“Seek Ye First”** *Lafferty*

*Kruse Family, Soloists*

POSTLUDE

**“Rigaudon”** *Campria*

*Elaine DeGrood, Organ*



*John 15:12-17*

12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

**Ruth and Naomi**

*Ruth 1:16-18*

16 But Ruth said,  
 “Do not press me to leave you  
 or to turn back from following you!  
 Where you go, I will go;  
 where you lodge, I will lodge;  
 your people shall be my people,  
 and your God my God.

17 Where you die, I will die—  
 there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me,  
 and more as well,  
 if even death parts me from you!”

18 When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

**Jonathan and David**

*1 Samuel 18:1-4*

1 When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. 2 Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father’s house. 3 Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. 4 Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

**Rumi and Shams of Tabriz**

Why should I seek? I am the same as he.  
 His essence speaks through me.  
 I have been looking for myself.

~

“A lover asked his beloved, ‘Do you love yourself more than you love me?’ Beloved replied, ‘I have died to myself and I live for you. I’ve disappeared from myself and my attributes, I am present only for you. I’ve forgotten all my learnings, but from knowing you I’ve become a scholar. I’ve lost all my strength, but from your power I am able. I love myself...I love you. I love you...I love myself.’”

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***PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN THE COURTYARD FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, PROVIDED WITH LOVE – FROM OUR FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE!***

***SUMMER BEACH SERVICES CONTINUE ON SASCO BEACH AT 8:15AM!***

Services are casual – bring a beach chair and/or blanket!

Come join us as we share the Sundays with First Church Congregational.

**Leadership Schedule:**

First Church Congregational - August 15

**Southport Congregational - August 22**

First Church Congregational - August 29

***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. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Chris Philip at [cwphilip@gmail.com](mailto:cwphilip@gmail.com). He is looking for people to help with graphic design, digital design, advertising, PR and administrative duties.

***WE WISH PAUL AND LAURA WHITMORE WELL ON THEIR VACATION!***

Paul and Laura are currently taking a well-deserved break to disconnect and recharge until September 7. For all pastoral and church concerns, please contact our **Student Minister, Julie Center**, who will be covering for the Whitmores, at [jcenter@southportucc.org](mailto:jcenter@southportucc.org) or by phone at (203) 255-1594.

***PIVOT HOUSE MEALS BEING SHARED EACH WEEK!*** Every Wednesday in July and August, SCC has joined up with The Little Pub to provide a hot meal to the 50 men who are working to break the chains of addiction in their own lives.

***USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY*** are Deacons Andrew Malkin and Sadhana who we thank for assisting Student Minister Julie Center with today's service!

***WE THANK OUR TALENTED MUSICIANS***, Elaine DeGrood and the Kruse Family for providing us with beautiful music during today's service.

***THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM LEAD*** – Thank you to Parker Whitmore for livestreaming of today's service!

***THIS WEEK'S FLOWERS*** are given by Jim and Elinor Biggs in loving memory of Jane Biggs, Jim's stepmother.

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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  
Tim O’Neill 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  
Katie 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 Members”

