

First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

Creating Communities of Faith

August 26, 2018

9:30 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude *Three Movements from French Suite No. 6* Bach

Introit *If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers* C. Gillette

Call to Worship

Let us pray, God of goodness and grace, we long for your presence, for the peace your promises bring, and for the assurances we have received through the gift of your Beloved Child.

May we, your people, this day and every day, have open eyes to see, open ears to hear, and open hearts to receive your presence among us.

Open us to your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare us for worship.

Amen.

Friends, we are gathered in this place - the people of God.

Come! With grateful hearts, let us worship God!

*Hymn 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* FESTAL SONG

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we have been fearful of sharing our faith. In growing relaxed in our faith, we have allowed ourselves to become cynical, and our cynicism has boiled over with slander, criticism, prayerlessness and pessimism. How easily we've allowed ourselves to crumple under the stresses of our lives. Forgive our smallness of faith, O God. In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

..... God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live as a child of the day.

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Song of Praise *A Place Called Home* FINLANDIA

*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome

Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your row.
Children are welcome to participate in the Children in Worship program.

Response

How Can I Keep From Singing?



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

From Confession of 1967 (9.32)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as a man involves the church in the common life of humanity. His service to humanity commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of humankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of humans in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on inhumanity and the awful consequences of complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of humanity's life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Second Lesson

Matthew 25: 14-30

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Growing Community

The Rev. J. C. Cadwallader

*Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

The Offering

Offertory

"All Good Gifts," from *Godspell*

Beth Aura Miller, solo

Schwartz

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise God all creatures here below,
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
 Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we thank you for the gifts that belong not to us alone, but to all our sisters and brothers, since they too are created in your image. Let their need become our need; their hunger, our hunger; their thirst our thirst and may we grow in faith together. In your Beloved Child's name we pray. Amen.

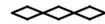
The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our 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 the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn 316 *Where Charity and Love Prevail* TWENTY-FOURTH
*Benediction
Postlude *Bourrée, from French Suite No. 6* Bach

*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for the Friendship Hour following the service.

Participating in worship leadership this morning are:

Liturgist: Ken Balakrishnan
Ushers: Candice and Brian Gray
Friendship Hour Hosts: Jenn Ballew, Sue Balakrishnan

Nursery care is provided each morning in the Owens Community Building nursery. Infants and children are also welcome in the service and encouraged to participate fully in worship. A rocking chair is available next door in the Copeland Room, and bulletins for ages 3-6 and 7-12 are found at the entrance.

The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader may be reached at her email: PastorJC@fpcnh.org or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

Volunteers needed to Usher and Host Friendship Hour! These are easy tasks that make our church a welcoming place. New sign up sheets are out on the corner table and **we need volunteers** for upcoming Sundays. Team up with an old friend or someone new, and sign-up on the sheet on the corner table! Written instructions are provided.

The fall Inkling deadline will be Tuesday, September 4th. Please send your notices and announcements to the church office at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

Committee Night – This Tuesday, August 28: All who are interested in helping to shape the life of this church for the upcoming fall season, come to Committee Night! Whether you're a long-time member of the CLOC, Stewardship, Worship, Mission or Christian Education Committees or just have some fresh ideas for the season ahead - come and plan with us! Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Committees will meet at 6:15 p.m. Childcare will be provided for the youngest among us - though young people are encouraged to help plan too!

For Students: Montreat College Conference, Jan 2-5, 2019: As you head off to college this fall, consider spending some time over your holiday break with college students of faith from across the country at the Montreat College Conference. If you are interested in attending, contact Pastor JC at pastorjc@fpcnh.org

Mark your Calendar: Rally Day Sunday, Sept 9. The fall season kicks off with intergenerational activities at 9:30 a.m., worship in the sanctuary at 10:45, and a potluck picnic at noon. Plan to come and meet new and old friends in our church community.

The FPCNH Choir will begin its rehearsals for the fall season on Wednesday, September 5, and will sing in worship for the first time on Sunday, September 9. We sing music of a wide range of styles, from spirituals and gospel music to Renaissance motets, and from Bach and Handel to contemporary works of all sorts. We welcome all singers. If you haven't sung in the choir before and would like to, please get in touch with Pat McCreless after church. We rehearse at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, and on Sunday mornings at 9:30 (the service begins at 10:45). The Sunday rehearsals are especially for those who cannot come on Wednesday, but still want to sing and contribute to our music in the Sunday services.

Fresh Produce for Christian Community Action: In addition, to donating non-perishable food items in our green wheelbarrow for CCA, this summer we are asking one volunteer each week to purchase up to \$40 in fresh produce at a local farmers' market or stand and deliver it as early in the week as possible to CCA at 168 Davenport Ave., New Haven, anytime Monday through Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, email mission@fpcnh.org and we will email you a link to the volunteer form that will allow you to select the week(s) you are available. For more information, see the Mission Committee's flyer at bit.ly/fpc-cca.

Flowers: The Worship Committee is looking for a few people who will be willing to contribute flowers for our worship on the first Sunday of each month. If you are wish to provide flowers for worship, please sign up at the corner table, or you can contact the church office at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com. Tell us who or what they honor, and put a check for \$50 in the offering plate with a memo that it is for flowers.

In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

The Gutridge family, who welcomed new baby Charlie last week.

Stewart Fritts, who had been in Hartford Hospital this week.

Jeff Miller, David Miller's brother, who is recovering from surgery.

Louisa Cunningham, a friend of Caty Poole, who is ill.

Molly Myers, a friend of the Latham family.

Jean Struble, Joan Wells' sister-in-law, who is ill.

Those who struggle with addiction.

People who are homeless.

Prayers for our immigrant friends in local sanctuary churches, and for their families.

James Smit, who is serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

This Week

Sunday, August 26	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:35 a.m.	Friendship Hour
Monday, August 27	7:00 p.m.	AA meeting
Tuesday, August 28	5:30 p.m.	Committee Night
Wednesday, August 29	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	11:30 a.m.	Presbytery COM meeting
Saturday, September 1	9:30 a.m.	Women's AA
Sunday, September 2	9:30 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	10:35 a.m.	Friendship Hour

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2018	John Dinkler	Phillip Phiri
	Robert Williams	James Duncan
Class of 2019	Lucy Ambach	Rona Johnston
	Fiona Scott Morton	Mary Porterfield
Class of 2020	Sue Balakrishnan	Jennifer Ballew
	Jennifer Herbst	Timothy McConnell
Clerk	Tim McCloskey	
Treasurer	Mike Spicer	

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

Pastor:	The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader
Music Director:	Patrick McCreless
Church Administrator:	Martha Smith
Christian Educator:	Kimberley Fais
Nursery Care Provider:	Emily Landino

The church office welcomes your announcements and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Wednesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember that parking is available at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

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