



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

May 12, 2024, at ten o'clock

Mother's Day

PRELUDE

“Meditation” from *Thais* Massenet
“Salut d’Amour” Elgar

*Darwin Shen, violin
Elaine DeGrood, piano*

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Elaine DeGrood, organ

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things have done, in whom God’s world rejoices,
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in God’s grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God, the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore. Amen.**

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Jake Chang, Deacon

Leader: Like a tender parent who supports a child's first steps,

People: God guides us along.

Leader: Like a loving grandparent who welcomes us with warmth, wisdom, acceptance and affection,

People: God nurtures us, and holds us in our times of need.

Leader: Like a lasting and listening friend who seems to sense our needs,

People: God listens, and mysteriously works for our good and for our growth, all of our days.

Leader: In many ways and through many faces...

People: God loves us this day and every day. Let us give thanks and rejoice, in our time of quiet reflection, singing, praying, and in our worship together.

INVOCATION AND 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

(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.)

Elizabeth Fera

ANTHEM

"Thank You Mom!" *B. Hart, S. Lawrence*
Adapted and directed by Marnie Kruse
Phillip Bettencourt, accompaniment

Cherub Choir

There's mom who I love, sent from God up above.
When I need her she's there, giving tender loving care.
Mom this day is just for you, to give thanks for all you do.
With a smile, and a hug and a song ...

Thank you Mom, for every day. Thank you Mom, for you I pray.
Thank you Mom, now I must say that you and me will always be Mom n' me!

You're a "Supermom" it's true, no job's too big for you ...
All you do the whole day long is just too much for just one song.
This card for Mother's Day has so much I want to say.
With a smile, and a hug, and a song ...
And you and me will always be, Mom n' me!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Alix Morrow

*HYMN

"When Love Is Found"

*Infants to PreK are invited to Room 5 for childcare.
All other children will go to the Chapel.*

**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. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

To give, **you may:**

Place your check or cash in the Offering Plate,

Text: 860-854-1995

\$ *amt* Pledge

\$ *amt* Plate

Or, give by **Venmo**, use @southport_congregational

Thank you for your kindness and loving support!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“I Believe” with “Ave Maria” *Bach Gounod*

*Senior Choir
Darwin Shen, violin*

Ave Maria!

I believe for ev'ry drop of rain that falls, a flower grows.
I believe that somewhere in the darkest night, a candle glows.
I believe for ev'ryone who goes astray.
Someone will come to show the way.
I believe, I believe!

I believe above the storm the smallest prayer will still be hear.
I believe that Someone in the great somewhere hears ev'ry word.
Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, or touch a leaf, or see the sky,
Then I know why I believe!

*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

***We give our love and offer hope and help to others – because God loves us! We give
with cheerful hearts, because we have so much for which we are grateful. May you
receive these gifts, God, as expressions of our gratitude and care, as we thank you
and share your love, now and always. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-56

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state
of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;

indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”
And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

SERMON

“SING TO ME A LULLABY”

Rev. Dr. Ned Parker

*HYMN

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break the of day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day. Amen.**

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Peace” Peary Spaght

Senior Choir
Darwin Shen, violin

Peace I give to you, my peace I leave with you.

Not as the world gives do I give unto you.

Let not your heart be pained, neither let it be afraid.

Peace that’s everywhere, peace beyond compare, peace.

Peace I give to you.

POSTLUDE

“Romance” Sibelius

Darwin Shen, violin
Elaine DeGrood, piano

~~~~~

***WELCOME BACK – AND THANK YOU – TO REV. DR. NED PARKER, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ANDOVER NEWTON SEMINARY AT YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL, FOR PREACHING TODAY.*** Ned was with us last August, and graciously accepted our invitation to lead us today while Paul and Laura are away at a family wedding in New Hampshire. 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.

***PLEASE JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR immediately following worship,*** provided by Tony Fera, Ray Long and John Traynor, under the leadership of Dick Dmochowski, in honor of Mother’s Day.

***TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS*** were given by Shannon Doyle in honor of Mother’s Day and the perfect love of her mother, Bonnie. We’d also like to thank Hedy Mosier for donating the roses being shared by the Deacons this morning. If you would like to donate an arrangement for upcoming Sundays, please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org).

***WOULD YOU LIKE SOUTHPORT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH TO BE YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME?*** If you would like to become a member of SCC and were not able to join us for the New Members meeting, please let us know by either contacting Revs. Paul or Laura Whitmore, or Pam Poling in the church office. **New Members will be welcomed into our congregation during worship next Sunday, May 19.**

**CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN** – All Church School children will go to the Chapel today, with Phillip Bettencourt, Marnie Kruse and JoAnn Parady, to rehearse for the musical, **JONAH!** which will be presented during worship on Celebration Sunday, June 9. After worship on **June 9**, all are welcomed to our **All-Church Picnic**, held at the Parsonage (two doors down from the church at 612 Pequot Ave. **Dress casually for church** to enjoy the fun day!

**CHILDCARE FOR INFANTS THROUGH PRE-K** will be in Room 5 with Scarlet Rex.

**ADULT SOCIAL WITH PICKLEBALL, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 6 – 8 PM.** - Adults can sign up to play on the Whitmore's Pickleball Court or choose to hang out with friends, drinking a cool beverage, all while watching the fun! Food will be available thanks to the Super Duper Weenie hot dog and hamburger truck! Beverages will be provided. **You must RSVP by today, May 12, through Venmo @southport\_congregational** (“pickleball” in memo), or with cash or check in the main office. Cost is \$20 per person for *unlimited food from Super Duper Weenie* – and – 1 free cocktail (non-alcoholic drinks are free).

**COOKIES AND BOTTLED WATER NEEDED FOR HANGTIME** – SCC provides a monthly meal for the HangTime meetings, where attendees - specific ex-offenders, groups and gang members - meet to educate and problem solve through discussion. **Mission Outreach Board member Andrew Malkin is asking for volunteers to contribute cookies or bottled water to the next meal on May 28.** To volunteer, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

**THE CAROUSEL HAS A SPECIAL SALE EACH WEEK!** This week features 50% off children’s clothes and toys, lamps, all men’s clothing and luggage. Shop hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR TODAY’S PARTICIPATION:**

**LIVESTREAM “DREAM TEAM”** Techs Cole McQuaid and Carter Uhl, directed by Lonnie Root.

**DEACONS:** Sadhana Joliet, Janet Reed and Beth Santa, under the direction of Deacon Jake Chang.

**ELAINE DEGROOD, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, OUR SENIOR CHOIR, OUR CHERUB CHOUR DIRECTED BY MARNIE KRUSE, ACCOMPANIED BY YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR, PHILLIP BETTENCOURT, AND DARWIN SHEN, VIOLIN,** for today’s beautiful music.

~~~ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** ~~~

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Friday, May 17 | 6 p.m. | Pickleball at the Parsonage |
| Sunday, May 19 | 10 a.m. | New Member Sunday |
| Sunday, May 26 | 10 a.m. | Memorial Day Sunday |
| Monday, May 27 | <i>Office closed</i> | Memorial Day |
| Saturday, June 8 | 11 a.m.
12 p.m. | Southport Street Parade
Blessing of the Fleet |
| Sunday, June 9 | 10 a.m. | Celebration and Baccalaureate Sunday
All Church Picnic |
| Sunday, June 16 | 10 a.m. | Father's Day Sunday |
| Wednesday, June 21 | | Early Bird Mission Trip members leave for
South Dakota |
| Saturday, June 22 | | Mission Trip members leave for South
Dakota |
| Saturday, June 29 | | Mission Trip members return from South
Dakota |