

***Welcome to this service of worship on the
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost.***

As Jesus Christ welcomes each one of us, we hope you sense the friendly welcome of this congregation of God's people (see back of bulletin).

[*]If you are comfortable doing so, it is appropriate to stand.

Bold type signifies congregational response.

WE GATHER IN JESUS' NAME

PRELUDE *Two Hymn Tune Preludes* arr. Sewell

Lasst uns Eerfreuen (All Creatures of our God and King)
Hyfrydol (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We believe in God, Creator of beauty, source of every breath,
foundation of every movement.

**God leads us beside still waters, makes us lie down in green
splendor and lets nature heal and restore us.**

We believe in Jesus, the risen Christ, who loved the least, the last
and the lost.

**Christ loves us, calls us by name and cleanses us from our
sins.**

We believe in the Spirit, who gathers us into the richness of
community, gives us a song to sing and prepares a feast for us
all.

**We live as God's people, filled with everlasting hope and
showered with blessing.**

Let us lift up our voices in praise!

*** PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

**God of life and love and power, we give thanks for your
abiding presence and the abounding hope of your promise.
Your Spirit lives in us. Your Word lives through us. The
Risen Christ walks with us. We are blessed. And we are
humbled. Open us to your leading, O God. Grant us a
glimpse of your vision and guide us in the paths of your truth.
Amen.**

* HYMN #376 *Love Divine, all Loves Excelling*

CALL TO CONFESSION

In the fullness of this moment, we look to the God who calls us by
name to lift our spirits, deepen our faith and open our eyes to the
blessings all around us. In the light of God's abiding love and
faithfulness, let us also trust God with the truth of our

shortcomings. Seeking grace, forgiveness, humility and new
insight, let us confess our sins before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Awesome and disturbing God, hold us close for a moment that
we may look deep inside and not be afraid to offer ourselves to
you. Only in your tender grasp can we face our struggles: our
reluctance to do something extravagant for another; the ease
with which we let someone else play our part; our silence in the
face of great joy or blatant wrong; our blindness at seeing the
simple acts of care and love that would make such a difference
to another. Hold us close, that in the telling of our tale we
might find forgiveness, new insight, strengthened commitment
and the peace that is true *shalom*. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Here is the Good News: God knows us to the depths of our
beings, to the heights of our aspirations and to the breadth of our
human frailty... and God loves us. Rejoice in the freedom of
God's forgiving grace and give yourselves fully to him.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI Hymnal p. 579

LIGHTING A CANDLE FOR PEACE

We light a candle in our midst to stand as a beacon
of hope, calling us and all the world from darkness to
light, from violence to peace.
Lord make us instruments of your peace.

WELCOME

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 16:2-15
Pew Bible OT p. 63

MUSICAL SELECTION *Prelude (from Suite No. 1 for cello solo)* Bach

Yun-Yang Lin, cellist

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16 Pew Bible NT p. 21-22

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Our Share" Rev. Dr. Karen Bailey-François

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN # 455 (vs. 1, 2, 5, 6) *All Creatures of our God and King*

***PEACE**

*Those who plan to make announcements are asked to be seated
in the front of the church during the Peace.*

PRAYER HYMN #403

**What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to
bear! What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*The Lord's Prayer is found on the top of page 16 of the Hymnal,
traditional version using "debts" and "debtors"*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

OFFERTORY *Minuet I and II (from Suite No. 1 for cello solo)* Bach

*DOXOLOGY Avery and Marsh Hymnal 593

**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 DEDICATION**

God of All Blessing, accept these gifts for your service and glory.

**Thank you that, by your grace, we have bounty to share.
May the work of this church be guided by you and made
stronger by our giving. Amen.**

*HYMN #523 *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go With Us, Lord*
for music see hymn 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in Your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to You.**

POSTLUDE *Trumpet in Dialogue* Clerambault

THE SERVICE

Liturgist: Emily Spears
Greeters: Doris Lewis, Robin Herrera.
Ushers: June O'Neil, Keith Rhoden,
Clifford Riley, Pauline Robertson.



Members, friends, and visitors are invited to join us as our guests for coffee and fellowship in Hodge Hall immediately following worship. The **Spears family** is hosting today.

This is a welcoming Church, embracing sisters and brothers without regard to age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, family status, economic situation or theological viewpoint. We want our visitors to feel a part of the family. *“Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).”*

There is a variety of materials near the entrance to acquaint you with the Church. We encourage you to sign the guest book in the entry and to use the yellow card in the pews to register your attendance and enable us to add you to our newsletter mailing list. Please place yellow cards in the offering plates.

Membership: All of our services and activities are open to non-members. We invite people to commit themselves to membership as a witness to their faith in Christ, and the mission of Christ as lived out in the life of this congregation. We receive members by affirmation of faith, or by reaffirmation or transfer of membership. You may speak with the pastor or one of the elders about membership.

Offering Envelopes are available in the pews for the convenience of those who may have forgotten their assigned envelope or for those who wish to use an envelope for a cash gift. If you wish your contribution to be used for a specific cause, please indicate that on the envelope.

ASSISTED LISTENING SYSTEM AVAILABLE

Anyone who has difficulty in hearing and understanding the service is encouraged to use the assisted listening system. This is a wireless system so users can sit anywhere in the sanctuary. Receivers are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. Many of you have used a similar system at the Bushnell or Hartford Stage.



During the service, we provide Nursery Care in the Buchanan Room for children **up to age 4**. An usher will direct you to the location. **Shannon Hopkins** is the nursery director and **Augusta Jara** is the assistant.

The Abiding Memorials Book is open to the abiding gift of the Repair and Decorating of Brand Chapel, given by **Those Listed**, March, 1979.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dianne Ney, Music Director Ruth Van Anden, Office Mgr.
John Du Pont, Sexton

Office Hours: M – F 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00 – 1:00 PM)

We are a member church of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Synod of the Northeast, Presbytery of Southern New England.



First Presbyterian Church
136 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

860.246.2224
www.firstpreshartford.org

Worship 10:30 AM
Sunday, July 19, 2009