

**Welcome to this service of worship on the
Eighth 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

HYMN SING Gretchen Fuchs, leader

(the congregation may remain seated)

#473 *For the Beauty of the Earth* (vs. 1-3, 4)

#446 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* (vs. 1,2)

#281 *Guide me O Thou Great Jehovah* (vs. 1, 2)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We give you thanks, most gracious God,

for the beauty of earth and sky and sea;

for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers;

for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers.

We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity.

Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your name, now and forever. Amen.

*** PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Almighty God, your word of creation caused the water to be filled with many kinds of living beings and the air to be filled with birds. We rejoice in the richness of your creation, and we pray for your wisdom for all who live on this earth, that we may wisely manage and not destroy what you have made for us and for our descendants. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

* HYMN #498 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (See Hebrews. 4:14-16)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you call us to obedience.

We are reluctant and make excuses.

You teach us to be truthful,

but we lie when we think we won't get caught.

We act as if you are not there. Forgive us.

You teach us to honor one another,

but we talk about each other instead.

We act as if you are not there. Forgive us.

You teach us to share what we have been given,

but we accumulate more and more.

We act as if you are not there. Forgive us.

God, teach us wisdom. Teach us to seek you.

You are always there for us; you are our refuge.

Help us to do good in your name.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins,

strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy

Spirit keep us in eternal life. 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 Psalm 24:1 Pew Bible OT p. 502

MUSICAL SELECTION Matt Brounley

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Luke 4:18-19 Pew Bible NT p. 61

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Earth is the Lord's: Stewardship and Global Warming"
Rev. Dr. Robert A. Evans

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN # 522 *Lord, When I Came Into This Life*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

***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 Matt Brounley

*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**

All Things come of thee, O Lord,
And of thine own have we given thee. Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess; Grant us grace that we might honor you with our substance, and remembering the account which we must one day give, may be stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*HYMN #525 *Here I Am Lord*

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 *God of Our Fathers*

THE SERVICE

Flowers: The flowers are given today by the Aboagye family in celebration of Nya's dedication to the Lord.
Liturgist: Pam Hauburger
Greeters: Bill & Marian Cooke
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. **Bob & Alice Evans** are 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 given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Lillian Saunders Clark, Mabel Harris Alton, Helen Amelia Saunders, Ruth Margaret Saunders**, perpetuated in the stained glass windows in Hodge Hall, given by Ruth C. and Chester G. Alton June, 1982.

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 26, 2009