

*Welcome to this service of worship
on the 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time.*

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

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

Bold type signifies congregational response.

WE GATHER IN JESUS' NAME

PRELUDE *A Pizzy Blues for Two Flutes* Utterback
Peace Like a River

WELCOME

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Look to the mountains, look to the hills!

Love comes to us with joy!

As the cool night calms our souls,

The morning sun stirs us to action!

Arise and sing for joy! Let us worship God!

* HYMN #488 *The God of Abraham Praise*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8, 9) In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, our days are consumed with worry about whether there is enough to meet our needs, enough food or money or time. We wonder if there is enough love to heal our hearts, enough courage to change our world. Forgive our doubt, gracious Lord; pour out your life-giving spirit upon us, that we might learn to trust and sing your praises. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, So that we might die to sin and might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. **For we were going astray like sheep, but now we have returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls.** (based on 1 Peter 2:24-25)

*GLORIA PATRI Hymnal p. 579

MUSICAL SELECTION *Etudes for Clarinet* C. Rose
Ian Tamburini, clarinet

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Matthew 15:21-28 Pew Bible NT p. 17

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

MESSAGE "Crumbs of Faith" Rev. Russ Feroe

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN # 510 (vs. 1-4) *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being

born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

MINUTE FOR MISSION

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".

OFFERING

HYMN OFFERTORY #399 *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

(the congregation may remain seated)

*DOXOLOGY Avery and Marsh Hymnal p. 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 abundant love, bless this offering and guide its use, that we may bring love, justice, and hope to our neighborhoods and world. Amen.

WE CELEBRATE AT THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

All who put their trust in Christ are invited to receive the Sacrament, no one is excluded. As we pass the bread to one another say “(name) This is the body of Christ for you.” It is our custom to eat the Bread when it is received. As we pass the cup to one another say “(name) This is the blood of Christ for you.” We hold the cup and drink together when all have been served (we use non-alcoholic grape juice).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #430 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

* BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go in Peace*

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate New Life! Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

POSTLUDE *Plein chant de l’Agnus dei* Couperin

††††

SESSION

Class of 2010 Holly Billings (Clerk of Session), Alice Evans, Samuel Hamilton, Juliana Mantey

Class of 2011 Susan Corrigan, Robin Herrera, Mildred McNeill, Gladys Wiafe

Class of 2012 Julius Aboagye, Jane Murray Yaa Okoampa-Sykes, (open)

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2010 Gretchen Fuchs, Carolyn Perkins, Keith Rhoden (Deacon Moderator)

Class of 2011 Michael Asare, Lloyd Brooks, Susan Labins

Class of 2012 Michael Adzenyah, Cynthia McPherson, Jean Nesbitt

PASTOR’S HOURS

Monday: In the church office all day; please call, leave a message, and he will return your call.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: in the church office from 8:30-12:00; call or stop in.
Friday: Working at home; call, leave a message, and he will return your call.
Saturday: Day off.
Church office phone: 860-246-2224;
Rev. Feroe’s home phone: 860-904-6467



First Presbyterian Church
136 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT
Rev. Russell Feroe, Interim Minister

Worship 10:30 am
Sunday, September 6, 2009

THE SERVICE

Liturgist: TBA
Greeter: TBA
Ushers: Michael Adzenyah, Joan Grant, R. Sherwood Marchant, Rusty Spears.

Communion Stewards:

Preparation: June O'Neil, Lloyd Brooks
Restoration: June O'Neil, Gretchen Fuchs
Serving: Doris Lewis, Anita Marchant, Lois Maxwell, Jane Murray, Keith Rhoden Jr., Rusty Spears.



Members, friends, and visitors are invited to join us as our guests for refreshments and fellowship in Hodge Hall immediately following worship.

Assisted listening devices and large print

bulletins, bibles and hymnals are available near the entry to the sanctuary. The wireless listening system, similar to those used at the Bushnell and Hartford Stage, allows users to sit anywhere in the sanctuary.



Nursery Care is provided during the service in the Buchanan Room for children **up to age 4**. An usher will direct you to the location. **Shannon Hopkins** is the nursery director. **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 **Jane Ann Bedell Parlee**, born October 10, 1920, died January 7, 1983, by Miss Katherine Laird and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Parlee.

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.

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 you to feel a part of the family. 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.***

“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).”

TODAY

Ian Tamburini, clarinet

THIS WEEK

Mon. September 7: Labor Day - Office Closed
No Farmer's Market

Wed. September 9: 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal resumes



NEXT SUNDAY

Picnic after worship
Special Program Highlights of Kentucky Mission Trip
Church School resumes

LOOKING AHEAD

Tues. September 21: International Day of Peace,
Pastor Appreciation Day

Sun. September 27: Evangelism Sunday

Church Announcements

For other opportunities and announcements please see the bulletin board(s) in Hodge Hall and office annex.

Food Pantry Donations

Items that are always needed include: coffee, sugar, toiletry items (shampoo, soap, toilet paper, disposable diapers of all sizes); canned or dry pink, pinto, or red kidney beans; orange & apple juice; canned tuna & salmon; canned fruits & vegetables; Chunky Soups, spaghetti and medium grained rice (in smaller containers, if possible) and boxed macaroni and cheese.

Farmers' Market at FPC

Mondays from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM through October.



Deacons

The meeting originally scheduled for September 20 has been moved to October 11. Reminders will go out but please also mark your calendars.

Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, September 13 after worship. Join us for food, fun, music, games and fellowship! Also, a special program with highlights from the KY Mission Trip.

Summer Food Appeal

Donations are down and demand is up during the summer. The MANNA food pantry can use donations of peanut butter, jelly, crackers, tuna fish, mac and cheese, canned fruits and vegetables, breakfast cereal, juice (apple, orange, cranberry), toothpaste, bath soap, shampoo, deodorant, napkins, tissues, and toilet paper. Also, canned beans (pinto, kidney, black), cooking oil, pasta sauce, dish and laundry detergent.



Hymn Sing Sundays



On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month the service at First Presbyterian begins with a hymn sing at 10:20. A leader will introduce 3 hymns for us to warm up our voices as we sing hymns that are favorites of our members / guests... or ones we don't get to sing too often or that are new. The hymn sing was a suggestion from the members during our Revitalization surveys. Please feel free to speak with Holly Billings, Rusty Spears, Tom McNeill, George Blick or Anita Marchant. We welcome your feedback.

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 Pastor Feroe or one of the elders about membership.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

A "proof" copy is circulating in Hodge Hall. Please check its accuracy for yourself (and others you know well but who may not be here on Sunday or otherwise not see the directory before its printed). Mark your corrections in the directory or contact the office.

The plan is for the directories to be printed (in color!) and available about the second week of September—there's still time (but not much!) to get your photo included.



First Presbyterian...Who Are We?

The downtown First Presbyterian Church, founded in 1851, is a richly diverse group of people from both city and suburbs, committed to ministry to and with the people of the City of Hartford.

We are building a warm and caring community that spiritually nurtures people in worship, education, fellowship and active involvement in mission.

We believe that the Church is called to reflect the kingdom of God which embraces all believers. We invite, accept and welcome into our membership and leadership people who differ by age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, family status, economic situation and theological viewpoint. This diverse group energetically and cooperatively participates in the life of this congregation, its mission and its leadership.

We are committed to our Presbyterian traditions of representative government and reformed theology, while open to working collaboratively in mission and ministry with other faith traditions.

First Presbyterian Church
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www.firstpreshartford.org



Intercessions

*In our First Presbyterian Church cycle of prayers,
we pray this week for:*

Shirley Garren
Helen George
Joan Grant
Jennifer Guerard & Ryan Oliver
Bob Hager
John Brash
Jim McNeish
Kristin Moir Harvey – as she continues treatment for leukemia.
Jean Engquist and family. Jean has Alzheimer's and is in hospice. She is Bill Cooke's sister.
Perleoni and Violette family – Ray & Flora's son-in-law Richard Violette died suddenly.
Lola Jackson and family (Joan Grant's family).
Helen Boldi – Corinna Tamburini's mother.
Pat Welch– Lianne Doherty's sister-in-law.
Chuck Wickham and Robert Machia, each are battling cancer (co-workers of Sue Labins).
William (Ray) Smith – has cancer. He is Jane Carroll's neighbor.
George Christinat– living with ALS. He is Keith Rhoden, Jr.'s neighbor.
The future of First Presbyterian Church.
Korean Presbyterian Church of Greater Hartford, Manchester, CT (Rev. Sun Gil Kim);
Greenwich Chaplaincy Services (Rev. Heather Parkinson-Webb).