

UNITED CHURCH ON THE GREEN

In the Heart of New Haven, Open to all Seekers



An Open and Affirming Congregation of
the United Church of Christ



We Gather as Church

*please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Song Without Words

Felix Mendelssohn

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please rise in body or in spirit as our worship begins. A deacon of the church will place the opened Bible on the pulpit, reminding us that the Word of God gathers the church and belongs to all God's people.

*HYMN #474

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

FESTAL SONG

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: You call your people to prayer and praise in many ways. This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

Many: God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.

Pastor: Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you. As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures— faith, hope, and love.

All: God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.

Pastor: All life is created and nourished by you! May we grow into new circles of understanding and being, reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.

All: Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.

GATHERING PRAYER

Pastor: Life Sustainer, we receive the things you desire to offer us today and each new day! Grant us wisdom and openness to your Word and use its teachings to energize our bodies and spirits.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God, we confess that we often spoon-feed ourselves items and ideas that do not provide us the energy we need to do your work. This creates space between you and us, between ourselves and each other, as members of Christ's one body. Oftentimes, we are willing to risk our sustained health and well-being for immediate satisfaction.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Through Jesus, we have been given an example of one who was truly nourished and sustained by God. In Christ, we are forgiven, made whole, and restored to the one body. Let us outwardly profess our Christian unity by offering each other a sign of peace.

*** SUNG RESPONSE #375**

Weave

WEAVE

The image shows a musical score for a unison song. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are: "Weave, weave, weave us to- geth- er. Weave us to- geth- er in u- ni- ty and love. Weave, weave, weave us to- geth- er. Weave us to- geth- er, to- geth- er in love." The word "Unison" is written above the first system.

We Listen for God's Word

READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

from the Gospels

Mark 4:26-33

Deacon, Jim Edwards

Pew Bible New Testament p38

REFLECTION

Transitional Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott

MUSICAL REFLECTION

We Respond

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you... ***And also with you...*** Let us pray...

- Kathryn Thomas' cousin Susan Benson who is coping with aggressive cancer
- Prayers for John Bennet, at home
- Prayers for our friend, Omer Bawja, whose father has had open heart surgery
- Prayers for Father Bob, from St. Thomas Moore, suffering from a brain tumor
- Prayers for Julie Peterman who broke her toes on vacation, and is in a boot
- Prayers for Ruth Thayer, Dawn Chamberlaine, Barbara Hutchinson, and Benny Sanchez
- Families that have been forcibly separated
- Those who have a birthday this week including Dan Rausch, Julia Hobbie, Peter O'Connell, Bill Higginbotham, Louise Higginbotham + Tim Byrnes

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Our Father/Mother/God, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Share the Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

Pastor: Beloved in Christ: This table is for all who wish to know the presence of the risen Christ. Come to Christ's table not because you must, but because you may. Not as a stranger, but as one of God's beloved children. In the company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of bread. Let us eat and drink with joy!

HYMN #311

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

***SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Let us pray. Loving and gracious God, with thanksgiving, let us now celebrate our new life in Christ, giving thanks to God our creator and sustainer. Thank you for Jesus Christ and his all-inclusive love for humanity. Thank you for this holy meal. May we serve you with open hearts. Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Peace be with you... *And also with you...*

Call to Action

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Let us offer our loaves and fishes in the service of God's kin-dom.

OFFERTORY

*Fugue from "Ludus Tonalis"
("The Game of Tones")*

Paul Hindemith

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Steward, Peter O'Connell: O God, we share these gifts in the spirit of those who shared their loaves and fishes: we ask that you take these gifts and use them to feed all of creation—to produce seed and grain, filling humans and animals alike, and to restore wholeness in the places where malnourishment exists.

All: And Bless those who give and those who long to give, that we may become living stones of mercy, grace and justice in the house of your creation. Amen.

We Are Sent Out

*HYMN #473

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ANGEL'S STORY

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Neumeister Chorale

J. S. Bach

PLEASE BE SEATED UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE MUSIC

Our Worship Has Ended. Let Our Service Begin!

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Transitional Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott
Deacons	Jim Edwards, Al Forino, Lisa Ann Koskelowski, Dan Rausch, Rev Edwin Perez, Jr, Jim Edwards
Steward	Peter O'Connell
Director of Music	Caesar Storlazzi
Church School Teacher	Betty Baisden
Childcare Provider	Colleen O'Connor
Childcare Provider	She'mone Jenkins
Head Sexton	William Henton
Sexton	Brendan Linehan
Coffee Hour Hosts	Jo + George Buchanan

THIS WEEK AT UNITED CHURCH

- Aug 5th:** **10:00AM** Worship at United Church
 11:30AM Coffee Hour in the Bradley Room
 12:30PM Second Worship Service at the Meeting House
 4:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) at the Parish House
 5:00PM Shalom Congregation Worship and Potluck at Parish House
- Aug 6th:** **8:15AM** Hiroshima Day of Remembrance on the Green (Bell Ringing)
 12Noon AA at the Meeting House
 7:30PM Adult Faith Formation at the Parish House
- Aug 7th:** **12Noon** AA at the Meeting House
 12Noon Staff Meeting at the Parish House
 4:30PM Amistad Committee Meeting at the Parish House
 7:00PM Deacons Meeting at the Parish House
- Aug 8th:** **12Noon** AA at the Meeting House
 6:30PM NA Speakers Group at the Parish House
 7:00PM Shalom Prayer Meeting at the Parish House
- Aug 9th:** **12Noon** AA at the Meeting House
 7:30PM New Generation NA at the Parish House
- Aug 10th:** **12Noon** AA at the Meeting House

CHURCH NOTES

Pastor Bonnie's Contact Information and Office Hours

Mondays: Sermon Drafting

Tuesdays: Office Hours

Wednesdays + Thursdays: Pastoral Calls and Visitation

(203) 787-4195 x104

dr.bonnie.scott@gmail.com

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Pastor Bonnie's Sermon Discussion Series: If you are interested in this Series, please contact the Pastor by phone or by email, so she can add you to the group. On Mondays, the Pastor will email the upcoming Sunday's scripture to the group. The group can then respond and join in the discussion by email.

Upcoming Surgery? New Baby or Grandchild? Moving? Death in the Family? If you've had a recent major life change, please contact the Pastor so that she can contact you and your family and provide appropriate Pastoral Care.

Our Second Service is at 12:30PM. Our second service has been designed for those within the community who may appreciate a different Christian experience. It is a special bi-lingual, inclusive and progressively Pentecostal/ Charismatic musical worship service. The worship is entitled, "Feel the Spirit! ¡Siente El Espiritu!" Deacons Edwin Perez and Carlos Sanchez seek to provide love, welcoming and inclusion, with lively music and singing and a short reflection by your Pastor. We look forward to continuing to see you at one of our services - or even come to both!

Condiments- Going forward, we will be taking food donations once a month as part of our Communion Service. Please bring in your food offering on the first Sunday of each month or drop it off at the Parish House during business hours. **In August, we are collecting Condiments.**

Air Conditioned Worship Service: All Worship Services will be held in the Bradley Room until Labor Day so that we can take advantage of our air conditioning and have a more comfortable worship experience.

Second Hour Talk: Isa Mujahid of CT Core will be speaking to us during second hour on August 5th (today). Please join us.

Backpack Ministry/ School Supply Drive! July 22nd – August 12th

The Outreach Committee is organizing our annual school supply drive to benefit local students through IRIS, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services of New Haven. **Please bring the supplies to the UCG Meeting House on Sunday(s) July 29 and August 05.** If you would rather donate than shop, please make your check payable to "United Church on the Green" and include IRIS in the memo line. **The deadline for monetary donations is August 12.** We plan to have IRIS representatives at the service on August 19 to receive the assembled backpacks. For more information about IRIS and their programs, go to www.irisct.org. For more information about the Backpack Ministry at United Church on the Green or to volunteer to help stuff the backpacks, please contact Jeff Hopper at hopper.jeffery@gmail.com

At United Church on the Green, we seek to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, following in the footsteps of Jesus. We are also a progressive Protestant Christian church, a member of the nationwide United Church of Christ (UCC).

We have a long history.

- Established 1742. Meetinghouse was built in 1815.
- The Amistad Incident? Abolition of slavery? The 1970 Black Panther trials? Divestment in South Africa? United was there.

We believe God is still speaking to the world today... and we're trying to listen.

- Not a "The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it." kind of church. Questions encouraged. (Actually, they're necessary.)
- "Open and Affirming" of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people since 1989.

We are working with God to build a better future.

- Not interested in "saving souls" or "converting the heathen." God's love is for all.
- Trying to "connect the dots" to grow peace, justice, and compassion in the world.

Staff Contacts

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott, *transitional senior pastor*
Caesar Storlazzi, *director of music*
Betty Baisden, *director of the nursery school*
Jack Russell, *director of operations*
Nicole René Atchison, *church administrator*
Nancy Lupi, *financial secretary*
Rev. Louise B. Higginbotham, *minister emerita*

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United Church on the Green, UCC

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Worship Sundays @ 10:00am, corner of Temple & Elm

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