

WORSHIP SERVICE  
MAY 19, 2024, 10:00AM  
PENTECOST SUNDAY

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PRELUDE

Six Easy Variations on an Original Theme in G Major, WoO 77  
Ludwig van Beethoven  
Rowan Richey-Elliott, piano

WORDS OF WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

*(adapted from Galatians 5:16-26 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 & 13:4-8)*

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

(Let us pray.)

Leader: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

**People: For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.**

Leader: And the one same Spirit bears many fruits.

**People: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

Leader: Fill our souls with Your all-loving spirit, and its greatest gift of love.

**People: For love is patient, love is kind, love never fails**

Leader: Forgive us when we fail to love

**People: When we fall into strife, jealousy, and anger,**

Leader: Or quarrels, dissensions, factions, and envy.

**People: Forgive us when we offer You lives that produce little fruit:**

Leader: That fail to honor your gifts and honor instead our own desires.

**People:** Forgive those moments when we forget whose body we are.

Leader: Forgive us when our barriers prevent others joining the body

**People:** Forgive us all motives less than love.

Leader: Hear the confessions we offer now silently:

**People:** And extend to us the grace of Your forgiveness.

*Silence*

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

**All:** Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God's love for us is our greatest gift. When we repent, when we turn to accept that gift, we become the body of Christ. This is the Good News we proclaim in this place: when we confess our sins before God and one another, we are forgiven.

**People:** Alleluia! Amen!

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

#### THE CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

Fruit of the Spirit

adapted by Greer Lyle

#### ANTHEM

The Fruit of the Spirit

Jody Killingsworth

First Fruit: Love  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Second Fruit: Joy

Third Fruit: Peace  
2 Timothy 2:23-25

#### HYMN

I've Got Peace Like a River

African-American Spiritual

Fruit sing: Verses 1 and 2

Congregation joins on Verse 3:

**I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.**

Fourth Fruit: Patience  
Romans 8:25, 28

SONG  
Patience

Mark Burrows

Fifth Fruit: Kindness

Sixth Fruit: Goodness

HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Milton and Joanne LeDoux

Come, thou Fount of ev-'ry bless - ing, tune my  
heart to sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev-er  
ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise. Teach me  
some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! I'm fixed up -  
on it, mount of thy re - deem-ing love.

Seventh Fruit: Faithfulness  
2 Timothy 2:13

Eighth Fruit: Gentleness

\*HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness

James Manley

*Refrain*

Spir - it, Spir-it of gen-tle-ness, blow through the  
wil-der-ness, call-ing and free, Spir -  
it, Spir-it of rest-less-ness, stir me from plac-id-ness,  
wind, wind on the sea. *Fine* You sang in a  
sta - ble, you cried from a hill, then you  
whis-pered in si - lence when the whole world was still,  
and down in the cit - y you  
called once a - gain when you blew through your  
peo - ple on the rush of the wind. *Repeat refrain*

Ninth Fruit: Self-Control  
2 Peter 1:5-8

ANTHEM

Gracious Spirit Dwell with Me

Jeff Reeves

*Children in grades Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> grade recess to church school classrooms.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:4-5, 14; 2:1-18, 41-42;

[Galatians 5:16-23; Ephesians 3:20]

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Welcoming the Spirit”

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

SERMON RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God

Mia Fieldes and Jacob Sooter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As a congregation, we pray together – through word, silence, and  
The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

\*HYMN #218

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

Ebenezer

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

\*Congregation please stand.

Thank you to the Loner family for hosting our fellowship time this morning. Please join us for coffee in Smith Hall immediately following the service.

ARE YOU VISITING OUR CHURCH TODAY?

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us! If you have questions about our church or wish to join us for our next new member class, please contact Anna Rogers at (203) 274-0097 or [welcoming@godsacre.org](mailto:welcoming@godsacre.org).

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

The prayer shawls displayed today were made with love and prayers by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawls are given to those experiencing significant life challenges. During our prayers today, we ask for God's blessing on the shawls, and pray for those who receive them. New members are always welcome. No experience is needed! For more information, contact Twee Haffner at [tweehaffner@gmail.com](mailto:tweehaffner@gmail.com) or (203) 966-0606.

## **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

### **CAST**

Narrator - Margot Emson  
Audience Member - Sophie Bottini  
Apple 1 - Emma Daly  
Apple 2 - Scottie Smith  
Apple 3 - Blair Roberto  
Apple 4 - Annie Denlinger  
Orange - Dunham Smith  
Banana 1 - Amelia Sharp  
Lemon 1 - Andrew Hofer  
Lemon 2 - Lily Lindner  
Lemon 3 - Cyrus Roberto  
Peach 1 - Teddy Lindner  
Peach 2 - Piper Skibitcky  
Strawberry - Juliette Rao Hawkins  
Blackberry - Lucy Skibitcky  
Blueberry - Jack Rao Hawkins  
Grape 1 - Vivienne Bottini  
Grape 2 - Grace Garrabrant  
Grape 3 - Evie Oak  
Pear 1 - Daley Simon  
Pear 2 - Katie Hofer  
Pineapple 1 - Ruby Lou Emson  
Pineapple 2 - John Denlinger  
Instrumentalist/Chorister - Grant Metz

Assistant Director:

Mina Ciolli

## NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

### BEACON OF LIGHT CELEBRATION - JUNE 2

Join us on Sunday, June 2 from 5:00-7:00pm as we celebrate all that God made possible in the lives of our youth this year. We are thrilled to send off our Seniors into the world with prayers and love from our congregation. All youth of all grades, parents, and siblings are welcome! \$20 per person includes dinner and dessert. Register online by May 29. Contact Kelly Antonson at [leather@godsacre.org](mailto:leather@godsacre.org).

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, May 20 for an offsite Professional Development seminar. For Pastoral Care concerns, please contact 203-966-2651 ext. 103.

### COMBINED CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS – MAY 26

We will be offering a combined church school class over Memorial Day weekend for children who are three years old through fourth grade. The nursery will be available for children under three years of age.

### FELLOWSHIP ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

Join us for the All-Church Picnic on Sunday, June 9. The picnic will follow the 10:00am worship service. Families with the last names A-M, please bring a salad, fruit, or side dish for 10. Families with last names N-Z, please bring dessert for 10. Church School will provide activities for the children, and the Fellowship Team will provide sandwiches and Kona Ice for all! We hope you can clear your calendars and stay for the celebration.

### FOURTH GRADE FIRST COMMUNION – JUNE 2

Please join us on Sunday, June 2, during the 10:00am service to witness our fourth graders celebrating their First Communion. Contact [churchschool@godsacre.org](mailto:churchschool@godsacre.org) with any questions.



### LISA MILLER EVENT – MAY 21, 7:00-8:00PM

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and we are delighted to welcome back Lisa Miller, PhD, author and Professor of Psychology and Education and director of the Clinical Psychology Program at Teachers College, Columbia University. On Tuesday, May 21, at 7:00pm in the Meeting House, she will discuss her bestselling book, *The Spiritual Child: The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving*. Combining leading-edge research with broad anecdotal evidence from her work as a clinical psychologist, Miller illustrates how invaluable spirituality is to a child's mental and physical health and translates these findings into practical advice for parents, grandparents and caregivers of children and young adults. Contact Marianna Kilbride, [marianna@godsacre.org](mailto:marianna@godsacre.org).

### MAASAI 2024 – GOTTA GET SOME GOATS

As the Maasai recover from catastrophic drought, they are acquiring livestock to tend. We hope to raise \$22,000 to buy 400 drought-resistant goats, \$55.00 each, for 200 families. Goat keeping is a sustainable livelihood that will provide women of the tribe, each given two goats, with goat's milk to sell. Please stop by the Maasai table during Fellowship time to learn more and participate. Contact Lindsay Tucker, [lindsaytucker08@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaytucker08@gmail.com).

### MAY PLATE OFFERING

The May plate offering will go towards the Maasai Goat project.

### NEW PODCAST COMING SOON – NEXT STATION TO HEAVEN

Next Station to Heaven is a new podcast of The Congregational Church of New Canaan that seeks to connect scripture with daily living and working. Through biblical reflection, practice, and prayer, we travel toward a destination where God's will can be done on earth and in our lives, as it is in Heaven.

### SUMMER WORSHIP ON GOD'S ACRE – 9:00AM WORSHIP

Starting on Sunday, June 16, we will have one worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. We will worship in the Memorial Garden when weather permits; and indoors when inclement. During summer worship, we will offer nursery care for children ages 3 and under. We will also offer an optional combined church school class from June 16 - July 21 for children ages 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We will continue to offer our God's Acre On the Go worship podcast and livestream video each Sunday throughout the summer so that you can stay connected wherever you are and wherever you are traveling.

### THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION – JUNE 9

A celebrated spiritual milestone in the life of our church is the presentation of the third-grade bibles. This special occurrence will take place during the service on Celebration Sunday, June 9. Please see your email for a link to register your child to receive their third-grade bible or reach out directly to [churchschool@godsacre.org](mailto:churchschool@godsacre.org).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) REGISTRATION OPEN!

VBS 2024: Carrying the Torch registration for the week of August 19-22 is now open. Register your camper (4 years old-4<sup>th</sup> grade), your junior counselor (entering 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade) or your senior counselor (entering 9<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade, paid position!) to join us for a week of faith building and fellowship. See your email for sign up links or please reach out to [churchschool@godsacre.org](mailto:churchschool@godsacre.org).

### YOUTH MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

5/19 MSYG (Grades 7-8), 4:00-5:30pm

5/19 YG Seniors, 6:00-7:00pm, Dinner with Chapin and Kelly in the Parlor

5/19 YG (Grades 9-12), 7:00-8:30pm, YG Outdoor Movie Night!

5/21 Minnows (Grades K-2), 3:30-4:30pm

5/21 JYG/Guppies (Grades 3-6), 4:30-5:30pm



PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

*Senior Minister*

Marianna Kilbride

*Director of Spiritual Formation*

Greer Lyle

*Director of Children's Music and  
Drama*

Dr. Michael Burnette

*Interim Director of Music Ministries*

Anne Maguire, mezzo-soprano

*Soloist*

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Twee Haffner

We are a welcoming, inclusive, and compassionate church community where difference and diversity are valued. We gather to promote the love and knowledge of the God revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Redeemer and Friend, and welcome all to participate in the life of our church regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, ability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

We invite you to make your 2024 pledge today.

