

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject racism.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

WORSHIP SERVICE

AUGUST 3, 2025, 9:00AM

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

LV Beethoven

WORDS OF WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Let us pray.)

Leader: Healing, Holy God, Giving and Forgiving God:

People: From whom every good thing does come,

Leader: We offer You hungry hearts waiting to be filled.

People: Fill our hearts with a sense of Your presence.

Leader: We offer You souls aching to be touched:

People: Fill our souls with Your all-loving spirit.

Leader: We offer You lives inundated with everyday needs:

People: Fill our lives with a sense of peace.

Leader: We offer You lives that are less than they might be:

People: Forgive those moments when we disappoint You.

Leader: We offer You lives where we follow our own desires:

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

Leader: We offer You lives that fail to see the needs of others:

People: Forgive those moments when our self-focus blinds us.

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 greater than the sin we commit against God. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. This is the Good News we proclaim in this place: when we confess our sins before God and one another, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: **Alleluia! Amen!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rose Morgan Galione

daughter of Matthew & Rachel Galione

VOWS OF THE PARENTS/GODPARENTS

VOW OF THE CONGREGATION

Deacon: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?

People: **We promise our love, support, and care for Rose.**

UNISON WELCOME

Rose: We the community of The Congregational Church welcome you into our family, which is called the body of Christ. We rejoice in your presence among us, and the presence of your family. As you grow, we will tell you about this moment that we have shared with you, and we will tell you about God's love that has been poured out on you. As you grow, we pray that you will tell us about God's love as it touches you; so together we may reach toward the Kingdom of God. Welcome!

*HYMN (*page 6*)

Rejoice, O Pure in Heart

Edward Plumptre/Arthur Messiter

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Repentance, Repair, Reconciliation”

Rev. Kent Siladi

SERMON RESPONSE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas Chisholm

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

His Eye is on The Sparrow Civilia Martin/Charles Gabriel

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*HYMN (*page 7*)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Joseph Scriven

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus!

George Duffield/arr. Robenson Altino

*Congregation please stand.

COLLECTION OF OFFERING

Please place your tithes and offerings in the plates provided as you enter or leave this morning.

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.

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

AUGUST PLATE OFFERING

The August plate offering will go towards Filling in the Blanks, which aims to fight childhood hunger by providing children in need with weekend meals.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



Registration for the 2025–2026 program year is officially open! We invite all families to register their children and youth for our vibrant ministries, which nurture faith, build community, and foster growth in God's love.

Please register by **August 15** so we can prepare well for a joyful and meaningful year ahead! Register using the QR code below or on the church website. Contact Kimmie Dyrvik with questions at kimmie@godsacre.org.

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER CLOSURE

The church offices will be closed on Fridays through August 29. Contact (203)966-2651, x103, for pastoral care concerns.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS

There will be no church school classes offered during the month of August. Activity bags are available. Nursery care is provided for children three and under.

DEDICATE A FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Dedicate a floral arrangement to remember someone special who has passed away or who is celebrating a special birthday, anniversary, or graduation. Please contact Tracy Goldman at office@godsacre.org to choose a date and discuss color preference. A suggested donation of \$100 is greatly appreciated.

FILLING IN THE BLANKS BACKPACK DRIVE – AUGUST 1-31

We invite you to donate new full-size empty backpacks during the month of August to benefit Filling in the Blanks. Their mission is to fight childhood hunger by providing children in need with weekend meals. Backpacks may be dropped off in the bin in Smith Hall or mailed directly to the church c/o Tracy Goldman. Please contact Tracy at office@godsacre.org with any questions.

GIVING THIS SUMMER

We are grateful for your generous pledges as they are essential to the operation of our church. While we know many families will be traveling this summer, we encourage you to stay current on your pledge commitment so that we may be best prepared for our fall offerings.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP AUGUST HOSTS NEEDED

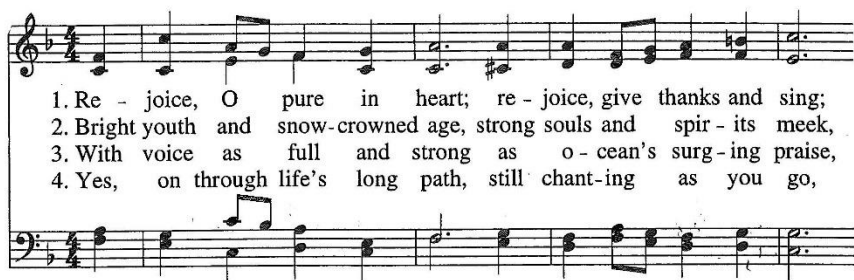
If you would like to host summer fellowship time after the 9:00am garden worship, please sign up after worship or email Laurel Carr at laurel@godsacre.org. The church provides beverages and paper goods; the host is responsible for providing a breakfast treat.

SUMMER SERMON TALK BACK

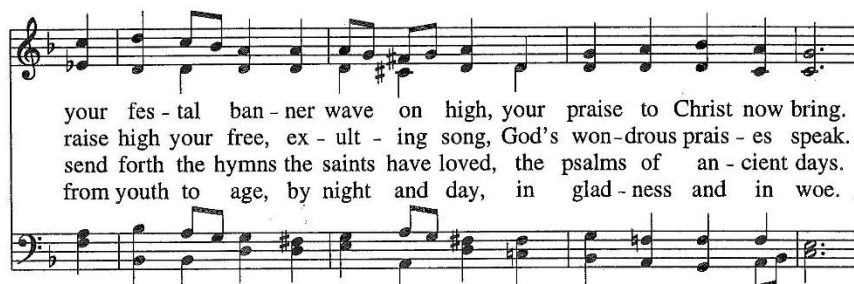
Join Kent in the Chapel at 10:00am to reflect and share insights on the scripture and sermon just preached. Actively engage in processing what you have just heard with fellow congregants and consider how it might apply to your daily life and the life of the world.

Rejoice, O Pure in Heart

29



1. Re - joice, O pure in heart; re - joice, give thanks and sing;
 2. Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong souls and spir - its meek,
 3. With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 4. Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as you go,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, your praise to Christ now bring.
 raise high your free, ex - ult - ing song, God's won - drous prais - es speak.
 send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of an - cient days.
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.

Refrain



Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.
 Re - joice, re - joice,

WORDS: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865, alt.
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Messiter, 1883

MARION
 SM w. refrain

An Anglican scholar, theologian, author and preacher, Plumptre wrote this hymn for the annual choir festival at Peterborough Cathedral in England.

O sing to the Lord a new song;
 sing to the Lord, all the earth.
 Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;
 tell of God's salvation from day to day.
 Declare God's glory among the nations,
 God's marvelous works among all people.

— Psalm 96: 1-3, NRSV, adapted

PRaise TO GOD

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to the Lord in prayer!

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you, you will find a sol - ace there.

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP:

The Rev. Kent Siladi

Pastor in Residence

Kelly Antonson

*Associate Minister for Children, Youth,
and Families*

Robenson Altino

Guest Pianist

Khanisha Moore

Soloist

Leigh Engen

AV Tech Leader

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Teri Reed

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 an offering today.



The Congregational Church
of New Canaan

23 Park Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203)966-2651
www.godsacre.org

We Welcome All
Visitors and Newcomers

We are a
Stephen Ministry Church

This Church has been
gathered to promote
the love and knowledge
of the God revealed in
Jesus the Christ
our Lord and Savior,
Redeemer and Friend.

The Church Covenant
We do covenant with
the Lord and with one
another, and do bind
ourselves in the presence
of God to walk together
in all His ways, according
as He is pleased to reveal
Himself unto us in His
blessed word of Truth.
Amen.

The image on the front
cover is courtesy of the
United Church of Christ.