



Give



Serve



Attend



Grow

Stewardship

Sunday, October 27, 2019



As Center Church, we respond to God by
nurturing faith, and building authentic
connections and relationships.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD
*An Open and Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ*

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
GENEROSITY SUNDAY

Welcome ~ Bienvenidos

October 27, 2019

10:30 AM

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CENTER CHURCH. Thank you for being here today! We are glad you have joined us for this service of worship and the fellowship of this congregation. We hope that you will be both comforted and challenged by the Word of God for us today. If you are new to our community, we hope you will consider making this your church home. Any of our worship leaders or ushers will be able to help with your questions. If you are already a member, be sure to extend a friendly greeting to those around you, starting with someone you don't know...yet.

*Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices
before the service of Worship begins.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

COMING BEFORE GOD

PLEASE BE SEATED.

PRELUDE

House of God Forever

Jon Foreman

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Caribbean

GATHERING WORDS

Leader: With joy, in hope, surrounded by love, let us worship God!

PLEASE STAND.

OPENING HYMN

We Gather Together

No. 421

KRESMER

PLEASE BE SEATED.

STORY

Nancy Maclean

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S LIVING WORD

PLEASE BE SEATED.

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:19-21

NRSV: Old Testament, pg. 659

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Afterward, the children exit the Meeting House to attend Church School.)

PLEASE STAND.

SONG

God of Justice

Tim Hughes

God of Justice, Savior to all
Came to rescue the weak and the poor
Came to serve and not be served
And Jesus, You have called us.
Freely we've received. now freely we will give,

**We must go, live to feed the hungry
Stand beside the hurting, we must go
Stepping forward keep us from just singing.
Move us into action, we must go**

To act justly everyday
Loving mercy in every way
Walking humbly before You, God.
You have shown us what You require
Freely we've received now freely we will give

**We must go, live to feed the hungry
Stand beside the hurting, we must go
Stepping forward keep us from just singing
Move us into action, we must go.**

Fill us up, and send us out... (repeat)

PLEASE BE SEATED.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Mark 8:1-8

NRSV: New Testament, pg. 920

STORY

Bill Warner-Prouty

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER ("debts")

**Our Father*, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

(= traditional wording but you may use alternative wording,
such as "God," "Creator," or "Mother," as seems fitting.)*

PSALTER READING

Psalms 100

NRSV: Old Testament, pg. 541

MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED .

VIDEO PRESENTATION

SILENT REFLECTION

THE OFFERING AND PRESENTATION OF PLEDGES

(Please bring both your regular offerings and pledge cards, and place them in the designated containers. We encourage you to use offering envelopes when giving.)

CHOIR ANTHEM

Great Day

Spiritual arr. by Marvin Curtis

PLEASE STAND AS THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD.

Hymn of Presentation

OLD HUNDREDTH

text: Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.
music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heav'nly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOING FORTH

PLEASE REMAIN STANDING .

SONG

All Glory be to Christ

King Kaleidoscope

Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive,
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me what is your life,
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing
All glory be to Christ!
His will be done
His kingdom come
On earth as is above,
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing
All glory be to Christ!
When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true,
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light,
And we shall ere his people be
All glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing
All glory be to Christ!

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Amen, Amen

Please remain seated for the postlude. Go in peace!

POSTLUDE

God of Justice

Tim Hughes

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN TODAY'S SERVICE AND MINISTRIES

The Rev. Shelly Stackhouse, *Worship Leader*
Logan Singerman, *Guest Musician*
Steven Lewis, *Worship Coordinator*
Kay Davidson, *Usher*
Michael Sieger, *Reader*
John Border, *Coffee Ministry*
Anita Cowing, *Refreshments Coordinator*

The flowers on display in the Meeting House this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of George N. Lewis, on his 81st birthday, and his beloved wife, Audrey Melbourne Lewis, by Steven Lewis.

Today's card recipients are Rev. J. Alan & Joan McLean (encouragement.) Please visit the Remembrance Area after Worship to sign.



"Let There Be Light" Memorial

The Meeting House steeple is lighted this week as follows:

October 30 ~ In loving memory of Anthony ("Tony") Timpanelli, and in tribute to his son, Patrick, and Patrick's husband, Rev. Paul F. Goodman, by the Center Church family.

If you would like to light up the steeple in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact the Church Office for details.

Update on Church Publications

In an effort to save on expenses (and trees!), we will no longer publish a monthly newsletter. As the church focuses on a more "digital" presence, we encourage you to check our weekly *E-News* and refreshed website to keep up-to-date on all church events and activities.

This Week at Center Church

Today	-	9:45	Choir Rehearsal (Meeting House);
	-	10:30	Worship Service and Church School; followed by refreshments and Adult Education Class (at the Church House);
	-	3:00	Sunday Community Meals
Monday	-	6:30	GHIAA Kick-off Meeting @CCSU
Tuesday	-	11:00	Staff Meeting
Wednesday	-	7:30	Choir Rehearsal



October 27 ~ Terrence French, Jr.

November 2 ~ Gregory & Susan Norsigian

Have you signed up for our new texting service? It's easy!

Center Church closing due to weather, important reminders, or
cancellation/rescheduling of a church-wide event.

To enroll, text CENTER to (860) 300-3697.

You will receive an opt-in from "Center Text In Church" and an invitation to
fill out a brief form to complete your enrollment. (Message and data rates
may apply according to your data plan.) We hope that this will help us all
stay in closer contact with one another at Center Church!

Closings & Cancellations on WFSB-TV/Channel 3

We also list all church event/activities cancellations, closings, and
postponements on our local CBS affiliate, WFSB-TV (Channel 3.) We are
listed as "Center Church, Hartford."

WELCOME TO CENTER CHURCH!

Would you like to learn more?

Have our pastor contact you?

Interested in volunteering?

**Please fill out this form →
and drop it in the offering plate.**

We look forward to speaking with you!

IN CASE OF FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCY

Exit swiftly by the nearest safe door - two exits are located near the pulpit, and three exits are located at the rear of the sanctuary.

Help people around you who may have children or mobility challenges.

Call 911. Don't assume someone else has already done so!

Move to the Church House, so we can be sure everyone is accounted for.

Center Church

The First Church of Christ in Hartford

Member of

The United Church of Christ

Welcome!

¡Bienvenidos!

- I am searching for a church home, and would like more information about Center Church.
- I would like to learn how I can help with the ministries of Center Church.
- I would like the minister to contact me.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Email Address _____

**Please fill out this card and
place it in the offering plate.**

Prayer List

*Joyce Baker, Bruce Bidwell, Cindy Blutin & family, Jennifer Boutin,
Joyce Buckingham, Nilsa Cierpikowski, Robert Gilbert, Polly Libby,
Jane Macomber, Carmen Mahone, Sara Markham, Joan McLean, Danny Mullen,
Lucille Parker, Van Parker, Margo Raymond & daughter, Kelly, Jeff Rathnam,
Robin Roy, Earl Sanderson, Jason Sipes, Norman Stanley, Liz Stoever,
Steven Thompson, Marilyn Watson, Monique Young, The City of Hartford,
The Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, The First Church of
Christ in Hartford, The State of Connecticut, The President of the United States,
and all victims of violence & natural disasters*

I'll be there!

GREATER HARTFORD
INTERFAITH ACTION ALLIANCE

10/28/19

Founding of the

**GREATER HARTFORD
INTERFAITH ACTION ALLIANCE**

WELTE AUDITORIUM

Central Connecticut State University

6:15pm arrival; 6:45pm prompt start

Directions:

- From I-84, take Exit 39A to Rte. 9 South
- From Rte. 9 South, take Exit 29 and turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto Ella T. Grasso Boulevard.
- Take your fourth left onto Welte Drive. The Welte parking garage entrance will be on your right.

The Welte Garage is #40 on the campus map, and Welte Hall is #6 on the campus map.

For more info about the event, call: 860-527-9860 or email cmackey@christianactivities.org.

Faith Congregational Church, U.C.C.



Presents

“200 Years and Still We Sing”

Featuring

Patricia A. Gray & Earl W. Gardner

Accompanists:

Dr. Ruth Bass Green

Mrs. Stacy Cahoon

Sunday, October 27, 2019
4:00 p.m.

In Harmony with God For
200 Years



Rev. Stephen W. Camp, Senior Pastor
2030 Main Street, Hartford, CT

Sunday Adult Education Faith Formation Classes

After Worship, on the first floor
of the Church House.

On September 15, we began discussing some of the issues being talked about in connection with *The 1619 Project*, and in addition, the life of Reverend James W.C. Pennington, who was one of the early ministers of the Talcott Street Church. *The 1619 Project* is a project of The New York Times that takes its name from the fact that in August 1619 enslaved Africans were first bought to Virginia, and you can read about it online.

Questions for this week:

1. How did you first learn about the history of slavery in the U.S.? What did you learn, and how was that information presented?
2. What do you see as the lasting legacy of slavery in the U.S.?
3. What do you know about the contributions of black Americans to U.S. society, and where does that information come from?
4. Referring to the text of the Declaration of Independence, answer the following questions:
 - o What are the values stated in the Declaration of Independence?
 - o In what ways can you see those values working in contemporary American life? In what ways can you see them failing?
 - o How has the interpretation of those values changed over time? Who is responsible for creating those changes?

After discussing these questions, we will discuss the essay entitled “The Idea of America”. The guiding questions for that essay are as follows:

1. How have laws, policies, and systems developed to enforce the enslavement of black Americans before the Civil War influenced laws, policies, and systems in years since?
2. How has activism by black Americans throughout U.S. history led to policies that benefit all people living in the U.S.?

If you have any questions or suggestions, please see Alvin Thompson or Reverend Shelley.



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING Congregation. "We include into full participation in the life of this church persons of any age, race, economic status, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and physical, emotional and mental capacity" (from the statement adopted October 23, 1994.) In recognition of the richness of backgrounds of our congregation, a **DIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES** will find expression in our worship services. Center Church offers an **OPEN COMMUNION**. Adults and children from all religious backgrounds are invited to partake.

TEXT ALERTS To receive text alerts regarding church activities and cancellations, please text the word CENTER to (860) 300-3697. (Message and data rates may apply according to your data plan.)

FACEBOOK LIVE We livestream our worship services on Facebook each week, and your presence here constitutes your permission for your image to be shown. If you prefer not to be seen, speak with the minister or whoever is operating the phone up front to determine where a good seat might be to avoid the camera. Our viewership is growing and we are excited to welcome a congregation in cyberspace!

FREE PARKING is available during Sunday Worship Services at the Travelers Plaza Garage off Prospect Street (next to the Hartford Club.) The garage closes at 1:00pm (12:00pm during Summer services). On-street parking is also available on Gold Street and on the west side of Lewis Street, and is FREE on Sundays.

REST ROOMS are located in the basement of the Meeting House. Please use the stairs in the southeast corner of the building. For safety, please have an adult accompany your child to the restroom.

CHURCH SCHOOL is held at the Church House (60 Gold Street) for preschool to 12th Grade. Children are to remain with their families in the Meeting House during worship until they depart for Church School following the Children's Moment. Please pick your child up promptly at 12:00pm. For their safety, children will remain with their Church School instructor until an adult picks them up.

CHILDCARE and NURSERY care are provided by trained, capable, and nurturing staff and volunteers, and is available in the Meeting House basement for infants and toddlers (up to two years of age.) A nursery without staff is also located on the second floor of the Church House.

CURRENT SUNDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES are held in the Church House (60 Gold Street) at Noon. Announcements regarding Adult Education classes are announced in our publications.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS to the sanctuary is via the lift outside at the south end of the portico. If possible, please call the church office in advance for assistance in using the lift.

Please feel free to confer with a minister regarding our **INQUIRER'S CLASSES** for **POTENTIAL MEMBERS, BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS** or **COMMITMENT CEREMONIES**. The latest issue of **CENTER CHURCH NEWS** is available in the literature rack at the back of the Meeting House and at the Church House (60 Gold Street).

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

A member of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

CENTER CHURCH, 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 4:00pm

Library Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00am to Noon, or by appointment.

P 860.249.5631 * F 860.246.3915 * www.centerchurchhartford.org

Transitional Minister: The Reverend Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse (ext. 202)

Minister Emeritus: The Reverend J. Alan McLean

Director of Music/Organist: Robert F. Gilbert (ext. 204)

Warburton Director of Outreach Ministries: Logan Singerman (ext. 205)

Church Administrator: Marie Ferrantino (ext. 209)

Bookkeeper: Brenda Russell (ext. 201)

Receptionist/Office Assistant: Monique Young (ext. 200)

Sextons: Thomas St. Amant and Ileia Belton

Nursery Care: Tina Franklin

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LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ~ PLEASE REQUEST FROM AN USHER.