



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

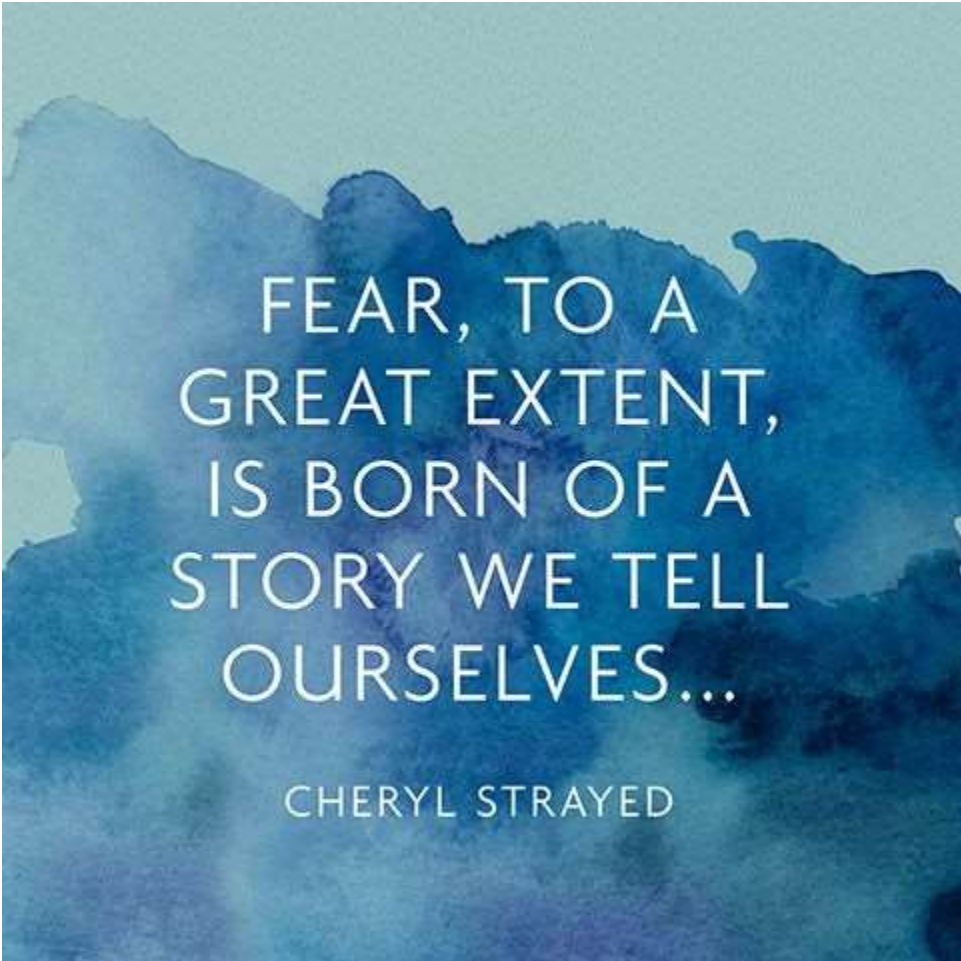
United Church of Christ  
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820  
Phone: 203-655-0491 Fax: 203-655-7620  
E-mail: [info@uccdarien.org](mailto:info@uccdarien.org)  
[www.uccdarien.org](http://www.uccdarien.org)



***FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

***May 7, 2017***

***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***



FEAR, TO A  
GREAT EXTENT,  
IS BORN OF A  
STORY WE TELL  
OURSELVES...

CHERYL STRAYED

# ***FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

***May 7, 2017***

***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***

*Children are always welcome at our worship services.*

*A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 2 and younger,  
in the Nursery School wing starting at 9:45 a.m.*

***\*Those who are able are invited to stand.***

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **\*HYMN #209**

“ALLELUIA! THE STRIFE IS O’ER”

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Nothing awes us like gathering before the Lord,  
to see with new eyes and hearts full of wonder.

**The God of all worlds joins with us  
in new ways in the season of Easter.**

Praise God for all signs of new life among us.  
Praise God for all that we can realize together.

**We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,  
and we would follow in his footsteps.**

## **All uniting:**

**Christ came to offer the world abundant life.  
We gather today to reclaim that ultimate gift.**

## **\*OPENING PRAYER**

Mr. Gary M. Morello, Associate Minister

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

**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 forever. Amen.**

## \*GLORIA PATRI



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it was in the be-  
gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men

## CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

LEVITICUS 19:33-37

Bill Lattimer (8:30)  
Gary Holmes (10:00)

When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

You shall not cheat in measuring length, weight, or quantity. You shall have honest balances, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. You shall keep all my statutes and all my ordinances, and observe them: I am the Lord.

## \*HYMN #S11

“ONE BREAD, ONE BODY”

**GOSPEL LESSON**

MATTHEW 5:43-48

Rev. Rosenberger

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**SERMON**

"PERCEIVED ENEMIES, REAL AND IMAGINED"

Rev. Rosenberger

*Sermon Series #2: Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*

**OFFERTORY**

“VICTORY IS MINE”

Dorothy Norwood

*(10:00 only)*

The “Show Up and Sing” Ladies

\***DOXOLOGY** *(10:00 only)*

\***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison) (10:00 only)*

**Thank you, God, for the abundant life we enjoy, not in the things we possess but in the relationships you offer and the opportunities for sharing that your church provides us. May all that we here dedicate to you find its way to praise your name and meet human need. Extend our outreach beyond our vision as we marvel at your mercy and grace. Amen**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**INVITATION**

**CALL TO PRAYER**

(Leader)

The Lord be with you.

(Congregation)

**And also with you.**

(Leader)

Lift up your hearts.

(Congregation)

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

(Leader)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(Congregation)

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

\*SANCTUS

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

*Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord!*

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (*unison*)

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior’s presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. We thank you that you judge us not by the perfection of our actions, but by our readiness to live in faith. Help us to trust you and follow where you lead, that in Christ your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen.**

\*HYMN #374

“WON’T YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT?”

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Rosenberger

**POSTLUDE**

\* \* \*

**TODAY’S USHERS** are Lou Converse, Kristin Desautelle, Gary Holmes and Bill Lattimer (8:30).

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DEDICATE A HYMNAL TO SOMEONE SPECIAL WITH A BOOKPLATE**

Please see inside back cover. Return your completed form to the church office.

### **2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you made a pledge for 2017, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and are on the table, outside the church office. If you do not see envelopes with your name, and would like offering envelopes, please contact Karen Hansen at [KHansen@uccdarien.org](mailto:KHansen@uccdarien.org).

## **A CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING**

YOU ARE HEREBY CALLED TO THE  
“ANNUAL MEETING: PART II–PROGRAMS”  
OF  
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN,  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.

This meeting is scheduled for **this morning**  
immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service of worship.

The purpose of this congregational meeting is to:

- \* receive the 2017 nominating reports,
- \* receive committee program reports,
- \* address any other business or concern relating to the life of our parish,  
which may properly be brought before the assembled congregation.

Childcare will be provided during the meeting.

### **OPENINGS AT THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL**

We have a few openings in the 3's and, for the first time ever, the Pre-k. If you are looking for a morning 3's class or are undecided about sending your child on to kindergarten in September, call us at (203) 655-3150. Teri Manning is happy to discuss options!

### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH**

*The First Congregational Church of Darien Helps!*

**Person-to-Person Postal Drive May 13th** - Mark your calendars to help Person-to-Person STAMP OUT HUNGER through the annual Postal Drive. Person-to-Person needs volunteers all day to help collect and sort food. Sign up link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0549aca92ba0fb6-persontoperson5> or email Lindsay Atha with questions at [lindsayatha@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayatha@gmail.com)

**Tickets are now on sale for The June 8th Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart!** We hope that you will join in the fun by attending the tour and/or volunteering for a shift.

Discounted tickets available to those who staff a shift at a house! Visit [darienhousetour.org](http://darienhousetour.org) for more information!

## Hymns of Truth & Light

### Dedicate a hymnal to someone special with a bookplate!

The cost of adding a personalized bookplate is \$25 per hymnal. Please fill out the following form, printing clearly so that your name and that of a loved one are readable and reproducible on a bookplate:

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**>>To honor the memory of a loved one:**

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

**>To celebrate someone special:**

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

**>>To dedicate a meetinghouse hymnal(s) in your family name:**

Your family name: \_\_\_\_\_

>>Otherwording: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Total number of hymnals ordered above: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due with this order: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Price: \$25ea)

(Please make check out to First Congregational Church of Darien, with "hymnal" in the memo section, and leave it and the form in the church office.)

**Thank you! Through your purchase, you are helping subsidize the cost of these hymnals to the church.**

**WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

**"Where God's extravagant love welcomes and affirms,  
where Christ's transforming truth enlivens and compels."**

We are an accepting community where faith in Christ makes a difference. We welcome you to worship with us wherever you are on your journey. As a spiritual home, our hallmarks are education, fellowship and pastoral care. Children have a special place in our church family, and are embraced with love, guidance and opportunities for spiritual growth. We are a church of conscience, unafraid of the issues of today and serving as a reconciling force among different faiths.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**TODAY**

Annual Meeting, 11:00 a.m.  
Knitting Ministry, 11:00 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

**MONDAY, MAY 8**

Bell Choir, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Board of Deacons, 7:00 p.m. in the Circle Room  
Board of Stewards, 7:45 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

**TUESDAY, MAY 9**

Nursery School "Messy Art Show", 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

**THURSDAY, MAY 11**

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, MAY 14**

Worship Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

***Ministers:*** Every member of the congregation.

***Clergy and Staff:***

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Senior Minister (emergency pager) 1- (203) 368-7789*

Gary M. Morello, *Associate Minister*

The Rev. Ronald T. Evans, *Pastor Emeritus*

Mary Jo Colman, *Church School Director*

Daniel Hague, *Music Director* Maxim Pakhomov, *Organist*

Teri Manning, *Nursery School Director* Karen Hansen, *Treasurer*

Pamela Toason, *Church Administrator (M, T)* Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator (W, Th, Fri)*

Carlos Maya, *Weekday Sexton* Ruth Salazar, *Sunday Sexton*