



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
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SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 26, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.



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

PRELUDE

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Pastor

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN**

“I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD”

(page 3)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

Call to mind the mighty acts and wonders of God.
Remember the visions God has made known to us.

**All of the ways of God are holy and just.
Nothing and no one is so great as our God.**

With a strong arm and a tender heart, God redeems us.
Day by day, God leads us in ways of strength and care.

**We gather here to be equipped for our best lives.
We come together to renew our hearts and minds.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

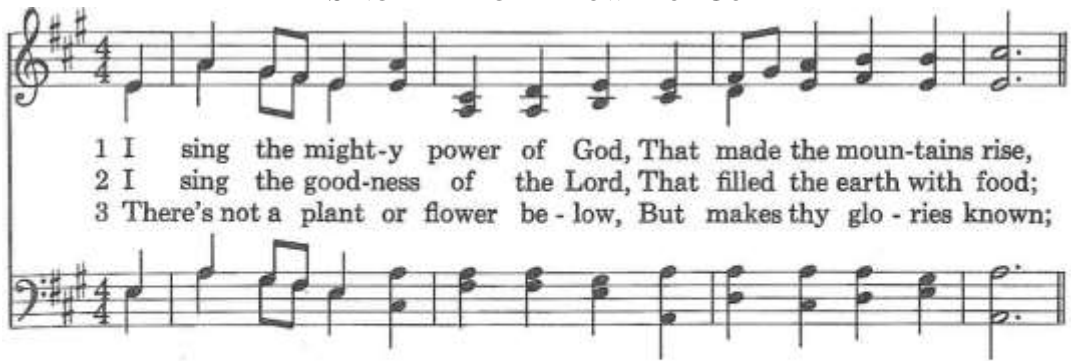
***LORD’S PRAYER**

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.

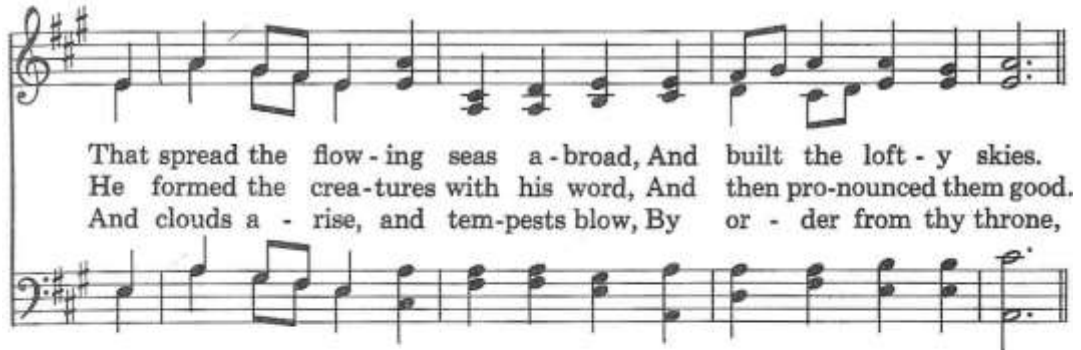
***GLORIA PATRI**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.***

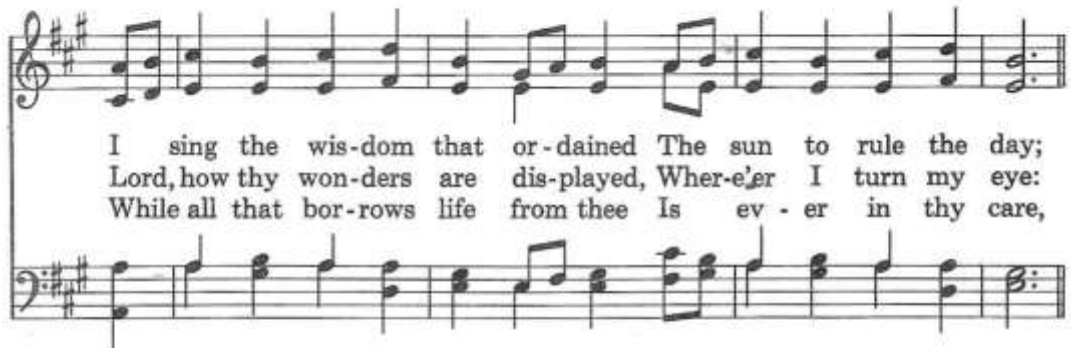
I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD



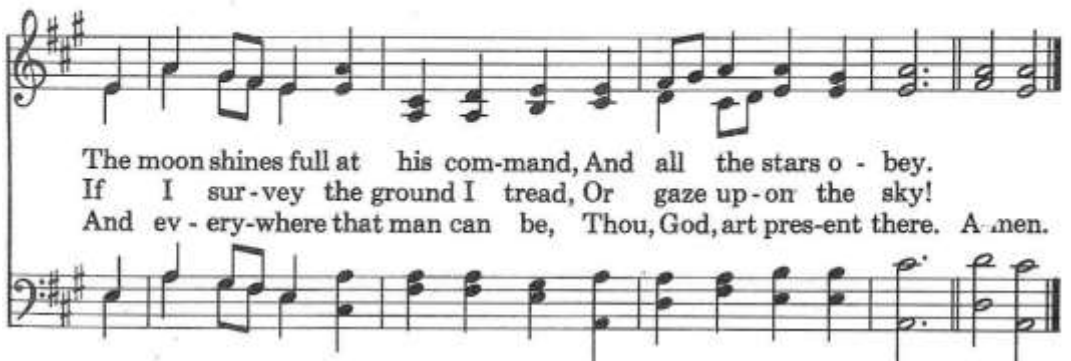
1 I sing the might-y power of God, That made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, That filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, But makes thy glo - ries known;



That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, And built the loft - y skies.
He formed the crea-tures with his word, And then pro-nounced them good.
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from thy throne,



I sing the wis-dom that or-dained The sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, Wher-e'er I turn my eye:
While all that bor-rows life from thee Is ev - er in thy care,



The moon shines full at his com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.
If I sur-vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up-on the sky!
And ev - ery-where that man can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there. A men.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

II KINGS 2:1-2, 6-14

Phil Meyer, Deacon

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, ‘Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.’ But he said, ‘As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.’ Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’ He responded, ‘You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.’ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, ‘Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, ‘Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?’ When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

*HYMN

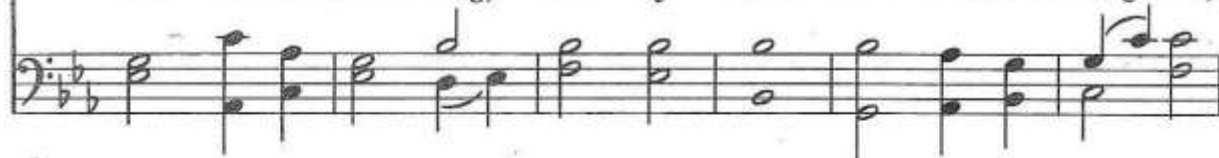
"FAIREST LORD JESUS"



1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all na - ture,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair - er still the moon - light,



O thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cher - ish,
 Robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 And all the twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,



Thee will I hon - or, Thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, Who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, Than all the an - gels heaven can boast. A - men.



The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’

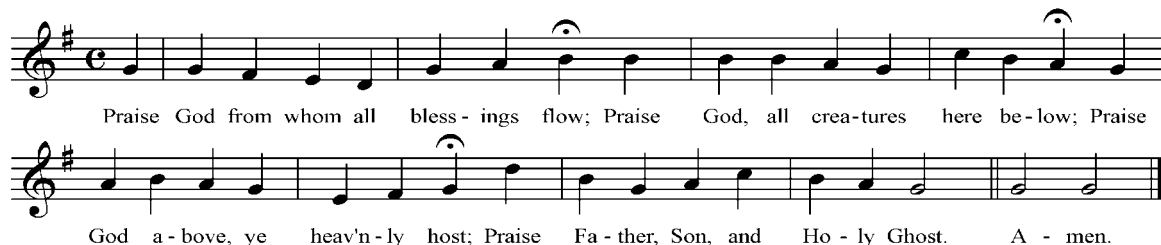
Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ They left the city and were on their way to him.

SERMON “FINDING OUR SPIRITUAL CENTER IN A NARCISSISTIC WORLD”

Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise
 God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(unison)

Gracious God, we did not know it would cost so much of us, and mean so much to us, to follow where Jesus leads. We are grateful to have much to give and to have much yet to learn. We dedicate these offerings accordingly, that we would be equipped for life in your reign; that in our giving, Jesus would become more comprehensible to our likes. Amen.

Refrain

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, stand-ing in the

need of prayer. It's me (it's me), it's

me, O Lord, stand-ing in the need of prayer. *Fine*

1. Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's
 2. Not the preach - er, not the teach - er, but it's
 3. Not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's
 4. Not the strang - er, not my neigh - bor, but it's

(continued)

STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER (continued)

me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of prayer.

Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's
 Not the preach - er, not the teach - er, but it's
 Not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's
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 me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of prayer.

D. C.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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TODAY'S USHERS are Phil Meyer and Leo Schlinkert.

BULLETIN COVER: Christ and the Samaritan Woman, by Duccio di Buoninsegna (1260-1318).

MUSIC NOTES: “**I Sing the Mighty Power of God,**” by Isaac Watts, 1684-1748. Public Domain. “**Fairest Lord Jesus,**” German: 17th Century, Public Domain. “**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,**” Words by Charles Wesley, Tune: HYFRYDOL, by Rowland Hugh Prichard. Public Domain.

MEETINGHOUSE RENOVATION UPDATE – JUNE 22

So far, the project in the Meetinghouse project has moved according to plan. The emergency shoring is in place, the roof structure is stable and the insulation has been removed to facilitate the inspection and evaluation of the other trusses and ceiling.

With that prep work complete, the roof structure and ceiling were inspected today (6/22) by Mr. Jim Norton (GNCB Consulting Engineers), Jim Sabith (Kronenberger & Sons Construction), Dale Rosenberger (Pastor) and Andrew Barnard (Chair, Board of Stewards). This was a preliminary inspection, and the engineers will be returning to inspect further with the goal of gathering the information they require to prepare concept designs for several possible remedies.

We have also received the preliminary draft of the engineering study of the entire facility. This 281-page report is an exhaustive survey of all of our buildings, grounds and systems. The cost estimator is still working on his section of the report, so we don't yet have costs associated with the recommendations. However, this report does provide a detailed list of required and recommended action steps, which will prove to be a great help in our maintenance and upkeep of the church. After the cost estimator has completed his work, GNCB will present the findings to Stewards and Church Council and answer questions.

We will endeavor to provide as much information as we can in a timely fashion as we move forward with this important work.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Barnard
Chair, Board of Stewards

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

The First Congregational Church Nursery School has a couple openings in the 2's and the 4's for 2016-2017. Please call the school 203 655-3150 or email fccns@sbcglobal.net for more information.

TEACHING TEAM NEEDED FOR GRADE LEVELS PRE-K/1ST, 4TH -7TH!!

Calling parents to step up and volunteer one Sunday a month throughout September 4th - June to assist, and facilitate Sunday School classes. We wish to remind parents how important and gratifying it is to encourage and be an active participant in your child's faith journey. Please note that all lessons are prepared for you in advance. When there are teams of 6 parents per grade sections (eg. K/1, 2/3,...) the rotation of committed Sundays becomes less frequent.

COMPANION HYMNALS - DON'T MISS OUT!!!

Over the summer, the new blue companion hymnals will be arriving!! For \$25 each, why not have one or two in your favorite pew with your name or a loves ones name personalized inside?? These new hymnals will complement the Pilgrim Hymnals. Only a limited number are being ordered, so don't delay! Order forms are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Questions, please contact kristindesautelle@gmail.com. Thank you!

OUR CHURCH EXPENSES DO NOT TAKE A SUMMER VACATION
Please keep your pledge current!



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

MONDAY, JULY 4

Church Office Closed

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

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.



Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

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

Gary 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*

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on Facebook, Google+, Vimeo and "@UCCDarien" on Twitter.

