



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
www.uccdarien.org



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ***August 28, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.***



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Childcare is available for children up to 2nd Grade
in the administrative wing Meeting Room (former Youth Room)

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

PRELUDE

Mr. Daniel Hague, Music Director

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dale B. Rosenberger

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN #418

“O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE”

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee In low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee In clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray Far down the

paths of serv - ice free; Tell me thy se - cret, help me
win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward feet to
dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith sweet and
fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly thou canst

(continued on next page)

“O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE” (cont'd)

bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
stay, And guide them in the home-ward way.
strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
give, With thee, O Mas - ter, let me live. A - men.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

Sing to God, our strength; cry out to God, our helper.
Rejoice, and do not retreat from the presence of God.

**We worship the same God our ancestors praised.
We depend on the same God who delivered them.**

Listen now for the voice of God, and submit to God's way.
Hear the word of the Lord as we turn from our distractions.

**We will delight in the commandments of our God.
We will eagerly share in the work the Lord gives us.**

(All uniting)


**God fills our mouths with good food and clean water.
In the banquet of life, God provides enough for us all.
But can God trust us to plan the details, including all?**

***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



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

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

JEREMIAH 2:4-13

Phil Meyer, Deacon

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?
They did not say, 'Where is the Lord
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?'

I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land,
and made my heritage an abomination.
The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?'
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal,
and went after things that do not profit.

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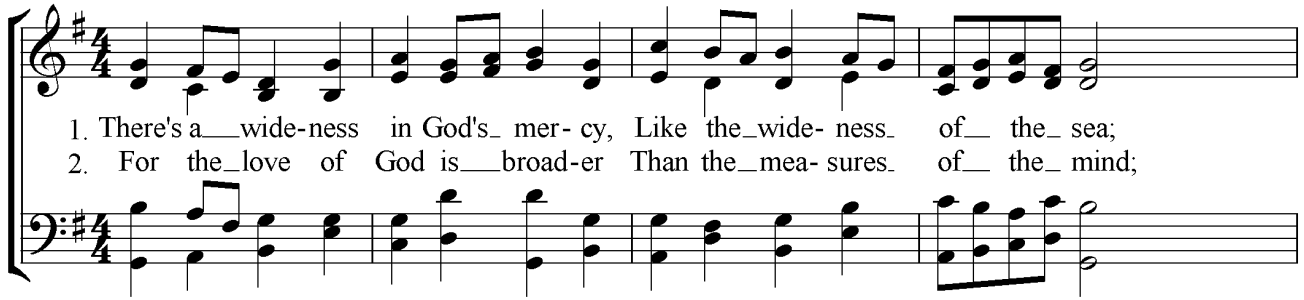
Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the Lord,
and I accuse your children's children.
Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.
Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
be shocked, be utterly desolate,
says the Lord,
for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

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*HYMN #102

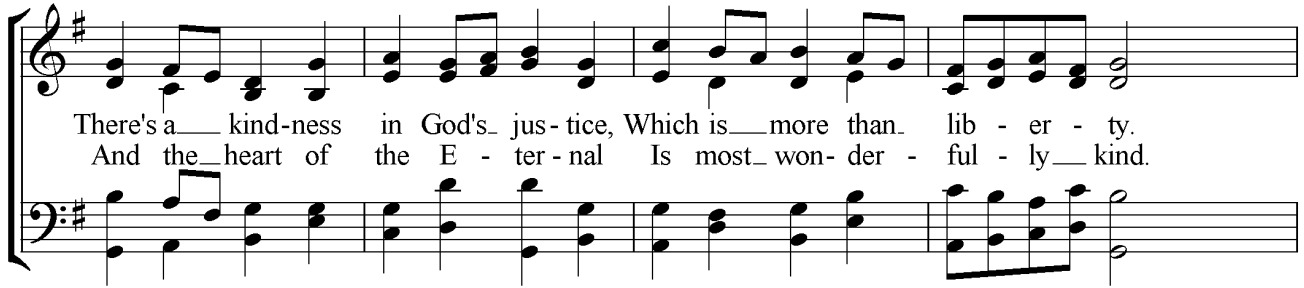
“THERE'S A WIDENESS IN “GOD'S MERCY”

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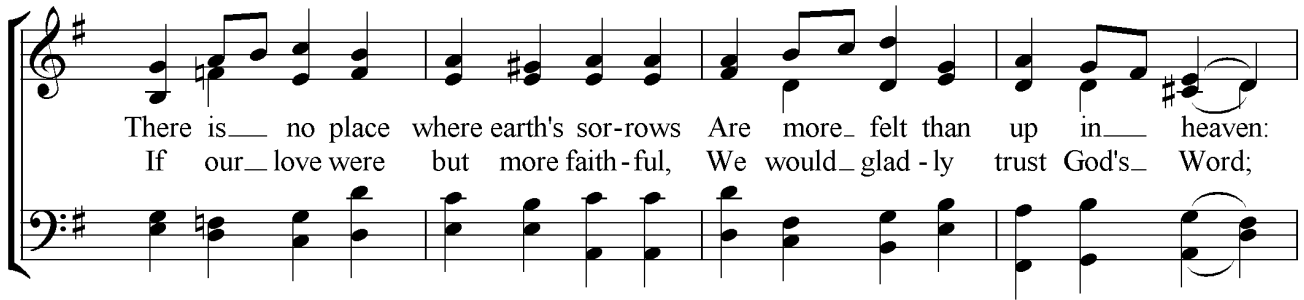
THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY



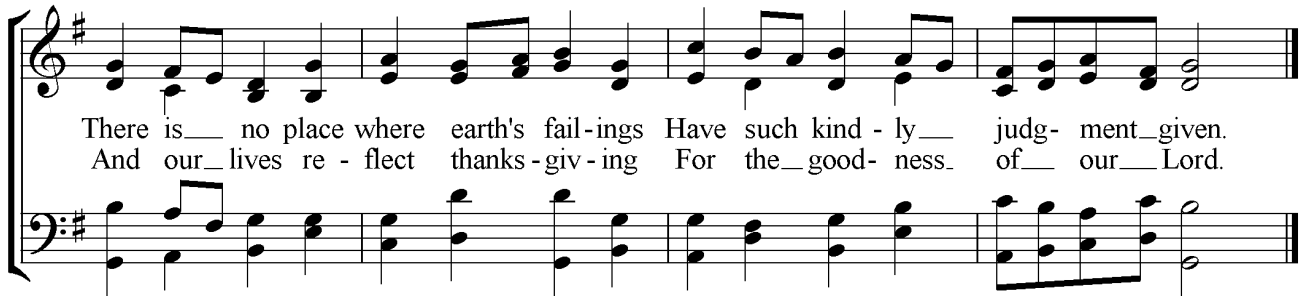
1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer- cy, Like the wide- ness of the sea;
2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the mea- sures of the mind;



There's a kind-ness in God's jus- tice, Which is more than lib - er - ty.
And the heart of the E - ter - nal Is most won- der - ful - ly kind.



There is no place where earth's sor-rows Are more felt than up in heaven:
If our love were but more faith-ful, We would glad-ly trust God's Word;



There is no place where earth's fail-ings Have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
And our lives re - flect thanks - giv - ing For the good-ness of our Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

SERMON

“TABLE ETIQUETTE IN GOD’S REIGN”

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)

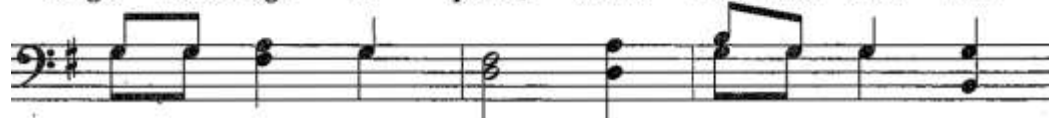
In joyous thanksgiving for the banquet of life, which we glimpse at this table, we invite those who live in poverty to share our wealth. We give up some luxuries for the sake of those who lack food, water, shelter, or medical care. We reach out expecting not reward but the satisfaction of what you, O God, have so generously share with all of us. Amen.



1. O for a world where ev - ery - one re -
2. O for a world where goods are shared and
3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the
5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's



1. spect's each oth - er's ways, where love is lived and
2. mis - er - y re - lieved, where truth is spo - ken,
3. strug - gle with each choice that o - pens us to
4. fool - ish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn; out -
5. glo - rious reign of peace, where time and tears will



1. all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
2. chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
3. u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
4. casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
5. be no more, and all , but love will cease.



*BENEDICTION

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Daniel Hague

* * *

IN MEMORIUM

We are saddened to report the passing of former church member, Lorraine Fenn.

A memorial service has been planned for Saturday, September 17th at 3:00 p.m., with a reception to follow.

Please also note:

A memorial service has been planned for church member, Gus Hedlund, to be held on Saturday, October 29, at 10:30 a.m. – at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

TODAY'S USHERS are Bill Lattimer and Phil Meyer.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 do not delay! Order forms are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

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

Welcome Back to Church

PICNIC



Sunday, September 11, 2016
Right after our 10 a.m. "Jazz Worship" service



FOOD
LIVE MUSIC
ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS



JOIN US!
BRING A FRIEND!!



The First Congregational Church of Darien
14 Brookside Road, Darien CT
(203) 655-0491



Under the Sacred Canopy: A Racial Reconciliation Sunday

Sunday, September 18, 2016

First Congregational Church of Darien

14 Brookside Road, Darien

www.uccdarien.org

10:00 a.m. Service

The Rev. Dr. Paul Smith
will deliver the sermon entitled,
"On Going Deep"
The Rev. Nolan Williams Jr.
will lead our music program

11:15 a.m. 11th Hour Panel Discussion

A discussion on race relations and
religion in our country today
*Refreshments and Childcare
will be provided*

Special Guests and Panelists



Rev. Paul Smith is a Civil Rights veteran, minister, educator, author, and diversity role model. With Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Ambassador Andrew Young as friends and mentors, Dr. Paul Smith entered the ministry in 1960. He soon became a stalwart marcher in the US Civil Rights Movement. Inspired and guided by theologian and mystic Dr. Howard Thurman, Dr. Smith has made diversity and inclusiveness hallmarks of his life's work. Dr. Smith has created unique and successful models of multi-cultural worship and interfaith collaboration at churches in Buffalo, NY, St. Louis, MO, Atlanta, GA, Brooklyn, NY, and now Darien, CT.



Rev. Dale Rosenberger is the senior pastor at The First Congregational Church of Darien. A native of Michigan, Rev. Rosenberger earned a B. Phil. in psychology from Thomas Jefferson College of Allendale, Michigan in 1975 and his M. Div. from Yale University Divinity School in 1979. Rev. Rosenberger has served local churches in Illinois, Ohio, Colorado, Cape Cod, and two here in Connecticut. He has authored three books, the first on spiritual authority, the second on how to do Christian outreach, and most recently, a practical theology of shared intimacy for couples.



Catalina Horak is the Executive Director of Neighbors Link Stamford. Neighbors Link Stamford strives to strengthen the whole community by actively enhancing the healthy integration of immigrants through education (English language, computer and other classes), empowerment (connecting individuals and families with schools, health, legal, law enforcement and other vital services), and employment (helping individual to develop job skills and find successful employment).



Rev. Nolan Williams Jr. is a musicologist, theologian, American songwriter, and producer. Best known for his work as Chief Music Editor of the bestselling *African American Heritage Hymnal*—a critically acclaimed compendium of music, with sales now surpassing 300,000 books worldwide, Rev. Williams is a noted scholar who has lectured extensively around the country. Rev. Williams serves as Minister of Music at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, DC.

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, *Senior Minister (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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