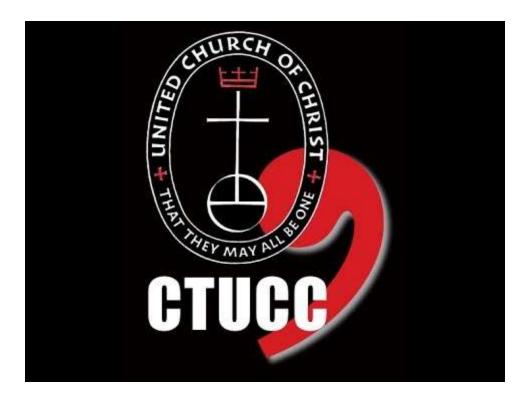


#### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

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



# **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY** January 22, 2017 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



# **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY** January 22, 2017 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Children are <u>always</u> welcome at our worship services. A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 2 and younger, in the Nursery School wing starting <u>at 9:45 a.m</u>.

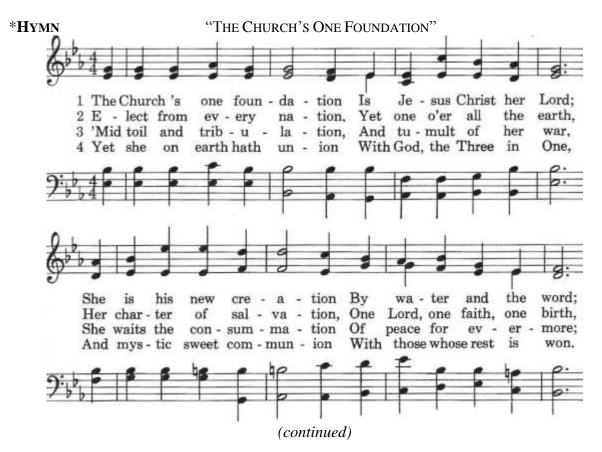
\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

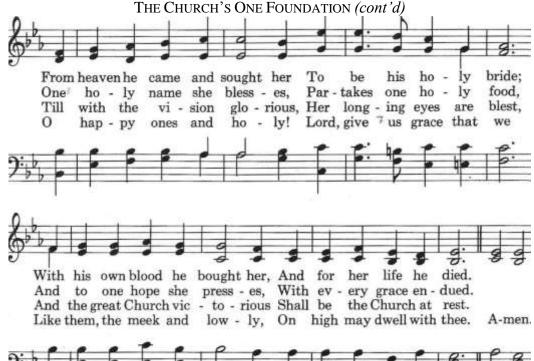
#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Gary M. Morello, Associate Minister

#### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**





## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who are seeking fellowship and family. Come, all who have experienced mercy and love.

## Sometimes we have felt alone and neglected. Our lives are better when we are in unity with one another.

God is our light and our salvation. God is our stronghold; we find oneness in God's love.

> We come today to hear the word of the Lord. We come now, seeking God's face.

Come, behold the beauty of our God. Come, to understand what God is doing in our church.

> We will rejoice and trust in the Lord. We will dare to lift up shouts of joy.

## **\*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



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

**GOSPEL READING** 

JOHN 17:20-26 Phil Meyer, Deacon (8:30) Mary Ann Freeman, Deacon (10:00)

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'



## **EPISTLE LESSON**

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27 Rev. Kent Siladi Conference Minister, CT Conference – U.C.C.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

## SERMON

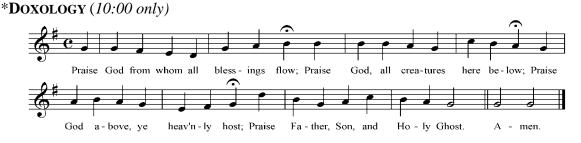
#### "TOWARD A MORE INTERDEPENDENT WAY" Re

Rev. Siladi

**OFFERTORY** (10:00 only)

"DRAW US IN THE SPIRIT'S TETHER" Senior Choir Harold W. Friedell

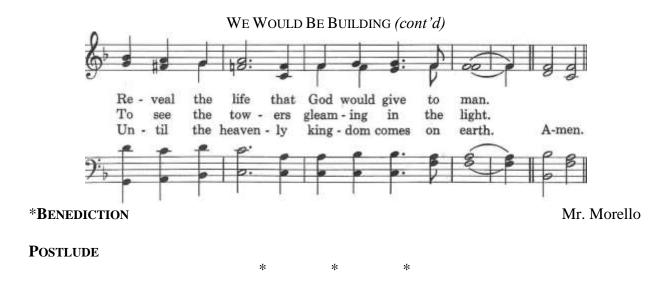
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#### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison) (10:00 only)

Let these gifts follow Christ's lead into the lives of people who live in poverty or despair. O God, use them to heal divisions among your children. Show us how to be instruments of peace. Ready us to follow Jesus, to make an offering of ourselves, not just our gifts offered today. Teach us so we may teach others. Heal us so we can become instruments of healing. To these purposes we dedicate this offering and our lives. Amen.





**TODAY'S USHERS** are Karalesa DiFabio, Mary Ann Freeman, Gary Holmes and Phil Meyer (8:30)

# **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is our very first movie and cocoa lesson event. Lesson is Queen Esther. The children will also be creating a craft to send over to our neighbors at Maplewood.

There will be babysitting available for the Annual Meeting on Jan. 29th until 12 following church school.

Save the date: First Bible Jeopardy will be hosted by Jeopardy contestant Michael Borecki during church school on Feb. 12th! Review of the content will continue every Sunday.

# 2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you made a pledge for 2017, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and can be found 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 <u>KHansen@uccdarien.org</u>.

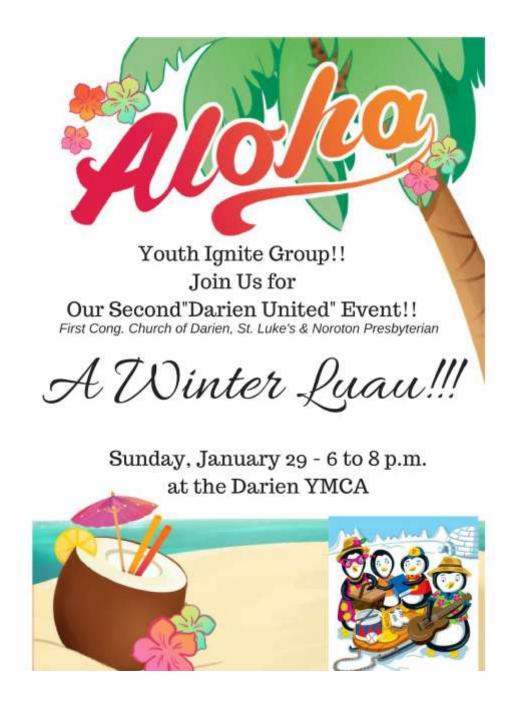
# DAY WINGS

Day Wings will meet on Thursday, January 26th in the Circle Room at 12:30. Marny Smith is going to share some of her long-time experience and knowledge in land preservation in our area.

# **CLASSICS BOOK GROUP**

The Classics Book Group will meet on Wednesday, February 22nd at 3:30 in the library. We will be talking about <u>All the King's Men</u> by Robert Penn Warren. It's an open, friendly group. Call Sally Bassler to know more or surprise us!

On Sunday, March 5th we will have an 11th hour discussion of Henri Nouwen's book, <u>Life of the Beloved</u>. A follow-up to our experience of reaffirming our baptism's promise that we are God's beloved children, this book will guide us on the path to becoming who we are. Copies are available at the church office, for \$10.



## <u>A CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF</u> <u>THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHUCH OF DARIEN</u>

You are hereby called to the First Congregational Church of Darien, United Church of Christ, 14 Brookside Road, for the first portion of the Annual Meeting of the church scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2017 immediately following our 10 o'clock service of worship.

The purpose of this meeting of the congregation is to:

- \* receive the 2016 financial reports.
- \* receive the recommendations of Church Council for the 2017 budget.
- \* address any other business or concern relating to the life of our congregation, that may properly be brought before the assembled congregation.

## 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.



Ministers:Every member of the congregation.Clergy and Staff:The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister (emergency pager)1- (203) 368-7789Gary M. Morello, Associate MinisterThe Rev. Ronald T. Evans, Pastor EmeritusMary Jo Colman, Church School DirectorDaniel Hague, Music DirectorMarying Nursery School DirectorVanining, Nursery School DirectorPamela Toason, Church Administrator (M, T)Dennis Hanlon, Church Administrator (W, Th, Fri)Carlos Maya, Weekday SextonRuth Salazar, Sunday Sexton

Find "First Congregational Church of Darien" on Facebook, Google+, Vimeo and "@UCCDarien" on Twitter.

