



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



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 28, 2017

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



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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

Associate Minister, Gary Morello

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN #465**

“O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(responsively)

The Holy Spirit is an energy of love that surrounds us.
This love is capable of transforming a person's life.

**Let us look to Jesus to show us how to access this power.
Imitating Christ is a gateway to divine intervention.**

Here together, as one body, we pray for God's guidance.
Here together, as one body, we can be the hands and feet of God.

**God draws us together as one people.
We realize the power of God's love within.**

Serving our brothers and sisters is at the core of who we are as Christians.
Acts of kindness bring joy to the heart of God.

**God dwells among us and unites with us in Christ.
In this, faith is our deepest joy.**

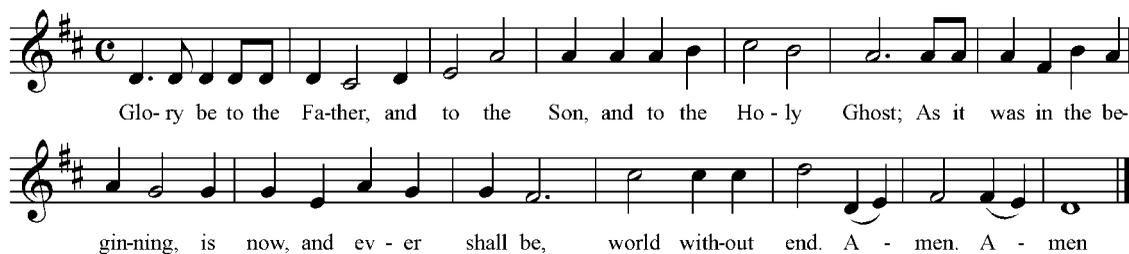
***OPENING PRAYER**

Mr. Gary Morello

*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

GENESIS 45:1-15

Steve Weeden, Deacon (8:30)
Phil Meyer, Deacon (10:00)

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has

(continued)

made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.” And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

***HYMN**

“WHATSOEVER YOU DO”

(see insert)

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. ‘Teacher,’ he said, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’ He answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.’ And he said to him, ‘You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.’

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’ Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, “Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.” Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ He said, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’

SERMON

“DIVINE INTERVENTION”

Associate Minister, Gary Morello

OFFERTORY

“WE REMEMBER THEM”

Donald McCullough

(10:00 only)

Senior Choir

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

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow: Praise God all creatures here below:
Praise god above ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

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

Thank you, God, for empowering our prayers and multiplying our gifts. You provide for the needy through us. What a privilege! Widows and orphans and prisoners and the lost find hope in you because we join you in caring for them. Let us always remember to be a Good Samaritan with open minds, loving hearts and acts of mercy. Amen.

***HYMN #355**

“LORD, YOU GIVE THE GREAT COMMISSION”

***BENEDICTION**

Associate Minister, Gary Morello

POSTLUDE

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TODAY'S USHERS are Phil Meyer, Steve Weeden (8:30 a.m.) and Liz Werner.



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.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Cook/Serve for the Open Door Shelter is BACK!

Please help us with cooking on Wednesday, May 31st at 8 am in the church kitchen and/or serving on Thursday, June 1st at 11:45 at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk. Contact hramer@me.com to help!

The Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart needs your help!

The tour is made possible by VOLUNTEERS who not only plan the event, but also staff the event on June 8th!! Volunteers who staff a shift in tour homes on June 8th may attend the tour during non-shift hours for a discounted price. Please help us make the tour a huge success!

And of course, even if you're not volunteering, we hope that all of you and your friends will attend the tour which will support The Open Door Shelter's Building Lives Initiative and over 20 other non-profit organizations. To volunteer or buy tickets, log on to darienhousetour.org.

Thank you!

FINAL CHOIR REHEARSAL & PARTY, THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 8:00 P.M.

If you have sung at any point with the Choir this year, please join us on June 1st for our last rehearsal and get-together afterward. We would love to see you, and we appreciate your support of the music during worship!

Dan Hague

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: _____

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

MONDAY, MAY 29 (MEMORIAL DAY)

Church Office Closed

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Men's Ministry, 7:30 a.m. in the Conference Room

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

(remember Food First!)

Worship Services, 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*