



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 PENTECOST

June 25, 2017

9:00 a.m.



SO PETER OPENED HIS MOUTH AND SAID: "TRULY I UNDERSTAND THAT

**GOD SHOWS
NO PARTIALITY.**

BUT IN EVERY NATION ANYONE WHO FEARS HIM & DOES WHAT IS RIGHT IS ACCEPTABLE TO HIM."

ACTS 10:14-15

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 25, 2017

9:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

Mr. Daniel Hague

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN #378**

“GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR OUR PEOPLE”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(responsively)

Powerful Spirit, strong Wind –

Stirring us to life, breathing hope into despair.

Warming Spirit, dancing Flame –

Kindling joy and filling us with courage.

Comforting Spirit, gentle Breeze –

Refreshing our weariness, softening our grief.

Wise Spirit, blazing Fire –

Illuminating our path, casting out the darkness.

Holy Spirit, soaring Dove –

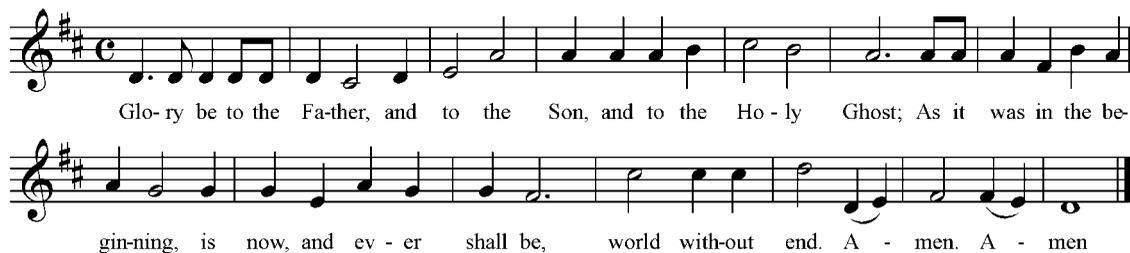
Calling us to worship, you would fill us with love.

***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

ISAIAH 49:5-6, 8-11

Liz Werner, Deacon

And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
Thus says the Lord:
In a time of favor I have answered you,
on a day of salvation I have helped you;
I have kept you and given you
as a covenant to the people,
to establish the land,
to apportion the desolate heritages;
saying to the prisoners, 'Come out',
to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.'
(continued)

They shall feed along the ways,
on all the bare heights shall be their pasture;
they shall not hunger or thirst,
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down,
for he who has pity on them will lead them,
and by springs of water will guide them.
And I will turn all my mountains into a road,
and my highways shall be raised up.

***HYMN #386**

“WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

ACTS 10:1-23, 30-34, 44-48

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, 'Cornelius.' He stared at him in terror and said, 'What is it, Lord?' He answered, 'Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.' When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But Peter said, 'By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.' The voice said to him again, a second time, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Look, three men are searching for you. Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.' So Peter went down to the men and said, 'I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?' They answered, 'Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-

(continued)

fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.’ So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him.

Cornelius replied, ‘Four days ago at this very hour, at three o’clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. He said, “Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.” Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.’

Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality,

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SERMON

“MORE LIGHT BREAKING FORTH”

Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY

***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*)

We bring offerings today not looking for rewards, but because we are grateful. We give them, not from guilt over having much, but because it is an honor and a joy to share. We dedicate these gifts not so much for bills, but to empower ministry to meet basic needs, the good news of the Gospel being the most elemental need that we all share. Amen.

***HYMN #372**

“DIVERSE IN CULTURE, NATION, RACE”

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Daniel Hague

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TODAY'S USHERS are Dave Sealy, Mandy Teare 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.



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

TODAY

Knitting Ministry, 10:00 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

SUNDAY, JULY 2

(don't forget Food First!)

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 4

Church Offices closed in observance of Independence Day

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*