



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

United Church of Christ  
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***TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***  
***STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE SUNDAY***  
***November 13, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***

Contribute your talents *donate* BE GRATEFUL  
mentor pray **VOLUNTEER** joyful  
support your community make a new friend  
Sing in the choir  
**Time** BE THANKFUL Love RESPOND teach TAKE  
Life Believe the faith COMMUNION  
honor your wedding vows USHER  
*Share a Meal* Help the Poor Christ-faith  
**ATTEND CHURCH** centered  
Read the Bible conversion Visit the Elderly  
Share **COMFORT OTHERS** Give BE A GREETER  
Financially sustain your church **Talent**  
Coach **CHERISH YOUR FAMILY**  
Help a neighbor Read to your children  
call an old friend sacrifice MISSIONS MISSIONS MISSIONS  
**Treasure** BE A LEADER BE MERCIFUL Serve Others Shelter the Homeless  
**Feed the hungry** **SPIRITUALITY** RESPONSIBILITY

***TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***  
***STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE SUNDAY***  
***November 13, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***

*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**

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*HYMN**

“A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD”

*(next page)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Today we gather to call to mind  
the great deeds of our Lord God.

**Taking a little, making a lot, ours is the God  
who works miracles from what faith we bring.**

Are we worthy to participate in God’s great gift?  
And what would we in turn present before God?

**We bring no less than sacrifices of joy,  
our utmost for God’s highest purposes.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Mr. Gary M. Morello, Associate Minister

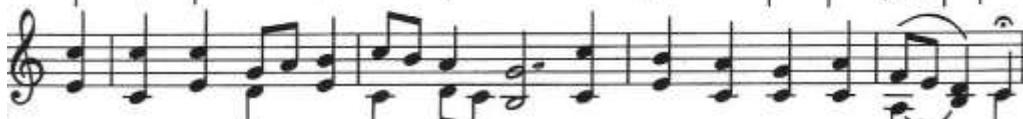
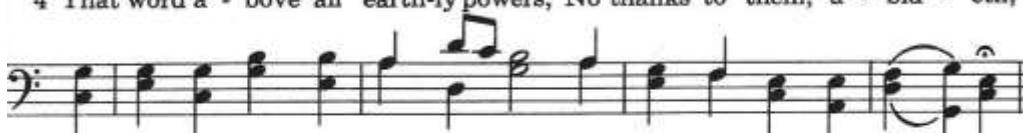
**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

## A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD



1 A might-y for-tress is our God, A bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;  
2 Did we in our own strength con-fide, Our striv-ing would be los-ing,  
3 And though this world, with dev-ils filled, Should threat-en to un-do us,  
4 That word a-bove all earth-ly powers, No thanks to them, a-bid-eth;



Our help-er he a-mid the flood Of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.  
Were not the right man on our side, The man of God's own choos-ing.  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri-umph through us.  
The Spir-it and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sid-eth.



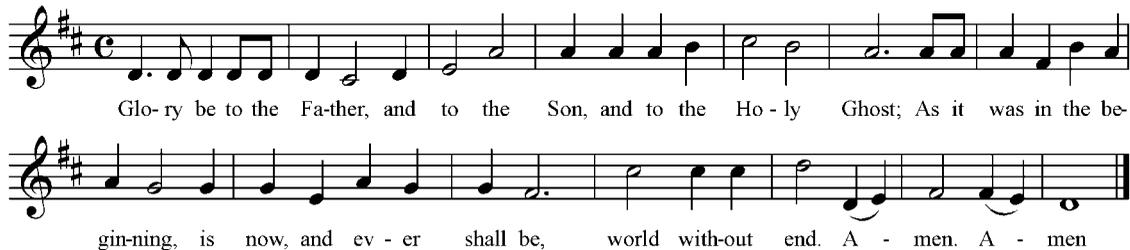
For still our an-cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is he; Lord Sab-a-oth his  
The prince of dark-ness grim, We trem-ble not for him; His rage we can en-  
Let goods and kin-dred go, This mor-tal life al-so; The bod-y they may



great, And armed with cru-el hate, On earth is not his e-qual.  
name. From age to age the same, And he must win the bat-tle.  
dure, For lo, his doom is sure: One lit-tle word shall fell him.  
kill; God's truth a-bid-eth still, His king-dom is for-ev-er. A-men.



## \*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 MESSAGE & DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### EPISTLE LESSON

PSALM 46

Lou Converse, Deacon (8:30)

Dave Miller, Deacon (10:00)

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth  
should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of  
the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its  
tumult.

*Selah*

There is a river whose streams make glad  
the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not  
be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms  
totter;

he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*Selah*

Come, behold the works of the Lord;  
see what desolations he has brought on  
the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the  
earth;

he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

‘Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.’

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*Selah*



shouted in a loud voice, ‘Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.’ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They answered, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, ‘Let those men go.’ And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, ‘The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace.’ But Paul replied, ‘They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves.’ The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. After leaving the prison they went to Lydia’s home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

**SERMON**

“WHAT GOD SOMETIMES ALLOWS”

Rev. Rosenberger

**OFFERTORY** (10:00 only)

“SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST”  
Senior Choir

Austin Lovelace

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

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** (10:00 only)

(unison)

**Gracious God, who are we that you make us stewards over so much? We thank you for this deep trust and marvel that you find us so worthy. You can do all things, God, except compel our action as your people. We ask you to confront us afresh with that sacrificial love revealed in Jesus Christ. Help us to handle generously all you place in our keeping. Amen.**

## "GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING"



1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store,
2. Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son;
3. Trea-sure too you have en-trust-ed, gain thru powers your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:  
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel Word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our-selves in praise;  
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;  
O-pen wide our hands, in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.  
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.  
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.



\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

\* \* \*

TODAY'S GREETERS are the Sealy family: Sarah, Dave and James (Confirmand).

TODAY'S USHERS are Lou Converse (8:30), Dave Miller, Al Nickerson and Steve Weeden.

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



### *FCC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION FALL FUND RAISER* Food for Every Day (FED)

Order delicious homemade casseroles and baked items to eat immediately or freeze for the holidays.

**Order by November 14** using the order form available in the church office.

Payment information included on order form and must be included with order form.

Pick up will be November 20 after church.

Orders can be left in the Women's Association box outside the church office or sent to: Debbie Parnon, 203 Old King's Hwy North, Darien.

Questions? [dcsp1@aol.com](mailto:dcsp1@aol.com)

We will have a sign up for shifts on the Women's Association bulletin board to help cook on November 17, 18 and 19.

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN HELPS!**  
**PLEASE JOIN US!**

We will be distributing turkeys at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk on **Tuesday, November 22nd** from 8:30 to 11:30 am — lots of volunteers needed for this event!

Please email Heather Raker at [hraker@me.com](mailto:hraker@me.com) to help or for more information.

Thank you for your hands on help for those in need!

*The First Congregational Church of Darien Board of Outreach*  
*Chair: Heather Raker, Vice Chair: Anna Denoyer, Members: Gayle Appleby, Lindsay Atha, Scott Barrett, Tracey Berry, Elmerina Brooks, Annette Madden-Kline, Bob McGee, Charlie Wetmore, Carol Wilson, Lauren Swenson*





**All Are Invited!**  
**Advent Workshop and Family Dinner**  
**Sunday, December 4th, 4:00-6:30 p.m.**

The Board of Christian Education invites you, your family and friends to join us on Sunday, December 4 for our annual Advent Workshop and Family Dinner. From 4:00-5:00 p.m., we'll socialize and make homemade Christmas tree ornaments -- some for small trees to be shared with members of our church and some for our trees at home. From 5:00-5:30 p.m., we'll gather together for carols and Christmas cheer. Then we'll have a family potluck dinner from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Please click on the link below to RSVP and please sign up to bring something to share. We are asking for a donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family to cover the cost of the main dishes (ham and chicken nuggets), the music, and event materials. Also, feel free to bring a libation of choice to share!

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090C4AAAAF2EA4F58-advent](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090C4AAAAF2EA4F58-advent)

**Questions: Please e-mail Andy Huntington at:**  
[andreatkinson101@hotmail.com](mailto:andreatkinson101@hotmail.com)

**The First Congregational Church of Darien**  
***Vibrant, Authentic and Here For You!***

**2017 Pledge Campaign**

First Congregational Church of Darien is a pretty amazing place! We are a strong, vital, gifted, spirited and caring church community. The wonderful growth and momentum in 2016 does not mean we need you less, it means we need you more! So much of what we hoped and dreamed for has unfolded. Now we gladly step forward to underwrite our prayers, the prayer of many, as we see them take shape. We need your talents, we need your time and we need your continued financial support. In the coming week, you will receive a letter in the mail asking you to take part in the 2017 pledge campaign, which supports the general operations of our church.

*Every member dollar counts*  
and we are praying for full membership participation this year!

*2017 Pledge Co-Chairs*  
*Caroline Burke and Leila Wetmore*

**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.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**TODAY**

“Come As You Are” Worship Service, 4:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

Georgie Brown Memorial Service, 2:00 p.m. (*reception to follow*)  
Care, Connect & Communicate Committee, 6:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Board of Deacons, 7:45 p.m. in the Circle Room  
Board of Stewards, 7:45 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

Church Council, 8:00 p.m. in the Circle Room

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

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

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

Worship Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
(Stewardship Celebration Sunday)

*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*