

**The First Congregational Church**

September 6, 2020

10:00 AM

**Kent, CT**

*A Community of Faith, Service and Love*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #59                    *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy  
rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea.  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving ever blessing ever blest,  
Well spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother all who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all with in its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty God, your ways are far beyond our understanding, so help us to trust your judgments, so that we may do your will by loving you and one another. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI (#734)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not kill, You shall not steal, You shall not covet.” And any other commandment, are summed up in this sentence, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

SERMON

HYMN #393,            *“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hope, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, each other's burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain and sin we shall be free;  
And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into**

**temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Invitation

Doxology (#34)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN #342 “*Rejoice, the Lord is King*”

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing and triumph evermore:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Our Savior, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
When he had purged our stains, he took his seat above:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

His Kingdom cannot fail, he rules both earth and heaven;  
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Rejoice in glorious hope for Christ the Judge shall come  
To gather all his saints to their eternal home:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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Ministers: Community of Faith

Pastor: The Rev. John David Heeckt

Organist: John Paul Zurlo

Soloist: Veralyn Davee

Video Team: Jennifer Moros and Bethany Keck

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**WE WELCOME ALL** who are worshipping with us via the internet.

**Prayer List:**

Doctors, Nurses, Hospital staff, prayers for PPE, treatments, vaccines, all those with COVID 19 and their families, Food service people, truck drivers, all those out of work, Barbie, Kris, Judy, Jim and Betsy, Sawyer, Ed’s family, Erin’s family, Don, Virginia, Dan, The Johnson family, The Scholl family, Bill, Jen & family, Dan, Judy, Catherine, Derek & Dana and family, Living Water Church, Lewis, Lisa, Judy’s sister, Brent Kallstrom, his father and his brother, Jeff and Jackie Robey and family. Kevin Corey and family.

OFFERING

Please mail your offering in weekly/monthly

First Congregational Church

PO Box 306

Kent, CT 06757

Phone: 860-927-3335

Website: [fcofkentct.org](http://fcofkentct.org)

Minister: [fcckentminister@gmail.com](mailto:fcckentminister@gmail.com)

Office: [fcckentoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fcckentoffice@gmail.com)

